

**conference**

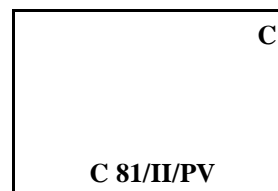
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

**conférence**

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

**conferencia**

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION



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Twenty-first Session  
COMMISSION II

Vingt et unième session  
COMMISSION II

21° período de sesiones  
COMMISSION II

Rome, 7-26 November 1981

VERBATIM RECORDS OF MEETINGS OF COMMISSION II OF THE CONFERENCE PROCES-  
VERBAUX DES SEANCES DE LA COMMISSION II DE LA CONFERENCE ACTAS  
TAQUIGRAFICAS DE LAS SESIONES DE LA COMISION II DE LA CONFERENCIA



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## **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 81/II/PV/1

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Twenty-first Session

COMMISSION II

Vingt et unième session

COMMISSION II

21° período de sesiones

COMMISSION II

FIRST MEETING  
PREMIERE SEANCE  
PRIMERA SESION  
(10 November 1981)

The First Meeting was opened at 15.00 hours.  
R. Steiner, Chairman of Commission II, presiding

La Première séance est ouverte à 15 h 00  
Sous la présidence de R. Steiner, Président de la Commission II

Se abre la primera sesión a las 15.00 horas.  
bajo la presidencia de R. Steiner, Presidente de la Comisión II

CHAIRMAN: I call to order the first meeting of Commission II of the Twenty-First Conference of FAO. Mr. Director-General, distinguished delegates, I feel highly honoured at having been nominated Chairman of that Commission. May I assure you that I am taking up this assignment with the full awareness of the responsibility involved in it. As a matter of fact, the responsibility of passing to the Plenary the proposal on the Programme of Work and Budget along with the items assigned to Commission II links us all who are members of that organization.

Quite a number of the goals and objectives of the Second Development Decade, goals in agriculture, still remain unfulfilled. The present negative trends in the world economy may further adversely affect the economic situation, particularly of developing countries, and as a result impair their development prospects. Yet current difficulties experienced worldwide should not deter the community which constitutes the membership of FAO from continuing to deploy those dynamics both intellectual as well as material that can contribute to reducing disparities between developed and developing countries.

The development process must promote human dignity. Human dignity is not divisible. May that awareness guide our debate during the days ahead of us.

I now declare open the first meeting of Commission II. May I now invite the Director-General to address the Commission?

LE DIRECTEUR GENERAL: Monsieur le Président, je tiens tout d'abord à vous féliciter d'avoir été appelé à la présidence de la Commission II. Cette décision, prise par le Conseil à la quatre-vingtième session qui vient de se terminer et confirmée par la Conférence, me paraît particulièrement indiquée: votre personnalité et votre expérience garantissent que les travaux de la Commission seront conduits avec toute l'autorité et le dynamisme requis.

Je voudrais aussi adresser mes félicitations aux Vice-présidents et au Président du comité de rédaction.

Peut-être devrais-je aussi vous exprimer ma commisération, Monsieur le Président, car vous voici chargé d'une tâche bien lourde. Je me garderai d'affirmer que cette commission est plus importante que la Commission I ou la Commission III, mais le fait est qu'elle s'occupe des activités et programmes de l'Organisation et en particulier du programme de travail et budget du prochain exercice, sans lequel l'Organisation ne serait guère qu'une table ronde.

En fait, le programme de travail et budget est maintenant le seul point sur lequel la Conférence doit voter en séance plénière et même se prononcer à la majorité des deux tiers. J'y reviendrai dans quelques instants.

Le programme de travail et budget 1982-83 constitue la clef de voûte d'un ensemble qui comprend les objectifs à moyen terme, l'examen du programme ordinaire qui sera étudié au titre du point 11 de l'ordre du jour, l'examen des programmes de terrain, qui sera étudié au titre du point 12, l'incidence des faits nouveaux survenus dans le système des Nations Unies et l'évolution des relations avec les autres organisations.

Deux autres points importants figurent également à votre ordre du jour: ce sont les points 13 et 14, qui portent l'un, sur la suite donnée à la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural et l'autre, sur la situation et l'avenir du programme alimentaire mondial.

Monsieur le Président, permettez-moi de dire d'abord quelques mots sur ces deux derniers points, en commençant par le programme alimentaire mondial.

La situation de ce programme me préoccupe beaucoup, qu'il s'agisse de son fonctionnement au jour le jour ou de son avenir.

Pour ne pas prendre sur votre temps, je ne vais pas analyser ici la situation alimentaire mondiale, les problèmes que posent les situations d'urgence et les réfugiés, l'accroissement effrayant des importations céréalières des pays en développement, le grand nombre de pays souffrant de pénuries alimentaires graves, en particulier en Afrique, bref toutes les circonstances qui rendent l'aide alimentaire indispensable à la survie de millions d'hommes, de femmes et d'enfants, et je dirai même de pays entiers.

Ces questions ont été examinées le mois dernier à la session du Comité des politiques et programmes d'aide alimentaire et le sont actuellement dans les exposés des ministres en séance plénière, ainsi qu'elles le seront plus tard à la Commission I.



Je suis certain qu'avec vos collègues qui siègent à la Commission I ou par leur intermédiaire, vous comprendrez parfaitement les raisons pour lesquelles, avant même que vous ayez abordé le point 14, je me déclare consterné que l'aide alimentaire n'ait jamais atteint l'objectif de 10 millions de tonnes fixé par la Conférence mondiale de l'alimentation en 1974 mais soit au contraire tombée au-dessous des niveaux qu'elle atteignait en 1962 ou en 1966, ou même en 1979-80. Cette année, l'aide alimentaire qui aura été effective, c'est-à-dire les quantités exportées, atteindra seulement 8 600 000 tonnes - chiffre le plus bas depuis cinq ans.

Nous savons tous que la Conférence mondiale de l'alimentation aurait dû fixer un objectif plus élevé, mais celui-ci était alors considéré comme "réaliste". Comme on l'avait prévu dans une certaine mesure, la population des pays en développement a augmenté; en fait, elle s'est accrue de 15 pour cent depuis la Conférence mondiale de l'alimentation; nous estimons maintenant que l'aide alimentaire annuelle devra presque doubler d'ici 1985 et qu'elle devra comprendre des quantités considérables de produits laitiers et d'huile végétale, et je dirai même de riz; cette denrée n'est jamais incluse dans l'aide alimentaire.

L'objectif considéré comme "réaliste" en 1974 est aujourd'hui tout à fait irréaliste par rapport aux besoins. Cependant, il n'a encore jamais été atteint.

Selon moi, il est absolument impératif que le programme alimentaire mondial obtienne l'augmentation minimale de ressources requise pour que son aide actuelle ne soit pas rongée par l'inflation et pour qu'il puisse couvrir les besoins croissants des pays les plus frappés, surtout en Afrique.

En outre, la part de l'aide réellement multilatérale dans l'aide alimentaire totale a diminué et des pressions croissantes s'exercent qui altèrent le caractère neutre et international du programme alimentaire mondial.

Cela est tout aussi vrai dans le cas de la réserve alimentaire internationale d'urgence qui constitue une mosaïque hétérogène d'intérêts et d'arrangements, avec des ressources imprévisibles et surtout insuffisantes.

J'espère donc que vos délibérations sur le point 14 aboutiront à un accord sur la mise en place de bases plus solides pour l'avenir du programme alimentaire mondial.

Je vais maintenant parler de la suite donnée à la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural de 1979. Les faits nouveaux survenus depuis sont, à certains égards, encourageants. Certes, il est trop tôt pour tenter de juger les résultats obtenus; mais, de toute évidence, la mise en oeuvre du programme d'action de la Conférence mondiale aux niveaux national et international et au sein du système des Nations Unies a pris un remarquable essor.

Je suis particulièrement heureux que plusieurs pays aient apporté des contributions volontaires pour soutenir nos activités dans ce domaine, et je citerai en particulier, parmi tant d'autres, la Suède. Je leur exprime toute ma gratitude, et j'invite les autres Etats Membres à suivre leur exemple et à fournir les fonds bien plus importants qui sont nécessaires pour poursuivre la progression.

Exception faite de la production alimentaire elle-même, il ne peut rien y avoir de plus essentiel que d'assurer plus d'équité à la population rurale - et surtout aux groupes défavorisés - et de l'amener à participer davantage à l'orientation et à l'amélioration de son existence précaire dans les campagnes déshéritées: du tiers monde.

L'organisation continuera de jouer son rôle dans les efforts déployés par le système des Nations Unies aux niveaux national, régional et international pour répondre aux besoins des Etats membres dans ce domaine. Je suis résolu à ce que la FAO conserve le rôle primordial que la Conférence mondiale lui a confié dans ces entreprises communes.

A propos d'entreprises communes, je passerai maintenant du point 13 au point 15, qui concerne nos relations et nos consultations avec les autres organisations internationales.

Le point le plus important qui vous est soumis est bien entendu le point 15.1, qui concerne l'adoption de la stratégie internationale de développement et l'involution des négociations globales. Ce n'est ni le lieu ni le moment d'exprimer un avis sur les résultats de la Conférence de Cancún ou les perspectives des négociations globales.

Cependant, je crois opportun d'exprimer ici ma profonde satisfaction de voir que nos efforts pour contribuer à l'élaboration de la stratégie internationale de développement sont si bien accueillis et que les vues de la Conférence sur la priorité à donner au développement alimentaire et agricole et à ses multiples éléments sont reprises si parfaitement dans la stratégie et dans de nombreuses déclarations faites à l'occasion de la Journée mondiale qui s'est tenue le 16 octobre.

La documentation relative au point 15.1 traite aussi d'autres questions importantes; je ne veux pas anticiper sur les débats que vous leur consacrez, sauf pour insister sur un point: nous ne sommes absolument pas opposés aux mesures de coordination qui sont nécessaires pour permettre aux organisations du système des Nations Unies de travailler plus efficacement et plus économiquement au service des Etats Membres. Vous avez entendu à ce sujet une importante déclaration du Président du Conseil en séance plénière, qui reconnaît lui-même une déclaration à ce sujet d'un précédent Président du Conseil de la FAO, Monsieur Michel Cépède, qui assiste d'ailleurs à la Conférence.

Cette coordination a été indispensable dans le passé et elle le restera tout autant à l'avenir, car les activités de développement deviennent de plus en plus complexes et les ressources sont de plus en plus difficiles à obtenir.

En revanche, et suivant en cela vos instructions expresses, le Secrétariat n'a jamais hésité à affirmer que la coordination pour la coordination est plus qu'inutile et qu'elle est même préjudiciable aux objectifs que je viens d'évoquer.

La coordination vient des gouvernements et reste de leur ressort. Elle ne saurait être imposée à ces gouvernements par le système des Nations Unies dont l'action, pour importante qu'elle soit, ne représente qu'un faible élément extérieur dont l'envergure demeure à tous égards très inférieure à celle des efforts nationaux et même de l'aide bilatérale.

La coordination du système des Nations Unies, dans la mesure où elle est demandée par les Etats, ne doit pas compromettre les droits et responsabilités des gouvernements eux-mêmes, soit individuellement, soit au sein des organes directeurs des diverses organisations.

Elle ne doit pas non plus prétendre que toute action en faveur du développement exige une approche multidisciplinaire plutôt qu'une approche sectorielle ou serait améliorée de ce fait.

Enfin, elle ne doit pas servir d'excuse à une centralisation toujours accrue, assortie d'un gonflement des services centraux de coordination, et nous en avons beaucoup d'exemples.

J'ai la conviction que la coordination tentaculaire partant du centre ne peut qu'entraver et, en fin de compte, réduire l'esprit d'initiative et l'efficacité des organisations du système des Nations Unies, et avoir des effets négatifs pour tous les pays, au plan politique comme au plan financier.

En même temps, je suis persuadé que, pour mieux servir les Etats Membres et résoudre les problèmes communs, les organisations du système des Nations Unies doivent toujours se consulter étroitement, renforcer leur finalité commune et travailler ensemble en bonne harmonie.

Aussi la FAO s'est-elle toujours fait représenter à un niveau élevé aux réunions du Comité administratif de coordination et a-t-elle toujours fait preuve d'assiduité et de diligence à l'échelon de l'exécution.

Ainsi, nous avons récemment détaché un fonctionnaire au Secrétariat établi aux Nations Unies pour aider à préparer un document de synthèse sur les objectifs à moyen terme. Mais combien d'autres fonctionnaires n'avons-nous pas détaché au PNUD et ailleurs pour préparer des documents de ce même type, documents dits de synthèse.

Nous continuerons de participer pleinement à cette forme féconde et constructive de coordination.

Le contexte dans lequel s'insèrent mes propos ressort avec une netteté particulière de l'examen des programmes de terrain qui vous est soumis au titre du point 12.

Dans le passé, ce document a donné lieu à des débats aussi larges que féconds sur des questions présentant une grande importance pour le développement et les opérations. Je suis sûr qu'il en ira de même cette fois encore.

Ce document met en lumière l'extrême ampleur de nos activités de terrain et l'effort que nous faisons sans relâche pour analyser leur exécution et l'améliorer. Il signale nombre d'importantes questions de développement à l'attention des pays donateurs et des pays bénéficiaires ainsi que de l'Organisation. Citons en particulier la question des ressources futures pour l'investissement et l'aide au développement en agriculture.

Nous vous faisons rapport à ce sujet à propos de la mise en oeuvre de la résolution adoptée à la dernière session de la Conférence.

Vous devez aussi, à propos du point 12, prendre une décision au sujet des coûts de soutien.

Le Conseil d'administration du PNUD vient en fait de confirmer la décision qu'il avait prise il y a un an de changer son système de remboursement et de rembourser désormais les organisations comme la FAO sur la base d'un taux uniforme de 13 pour cent des dépenses d'exécution, c'est-à-dire des dépenses annuelles des projets du PNUD.

Je n'entends pas au stade actuel traiter en détail des incidences financières et autres de cette question, et je m'en tiendrai à quelques observations d'ordre général.

En premier lieu, nous devons tout faire, en notre qualité de partenaire, pour aider le PNUD à franchir la passe difficile qu'il traverse actuellement.

Il semble que le programme ne disposera probablement que de 70 pour cent des ressources nécessaires pour atteindre les objectifs initialement fixés concernant le troisième cycle de planification 1982-86.

En termes concrets cela veut dire pour la FAO, que déjà à la fin de cette année 400 experts qui travaillent dans les pays du tiers monde et qui sont financés par le programme du PNUD verront leur contrat se terminer et ne pourront plus continuer à travailler. Nous allons perdre 400 experts, financés par le PNUD, à cause de la situation financière difficile que le PNUD traverse.

Nous devons notamment veiller à ce que nos coûts de soutien soient aussi bas que possible.

Mais en même temps, nous devons maintenir la qualité de notre soutien, surtout en ce qui concerne le soutien technique.

Il sera également difficile de réduire le soutien administratif car nous savons par expérience qu'en général l'action logistique est nécessairement plus étoffée en période de difficultés financières qu'en période d'expansion.

Notre taux d'exécution va sans doute diminuer lui aussi, de sorte que nous recevrons des remboursements totaux encore moins élevés.

Il s'ensuit fatalement que les gouvernements - et eux seuls - doivent faire un choix et décider s'il doit ou non exister un écart entre le montant minimum total de soutien requis et le montant remboursé par le PNUD.

L'écart, s'il doit exister, ne peut être comblé que par le programme ordinaire.

Je n'ai pas de remarque spéciale à faire sur le point 11: Examen du programme ordinaire, ni sur le point

10 qui est un point très important: Objectifs à moyen terme, et j'en viens maintenant au point essentiel de mon exposé, c'est le point 9: Programme de travail et budget 1982-83.

En premier lieu, nous avons apporté à la présentation toutes les améliorations demandées à la dernière session de la Conférence et nous avons une fois encore réussi à préparer ce document en temps voulu.

Néanmoins, j'ai profité du peu de temps disponible depuis la soixante-dix-neuvième session du Conseil pour étudier avec soin et attention les débats qui s'étaient déroulés en juin au sujet du sommaire du programme de travail et budget.

Comme vous le savez nous présentons au Conseil, au mois de juin, un sommaire, un résumé du programme de travail et de budget, et le programme de travail détaillé est préparé à la lumière aussi des commentaires qui sont faits par le Conseil sur ce sommaire.

Le programme détaillé a été examiné attentivement par le Comité de programme et le Comité financier, mais n'a pas été examiné par la session du Conseil qui a duré deux jours, qui a précédé cette Conférence. Il doit être examiné par vous-mêmes.

Comme j'espère l'avoir clairement indiqué dans mon introduction de cet ouvrage, j'ai réexaminé, à la lumière des vues exprimées par le Conseil, toutes les répercussions du contexte mondial, la situation alimentaire mondiale, le rôle du développement alimentaire et agricole, nos buts à long terme et nos objectifs à moyen terme, y compris les incidences de la version révisée et abrégée de "Agriculture: Horizon 2000" qui vient de paraître, et les stratégies et priorités pour 1982-83. Comme on dit en anglais c'est "comprehensive".

Il ressortait clairement des vues du Conseil qu'un large accord s'était fait sur les stratégies, programmes et priorités proposés à moyen terme.

Cela tient un peu du miracle, parce qu'il y a plus de 150 pays; la gamme des activités est tellement grande; pour un pays ce sont les pêches qui sont importantes, c'est l'aquaculture; pour les autres ce sont les pêches dans les zones économiques exclusives; pour les uns c'est l'érosion du sol... Comment les membres de la FAO ont-ils pu pendant ces dernières années trouver un accord je dirais presque unanime sur les priorités, les stratégies à moyen terme de la FAO. C'est assez remarquable. Je sais qu'il est difficile de le faire dans d'autres organisations, par exemple à l'Unesco, au BIT, mais ici nous avons toujours eu accord entre tous les délégués.

Je n'avais donc aucune raison de revenir sur ma conviction selon laquelle ces stratégies, programmes et priorités offrent une bonne orientation pour l'Organisation en 1982-83.

Monsieur le Président, je voudrais revenir sur ce que je disais tout à l'heure: je n'avais donc aucune raison de revenir sur les stratégies proposées au Programme 1982-83 qui avaient été basées sur les stratégies à moyen terme. J'ai également étudié aussi avec soin les différents avis qui ont été exprimés au Conseil touchant l'importance à donner à certains programmes particuliers, notamment les crédits prévus pour les représentants et bureaux régionaux de la FAO. Mais, là non plus, il ne m'a pas semblé nécessaire de modifier sensiblement mes propositions.

Parmi les problèmes découlant des débats du Conseil et qu'il m'a fallu étudier, le plus aigu était naturellement celui du cadre financier dans lequel faire entrer toutes les priorités du programme.

J'ai examiné avec le plus grand soin les vues des pays qui ont insisté sur les contraintes économiques et financières qui délimitaient leur action et qui, selon eux, devraient également s'appliquer à toutes les organisations des Nations Unies.

J'ai aussi étudié avec le plus grand soin, comme je le devais, les vues de la grande majorité du Conseil. Cependant, j'ai dû en fin de compte me baser sur mon jugement personnel, et je reconnais franchement qu'à cet égard j'ai été influencé par les répercussions du marché des changes et j'ai donc établi ce budget avec un taux du dollar par rapport à la lire. Mais aujourd'hui le dollar est à 1 186 liras. Ce budget, s'il était approuvé, coûterait aux gouvernements 366 960 000 dollars à ce taux.

Comme chacun sait, la Conférence établit le taux de change du dollar le jour même où le budget est voté. On prend le taux de la veille ou celui du lendemain, on fait une moyenne, et c'est celui qui est adopté. Par exemple, au cours de 820 liras le dollar adopté à la dernière Conférence, le budget coûterait 440 millions de dollars. Au taux d'aujourd'hui ce même programme de travail ne coûte que 366 millions de dollars.

Je sais que pour les pays dont la monnaie n'est pas le dollar - et c'est le cas de presque tous les pays - la différence n'est pas très grande, quand le dollar était à 820 le franc valait peut-être 4. Ceci avantage sans doute les pays dont la monnaie est le dollar, mais à part les Etats-Unis, peut-être le Panama, je n'en vois pas d'autres. Mais le fait est qu'aujourd'hui, en raison de cet événement fortuit, ce programme de travail coûte 366 960 000 dollars.

Pendant l'exercice en cours, en raison d'événements tout aussi fortuits que défavorables, la majeure partie de l'augmentation de budget que vous aviez approuvée à la dernière session de la Conférence a été annulée par des économies forcées sur les programmes. Nous avons dû annuler 7,5 millions de dollars parce que nous avons un déficit cette année de 17 millions de dollars dû à des facteurs tels que l'augmentation du prix de transport aérien et l'inflation.

Bien sûr, nous avons prévu dans le budget une marge pour couvrir l'inflation, mais nous avons été, comme d'habitude, très prudents, et donc pour l'exercice courant nous avons dû couper dans les programmes pour 7,5 millions de dollars.

Que l'Organisation profite maintenant de la situation des changes pour avoir un meilleur programme avec un accroissement de coûts bien moins élevé, ce n'est que justice.

J'ai mis mes propositions définitivement au point à la fin de juillet.

Depuis lors, divers faits nouveaux qui nous intéressent se sont produits: résolutions adoptées par le Parlement européen et d'autres assemblées, demandant à la Communauté économique européenne de porter l'affaire devant le Conseil de sécurité; le Programme de la FAO dans le monde, demandant donc des crédits de 6 milliards de dollars approuvés par 245 parlementaires européens; résolutions adoptées par d'autres assemblées, discours et messages lancés à l'occasion de la Journée Mondiale de l'Alimentation; réunions d'Ottawa, de Melbourne et de Cancún.

Tous ces événements ont confirmé que priorité absolue doit être donnée au développement alimentaire et agricole, en particulier à l'accroissement de la production vivrière dans les pays à déficit alimentaire et à l'amélioration de la sécurité alimentaire mondiale.

Monsieur le Président, mes propositions n'ont pas d'autre objet. Elles ne prétendent pas remplacer l'auto-assistance ni l'aide bilatérale, ni leur faire concurrence. Elles doivent au contraire, leur servir de catalyseur et de soutien.

Ce matin, j'ai eu l'occasion de recevoir, pendant quarante-cinq minutes le Commissaire au développement de la Communauté économique européenne avec ses collaborateurs. Nous nous sommes mis d'accord pour faire des réunions de travail vers la fin de ce mois, puis d'autres au mois de janvier, pour avoir une action coordonnée avec la Communauté économique européenne et fournir une plus grande assistance technique aux pays en développement.

Voilà donc une convergence parfaite entre nos objectifs, nos activités, et ceux que la Communauté économique européenne s'est donnée, elle préconise à cet effet un programme spécial additionnel extraordinaire de 50 millions de dollars avec la FAO, ainsi que Monsieur Pisani l'a indiqué ce matin.

D'autre part, comme l'ont suggéré certains membres du Comité financier, je vous ai communiqué des renseignements plus synthétiques afin de vous permettre d'examiner plus facilement les programmes de terrain et le programme ordinaire en tant qu'aspects de notre action globale qui se soutiennent, s'alimentent mutuellement.

Dans ces conditions, je ne chercherai pas à m'excuser d'avoir maintenu mes propositions sans changement au lieu de "faire un geste", comme on dit.

Pour reprendre l'expression employée par Monsieur Pal, porte-parole de l'Inde, en évoquant le budget de la FAO devant la cinquième commission de l'Assemblée générale, j'ai pris pour guide mes convictions plutôt que la commodité.

Maintenant c'est à vous de juger. A vous de décider si vous appuyez ou non la modeste augmentation que j'ai proposée, sans oublier que nous nous trouverons certainement devant une situation plus difficile au cours du prochain exercice.

Je veux espérer qu'en prenant votre décision vous tiendrez compte des réalisations de l'Organisation au cours des six dernières années et n'oublierez pas qu'elle a obtenu des résultats de plus en plus importants sur le terrain, tout en réduisant les effectifs du personnel relevant du Programme ordinaire et en diminuant les dépenses administratives.

Vous trouverez des renseignements à ce sujet, non seulement dans les notes explicatives du Programme de travail et budget, mais aussi dans le document d'information qui a été préparé à cet effet et qui vous a été communiqué.

Je pense que les faits parlent d'eux-mêmes. Je demande simplement que mes propositions soient examinées pour elles-mêmes, indépendamment des oppositions idéologiques ou autres comme des questions secondaires, oiseuses ou futiles.

J'ai abrégé autant que possible cette introduction, car je n'ai déjà que trop parlé.

Monsieur West me représentera au sein de cette commission et quand je le souhaiterai si cela s'avérait nécessaire je viendrai à cette commission pour vous fournir d'autres informations ou répondre aux éventuelles questions.

Maintenant, je suis dans l'obligation de vous quitter, je n'assisterai pas, non plus, à la séance plénière car un très grand nombre de ministres, qui viennent de pays lointains et qui doivent partir demain ou après-demain, souhaitent me rencontrer. Nous allons sans doute signer une quarantaine d'accords d'assistance financée essentiellement par notre Programme de coopération technique, et je crois que les ministres ont à coeur d'emporter quelques accords sur des actions concrètes; la visite d'un expert FAO, quelques livraisons intrants agricoles qui, avec les documents très importants que nous produisons, apporteront la preuve tangible de l'excellente coopération entre la FAO et leur pays.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Mr. Director-General, for that introduction, which has indeed been a very comprehensive view over the items that Commission II will discuss over the coming days. I think I should speak on behalf of many delegates if I were to ask the Secretariat to make the statement of the Director-General available for the debate that will now follow.

The majority required to be present in the Assembly to deal with the items of the Commission is, according to rule XIII, one third of the membership of the Organization. According to the Secretariat five minutes ago, 110 member states were present in the Commission.

I should like to take this opportunity to welcome the Vice-Chairman of Commission II, Mr. Khalil, of the Sudan, to FAO. Being a member of the Programme Committee, he will certainly be a great asset to the debate in that Commission. Another Vice President comes from Zaire. I will in due course announce the name.

A few remarks on the procedures which I feel are important to be known at the very beginning. I would like to draw the attention of delegates to the terms of reference for Commission II as contained in Document C/81/12 paragraphs 27, 28, 29, 30, 31. As you are aware, the Agenda (C 81/1) was approved by the Plenary on Saturday, as Part II. This Part II has been consigned to Commission II. I also deem it appropriate to draw the attention of delegates to Appendix D of Document C 81/12 which sets forth the procedures and criteria governing the introduction and consideration of resolutions. I further wish to point out that document C/81/Inf/12 provides a check list of documents for the various items and that the Journal of the Conference also indicates which documents are required for a particular item and for the particular day. As the work of the Commission II will be reported to the Plenary I would like to invite already now nominations for that Committee that will comprise six to eight members and the Drafting Committee will work under a Chairman to be nominated. Lastly, the working sessions of Commission II will be from 09.30 to 12.30 and from 14.30 to 17.30 in the afternoon unless by consensus other time arrangements have been made. If you do a quick calculation you will realise that sixty working hours are available for the work of the Commission II including six hours that have been reserved for approving the report of Commission II. That means roughly 20 minutes of time will be available for any individual delegation for all the subjects. I would like to take this into account when I invite delegates to be concise in interventions.

## II - ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMES OF THE ORGANIZATION

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Items 9 and 10	<u>Programme of Work and Budget, 1982-83, and Medium-term Objectives including Agricultural Research in Developing Countries</u>
Points 9 et 10	<u>Programme de travail et budget 1982-83 et Objectifs à moyen terme, y compris la recherche agricole dans les pays en développement</u>
Temas 9 y 10	<u>Programa de Labores y Presupuesto para 1982-83 y objetivos a plazo medio, incluida la investigación agrícola en los países en desarrollo</u>

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): A la delegación de Colombia le complace mucho, Sr. Steiner, verlo a usted como Presidente de esta Comisión. Sabemos de la experiencia y de los conocimientos que usted tiene de la FAO, dentro y fuera de nuestra Organización. Estamos seguros de que usted, con sus dos Vicepresidentes, el amigo y colega Sr. Khalil del Sudán y el Vicepresidente del Zaire, harán un buen trabajo en las labores de esta Comisión.

Tal vez el privilegio de ser los primeros oradores sobre este tema que sin duda es el más importante de la Conferencia, nos lleve, con la venia suya y de los colegas de la Comisión, de antemano a usar algún tiempo que a lo mejor ya consumirá los 20 minutos del total a que tenemos derecho en esta Comisión.

Pensamos que a través del proceso que ha sufrido este documento en los órganos rectores de la FAO, los Comités del Programa y de Finanzas, en algunos Comités técnicos, y particularmente en el Consejo, ha quedado demostrado que existe unanimidad sobre las prioridades y las estrategias propuestas por el Director General.

Vamos a limitar nuestros comentarios a la introducción del Director General al Programa de Labores y Presupuesto, porque así se nos ha recomendado y consideramos éste un sistema útil. En efecto, en su introducción, el Director General afirma que sus propuestas son realistas, basadas en la eliminación de actividades ya superadas o de menor prioridad y el reforzamiento de aquellas con alta prioridad, con los cambios correspondientes en la distribución de los recursos.

Todos somos conscientes, y así lo reconoció el Consejo, de las difíciles circunstancias actuales, con perspectivas desfavorables en la economía mundial, con tensiones y presiones cada vez mayores, con efectos adversos especialmente para los países en desarrollo. Sin embargo, pensamos que a esa situación, que afecta a todos los países del mundo, debe sobreponerse la gravedad de la situación alimentaria y agrícola.

En las breves consideraciones anteriores, hemos tratado de encuadrar el momento y los elementos que justifican plenamente la presentación del Programa de Labores y Presupuesto para el próximo bienio. Pensamos que las solas razones expuestas en la introducción, coherentemente fundadas, habrán de determinar el cambio positivo que hemos venido solicitando y que todos esperamos de aquellos países que, en ocasiones anteriores, han manifestado dudas o reservas sobre su apoyo al nivel del presupuesto. Queremos sumar nuestra voz al llamado del Director General para que en esta Conferencia podamos asumir una posición unánime que nos permita adoptar, por consenso, este mínimo y muy modesto aumento propuesto para el programa de nuestra Organización.

Creemos que todo el mundo reconoce que la FAO es una de las agencias de las Naciones Unidas que mejor trabaja, con austeridad y eficiencia, y además, la agricultura y la alimentación son secciones prioritarias dentro del contexto de los problemas mundiales.

Los discursos que oímos en la Plenaria durante el día de ayer y también en la mañana de hoy, nos han hecho reflexionar un poco sobre algunos elementos de fondo político, que encontramos en la introducción del Director General al Programa de Labores y Presupuesto, lo cual nos lleva a pensar, como ya lo manifestamos en el Consejo, de que se está perfilando dolorosamente, a través de la crisis actual, una nueva forma de colonialismo que hemos llamado colonialismo alimentario.

En efecto, en el párrafo 14 de la Introducción del Director General se afirma que, la Reserva Alimentaria Internacional de Emergencia es insuficiente, poco segura e imprevisible. Y se dice que, en vez de ser auténticamente multilateral, es en gran medida un conjunto incierto de intereses y acuerdos bilaterales.

En el párrafo 17 se dice, que la dependencia de muchos países de importaciones de alimentos cada vez mayores sigue siendo peligrosa y onerosa; y luego, en el párrafo 66 se afirma, que si los países con déficit de alimentos continuarán dependiendo de las importaciones de cereales, su estabilidad política, económica y social estará cada vez más amenazada. Estas son palabras del Director General. Nosotros creemos que estamos en la etapa de después del colonialismo político superada ya casi en su totalidad, se pasó al colonialismo económico y ahora nos encontramos frente a un tentativo de colonialismo alimentario.

Somos solidarios con la gran preocupación que reina en torno a la situación existente en África. En vez de aumentar la producción de alimentos per cápita en el gran continente africano, ha disminuido en un 10 por ciento en los últimos 10 años. La FAO debe apoyar, sin reservas, el Plan de Acción de Lagos para África, cuya sección sobre agricultura y alimentación se basó justamente en Plan de Alimentos para África elaborado por la FAO.

En la Introducción del Director General se reconocen las enormes posibilidades de América Latina, particularmente en materia de desarrollo agrícola y forestal. Pedimos que se inste a la Conferencia a que se promueva un esfuerzo más positivo y eficaz, debidamente concertado, para lograr una mejor utilización de las tierras, de las aguas, de producción ganadera, pesquera y forestal y de todos los inmensos recursos con que cuenta América Latina.

El aumento de la producción en América Latina y el Caribe podría contribuir a abastecer las otras regiones del mundo y aliviar así la difícil situación alimentaria y agrícola.

La delegación de Colombia apoya las cuatro funciones básicas de la FAO enumeradas en el párrafo 58 de la Introducción del Director General, en el sentido de que esas cuatro funciones no deberán ser estáticas sino que podrán cambiar con los tiempos, tomar en todo momento impulso para una acción concreta y eficaz, a la luz de una evolución dinámica que es necesaria como aparece en el párrafo 51 con el cual estamos de acuerdo.

Como entendemos, Sr. Presidente, que estamos tratando conjuntamente también los Objetivos a Plazo Medio, pedimos su indulgencia para hacer también algunos comentarios sobre esos objetivos a medio plazo. Espero que no hay ninguna objeción.

Es indudable que este documento sobre los Objetivos a Plazo Medio a través de los años ha ido evolucionando. El Sr. West, quien está en la tribuna, conoce muy bien este proceso desde su condición de delegado del Reino Unido hasta funcionario de la Organización, y en discusiones anteriores se han examinado las ventajas e inconvenientes de suprimir este documento e irlo incorporando al Programa de Labores y Presupuesto.

La forma actual del documento C 81/9 corresponde a la decisión adoptada en el sentido de que, por el momento, - repito, por el momento - se mantenga como documento separado. Tal vez la misma unanimidad con que han contado las prioridades y estrategias del Director General, particularmente en el último bienio, nos haya inclinado a leer con más atención este documento. Tenemos la impresión de que, por fuerza de los hechos hay redundancias, hay repeticiones. Esto no es una crítica a la Secretaría, al contrario, creemos que hay coherencia en la presentación de esos importantes documentos básicos de la Conferencia, y por ello no necesariamente se incurre en esas duplicaciones. De allí que vayamos a reiterar, en esta Comisión, la propuesta que ya hicimos en el seno del Consejo, donde mereció algún apoyo como consta en el informe del pasado Consejo, en el sentido de que esta Conferencia decida la supresión del documento sobre Objetivos a Plazo Medio, y que al tomar esa decisión pida al Consejo que a través de los Comités del Programa y de Finanzas, estudie la forma de ir incorporando gradualmente los objetivos a plazo medio en el mismo cuerpo del Programa de Labores y Presupuesto.

Si la investigación que es uno de los temas que más ha atraído la atención de la delegación de Colombia dentro de los Objetivos a Plazo Medio, pudiera discutirse también en este mismo tema, podríamos hacer ahora algunos breves comentarios. Si no hay objeción, quisiéramos referirnos, muy brevemente Sr. Presidente al punto de investigación en el documento sobre Objetivos a Plazo Medio.

La delegación de Colombia apoya las actividades de la FAO en materia de investigación agrícola en los países en desarrollo. Estamos de acuerdo, como dice este documento C 81/9, de que una buena base de investigación es componente esencial del desarrollo. Desafortunadamente, aún falta mucho por hacer en este campo. No obstante, reconocer que la investigación agrícola internacional para los países en desarrollo ha venido aumentando y mejorando. Creemos que será necesario apoyar con decisión los sistemas nacionales de investigación y potenciar los medios para difundir ampliamente los resultados que se vayan alcanzando.

D.R. SHARMA (Nepal): The Programme of Work and Budget is the most important item on the agenda of this Commission.

The Director-General has presented his full proposals for the Programme of Work and Budget. They are his proposals, since he has a constitutional right to determine what he submits.

Firstly, I wish to thank the Chairman of the Programme and the Finance Committees for their reports on this subject. The Committees have again done a thorough job, from both the programme and the financial aspects. Their views are very helpful to us.

My delegation thinks that this Commission could and should reach a broad consensus without undue debate.

The seriousness of the world food and agricultural situation is plain for all to see. The strategies and priorities proposed by the Director-General are fully consistent with this, as well as being in accordance with the earlier policy guidance of the Council and Conference.

The programme proposed is the minimum necessary in view of the urgency, severity and magnitude of the problems. It is also an integrated and balanced programme which cannot be chopped and changed without real damage.



The Director-General in fact should be congratulated for his continuing efforts to provide a programme with economy and efficiency in implementation.

We fully support the proposed Programme and Budget. We are sure that the Director-General would agree that what needs to be done and what our organization is capable of doing is much greater than what he has proposed.

At this stage, however, there would be little point in trying to add more programme activities here and there, even though each Member Government would probably give different emphasis to the various programme priorities.

On the other hand, we believe that it would be quite wrong to cut the various proposals in this carefully balanced programme, as some have suggested in the Council.

My Government fully supports the view of the majority of the Programme and Finance Committees that the Programme of Work and Budget is the minimum necessary. Moreover, we are strongly opposed to reducing the number of FAORs and to cutting the programmes of the Regional Offices. These are essential to the effective delivery of the programme at the country and regional level as well as to the general policy of the Organization.

We are not only opposed to but disappointed and indeed puzzled by the renewed hostility of at least one delegation to the TCP. In our view, the TCP is the most cost-effective programme of all, and a cornerstone of FAO's programme and budget. We hope that this renewal of doctrinaire ideology, which is hostile to the interest of our countries, will not be pursued.

As regards the budget level, our Conference has repeatedly reaffirmed the principle of full budgeting to cover the total cost of the Programme of Work and Budget. We believe that the cost estimates are, unfortunately, again on the conservative side. In this connection, my Delegation was particularly concerned to note from a supplementary document presented to the Council (CL 79/3-Sup.1), the effects of unbudgeted cost increases on approved programmes in the past.

In the past, the effects were substantial but evidently manageable. It is completely unacceptable, however, that for the present biennium the unbudgeted cost increases have amounted to \$18.5 million, forcing a programme reduction of more than \$7 million, despite drawings on the Special Reserve Account up to the amount at present permissible.

Subject to this concern, we are prepared to agree with the Finance Committee that the methodology for calculating the cost increases is sound. We do not agree that there is any basis for cutting the cost increases.

The total budget level will, of course, be affected by the further currency changes which have occurred since the budget was calculated at Lire 1175.

It is clear that the budget level is going to be very much less than what is printed in the document.

This should be taken into account, especially bearing in mind the programme cuts made in the current biennium. Let us give the Organization some of the benefit of the tremendous currency windfall compared with what the proposals would have cost at Lire 820.

To conclude, Mr. Chairman, my Delegation urges the Commission to fully support the Programme of Work and Budget as proposed, the budget level to be determined at the rate prevailing at the present time.

We reiterate our appreciation and thanks to the Director-General for his proposals. Once again, he shows that he fully and eminently deserves our full continued support and confidence.

J. TCHICAYA (Congo): La délégation de la République populaire du Congo est heureuse de vous présenter ses félicitations, Monsieur le Président, et demeure persuadée que, sous votre présidence, les travaux de la commission II contribueront au succès de la Conférence.

Ma délégation qui s'est minutieusement penchée sur les principaux documents soumis à notre examen, a le plaisir de vous annoncer qu'elle approuve le programme de travail, ce que nous avons déjà fait dans nos interventions au cours de la 79ème session du Conseil, mais nous sommes tentés de proposer que des ressources plus importantes soient dégagées pour permettre la mise en oeuvre de ce programme. A cet égard, nous voudrions réaffirmer ici que les stratégies, les programmes et priorités retenus dans ces documents rencontrent notre adhésion puisqu'ils rejoignent nos préoccupations nationales.

La République populaire du Congo est, comme vous le savez, un pays en développement, fier de son indépendance et qui désire construire une économie auto-centrée et auto-dynamique. Et grâce aux stratégies, programmes et priorités proposés par le Secrétariat de la FAO, elle pourra compter sur le concours de notre Organisation pour asseoir cette économie. Ultérieurement, je développerai la question de l'insuffisance du niveau du budget qui soutiendra ce programme, car notre pays qui a eu, au cours de cette année, à demander l'appui de la FAO pour la définition de sa politique d'autosuffisance alimentaire, aura demain besoin de l'expérience et de la compétence de la FAO pour sa mise en oeuvre.

Avec le démarrage, l'année prochaine, du Plan quinquennal de développement, nous solliciterons de la FAO qu'elle nous prête son concours en vue de mobiliser les investissements des institutions financières internationales. Nous sommes également partisans du programme de coopération technique dont l'efficacité et la rapidité de mise en oeuvre n'est plus à démontrer. Bref, nous sommes pour tout programme qui vise le développement de la production vivrière, nous aide à nous passer de l'aide alimentaire et qui contribue à nous permettre d'atteindre l'auto-suffisance alimentaire, nous mettant ainsi à l'abri des pressions exercées par certains pays souvent désireux de se servir de l'aide alimentaire comme moyen de pression politique.

Nous rappelons que le niveau de ce budget est insuffisant et qu'il aurait pu être plus ambitieux. Néanmoins, nous pouvons d'ores et déjà vous assurer que nous lui apporterons notre soutien pour qu'il soit adopté tel quel, étant donné qu'il résulte d'un compromis entre ceux qui le souhaitaient plus élevé et certains pays tenants de la croissance zéro du niveau de ce budget.

Nous le faisons parce que nous sommes convaincus que le Directeur général et son secrétariat mettront tout en oeuvre pour que le programme ainsi élaboré soit exécuté sans trop de difficultés. Autant dire que la modeste augmentation proposée pour le niveau du budget ne devrait soulever aucune objection.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): I could not but first address you, Mr. Chairman, and say how happy I am personally to see you, Dr. Steiner, the representative and a very able one of a friendly and neighbouring country elected to the chair. I want also to extend congratulations to the Vice Chairmen.

My country has been fortunate to be represented on both the Programme Committee and the Council so we have had ample opportunity to express our views with regard to the Programme of Work and Budget and the Medium-term Objectives. On that ground I am bound to be fairly brief and I will in fact confine my general comments to only a few issues that we consider essential.

First, on the format of the Programme of Work and Budget Document which is, we believe, a very appreciable improvement even if compared with the already fairly high standard of the previous document. Furthermore, the narratives on the "Nature of the Problem, "FAO Objectives", "Plans of Action", are not only presented with greater uniformity but more importantly with increased clarity. The description of sub-programmes in our view is much better shaped now, showing more precisely not only the objectives, priorities and emphasis but also how they are to be achieved.

Nothing is of course perfect and we still feel that there is a certain room for improvement in the future biennia. In the course of debate we may even indicate some of the areas in which we believe some further refinement is still possible. However, on the whole we feel that the document has reached a high standard.

It is perhaps worth noting that the improvement has largely come about as a result of very harmonious communication between the membership and the secretariat. However, I think we feel that the Director-General and his colleagues - and I would single out Mr. West in particular - deserve our gratitude not necessarily for following the suggestions from the governing bodies, which after all they are supposed to do, but for giving our general and sometimes even loose suggestions a proper shape.

Now I shall briefly express our views with regard to the Director-General's introduction, the first part of it dealing with the complex structure of global phenomena which is in our view both comprehensive and realistic. We feel that the Director-General has properly evaluated the global background and in particular these aspects which are more or less of direct relevance to the FAO Programme of Work Budget for 1982/83 and beyond.

Naturally here and there slightly different accents and shades could have been placed without altering the Director-General's conclusions to any noticeable degree,

The broad outline of the medium-term objectives in the same part of the document, including their regional implications, is in our view fully adequate.

With regard to the strategy and priorities for 1982/83, I would like to lay special stress on the consistency of FAO policy since 1976. Indeed, within the virtually unchanged programme and organizational scheme which, by the way, if changed could have produced quite an image, the balanced package of policy changes so desperately needed at that time not only to make an end to the obvious crisis in which FAO was at that moment involved but also to give it sound and rational long-term orientation. The policy so unanimously approved in 1976 has been vigorously pursued. Of course, the main stream was towards countries, towards concrete and increasingly lasting effects at the country level. This main stream of the process we have always called decentralisation which means an increased use of and reliance of FAO on national institutions raising support for ECDC and TCDC activities; FAO representative scheme; growing concentration on critically important areas mostly through special action programmes, special priority on investments support, et cetera, et cetera. We know that all these could have been achieved only through a programme increase. So we are aware of the other side of the coin, that means very substantial cuts in administrative costs, especially relative to and to a certain degree an absolute reduction of established posts at headquarters and a very sizeable transfer of resources from studies and other low priority areas, the reduction in the costs of meetings and to a lesser degree documentation. This outward part of the story is quite well known.

However, what is less noticeable but in our view almost equally important is a massive and constant flow of capillary changes, between and within all sub-programmes, in particular those in Chapter 2 which is the core of FAO. One may say that virtually all sub-programmes in that chapter and to a lesser degree the others have undergone less visible but profound changes in the last three biennia, thus reinforcing the overall tendency towards country level.

The process initiated in 1976 is no doubt far from being complete. We feel that it needs to be pursued with the same vigour after 1982/83. One important component of the decentralization process, however, which inevitably requires substantial resources, that is the FAO representative scheme, will be more or less stabilized at the end of 1983. This coupled with a moderate increase if any in regional and Liaison offices and we reel an even turner reduction in costs of meetings and to a certain degree of documentation would make possible the reinforcement of other essential components of the decentralization process. I am referring particularly to the institution support and the need for increased capitalistic as well as direct support to the ECDC and TCDC. We feel at the end of the biennium with the well-established country and regional network as well as with increased DCP resources such a course seems to be the only one leading towards lasting effects at the country level.

I do not need to emphasize that while we are continuing to give out full and wholehearted support to the overall thrust to the countries, we are at the same time equally aware that FAO must maintain its key role as a global documentation, information and analytical centre as well as a central international forum in the field of its competence. In this connection we fully support the Director-General's proposals aimed at maintaining this indispensable aspect of FAO's work.

It goes without saying, of course, that we fully support the special emphasis and special priority for Africa in the next biennium and if necessary beyond.

Finally, I come to what seems to be the only controversial issue, that is the level of the budget. Our position has already been stated a number of times and will again, I hope, be very clearly stated in our Plenary speech. Our Plenary speech this year will be exceptionally late so I deem it necessary to summarize our position vis-à-vis the budget level. As comes out, I hope, very clearly from what I have said so far, we believe that FAO has achieved in the last three biennia more than we believed possible at the beginning. The momentum gained in our view simply cannot be sustained within stagnant resources. The programme proposed by the Director-General for 1982/83 we believe should be judged, as the Director-General feels himself, on the basis of past achievements and on its own merits.

Both tests in our view are highly positive and thus the programme and its immediate consequence, the budget level, deserve the full support of my government.

I want in the same connection to underline one aspect, that our support is given despite the enormous economic and especially the balance of payments difficulties that my country has been facing for some time now. My government has also imposed very severe restrictions on all domestic spending and in particular it imposed real term cuts in all budgets, I mean budgets at all levels. Consequently if we support the budget of FAO, as we do, it is obvious that we do not believe that the budget of FAO could or should be judged on the basis of any predetermined theory, let alone one of zero term growth.

S. POHORYLES (Israel): First of all I should like to congratulate you on your important mission, Mr. Chairman. With your permission I should like to make a few remarks in relation to research activities in the FAO programme. Research could, in our opinion, be an efficient substitution to natural production factors, constraints like limited land or limited water. For instance research and extension experience constitutes so-called intangible productivity, or unexplained productivity, which could reduce the share of limited land and limited water in so-called factor-mix to 10 to 15 percent. International experience shows that 30 years ago the share of land in the price of agricultural production was between 30 and 40 percent. Today it is five, in some cases it is 5 to 10 percent. It means that neutral technology, neutral inputs like mechanization, automation, better organization, improved planning, are able to promote agricultural development also in less favorable areas, in arid lands, or semi-arid lands. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, our delegation will support FAO efforts, FAO emphasis on research and extension activities as a high priority strategy in FAO activities, and, first of all, transfer of technology and knowledge from research institutions to the individual farmer, which is the crucial point in agricultural expansion, in agricultural development.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. I wanted to make a brief remark on the procedure. It was suggested to me that two items: (1) national agricultural research in developing countries, as contained in document C 81/26, and the second subject, the world soil chapter. That is contained in document C 81/27, which also includes a draft resolution, should be discussed immediately subsequent to the ending of the discussion on item 9 and 10.

It has been the normal practice in Commission II to carry out a first round of general debate on the Programme of Work and Budget, and the Medium-term Objectives, as referred to in item 9 and 10. After that first round of general debate, it was the practice to enter into discussion of the individual chapters.

C. KELLER SARMIENTO (Argentina): Séame permitido felicitar en primer lugar al Sr. Steiner por la acertada y merecida decisión adoptada por la Conferencia de designarle para presidir nuestros trabajos. Vaya también extensiva esa felicitación a los dos Vicepresidentes, los distinguidos representantes de Sudán y Zaire, con nuestros deseos de que complementen su tarea en esta Comisión con el éxito a que todos aspiramos.

Acabamos de escuchar al Director General sobre los temas que deberemos tratar durante nuestros trabajos, y no nos ha sorprendido su afirmación de que las labores de este Comité son probablemente las más importantes de la Conferencia.

Comenzaré, con su licencia, Sr. Presidente, concentrando mis primeras observaciones en torno a algunos aspectos relativos a la introducción del Director General en el documento C 81/3, "Programa de Labores y Presupuesto para 1982-83".

Deseo expresar en primer lugar que este documento ha sido analizado en oportunidad del 48° período de sesiones del Comité del Programa celebrado en septiembre último. Y como acaba de señalar mi distinguido amigo, el representante de Yugoslavia Sr. Trkulja, que preside el Comité, hemos tenido ocasión de estudiar en detalle los más importantes aspectos del mismo, y hemos coincidido trabajando, como Vd. sabe con estos funcionarios, que son alrededor de diez, más el Presidente, para preparar el trabajo del Consejo dirigido a adoptar decisiones sobre los documentos presentados.

La primera conclusión importante a que llegamos con ocasión de la discusión de este importante documento fue coincidir en el reconocimiento de la mejora en su formato, y en la mayor claridad de como se presentaban anteriormente los distintos capítulos y los diferentes problemas.

Esta labor fue realizada siguiendo recomendaciones expresas del Comité del Programa y del Comité de Finanzas; de acuerdo con las indicaciones formuladas por el Director General.

En general, hubo acuerdo sobre el hecho inicial de que las recomendaciones formuladas en la introducción del documento, así como las prioridades y medios de acción propuestos estaban en consonancia con las necesidades.

Se discutió extensamente sobre la evolución de la situación mundial, y naturalmente se presentaron diversos matices de interpretación en torno a los hechos que hacen que la situación del mundo en este momento sea realmente preocupante.

En relación con la política que había orientado la preparación de las propuestas formuladas por el Director General en lo que respecta a la elección de la estrategia y prioridades, se destacó la importancia evidente de la gravedad de la situación en África. Y se puso también de relieve la importancia mayor que cada día tiene el tema de la energía y de su trascendencia dentro del problema de la agricultura y de la alimentación y sobre todo del comercio mundial.

El Consejo y el Comité del Programa han reconocido que el problema del comercio de productos alimenticios debe ser tratado en la FAO, pues aunque haya otros órganos específicos dentro de las Naciones Unidas, la FAO no puede eludir la responsabilidad que tiene en el tratamiento de los problemas de comercio de productos básicos.

Otro de los puntos importantes incluido en la introducción es, a nuestro juicio, el énfasis dado creo que por primera vez en un documento de esta índole al problema de la cooperación económica y técnica entre países en desarrollo.

Este es un ámbito nuevo, es una nueva dimensión en la problemática internacional y es uno de los aspectos que debemos tener en cuenta permanentemente cuando discutimos los grandes problemas del mundo.

Nosotros vemos con preocupación la insensibilidad que parece existir a veces en los grandes países industriales en comprender los problemas del subdesarrollo y en no orientar todos sus esfuerzos a enfrentar los problemas globales que nos afligen.

Mientras tanto, hemos coincidido en varias conferencias internacionales (una especialmente en la ciudad de Buenos Aires: la Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre Cooperación Técnica en Países en Desarrollo), en la necesidad de coordinar esfuerzos entre los países que están en grado de hacerlo para tratar de paliar el impacto de la falta de apoyo que existe en algunos sectores por parte de los países altamente industrializados.

Saludamos con gran alegría esta toma de posiciones en favor de la cooperación económica y técnica entre los países en desarrollo. Pensamos que es uno de los aspectos más importantes que deberemos continuar destacando en el futuro en este foro.

En cuanto al nivel del presupuesto proyectado y propuesto a nuestra consideración, estimamos que es adecuado, que responde a las necesidades de los países que esperan de la FAO una acción eficaz. Y desde luego que está en consonancia con los grandes problemas que hemos visto aparecer en los últimos tiempos como el de la inflación y el de la carencia de recursos. Y es evidente que de no producirse un incremento dramático en la producción y distribución de productos alimenticios, la realización de los programas de la FAO no podrán cumplirse ni aún mínimamente de acuerdo con los objetivos para los que este Organismo fue creado.

Estimamos que el nivel del presupuesto debe responder a las necesidades apremiantes que siente la comunidad internacional. Creemos, por consiguiente, que el aumento propuesto es el mínimo indispensable a fin de hacer frente a estas necesidades.

Deseaba, Sr. Presidente, formular sencillamente estos comentarios a la altura en que nos encontramos del debate, limitándome a los puntos señalados como introducción por el Director General.

Me reservo, pues, la oportunidad de volver a intervenir sobre temas específicos, y le agradezco, Sr. Presidente, que me haya concedido el uso de la palabra.

T.AHMAD (Pakistan): May I, first of all, on behalf of my delegation congratulate you, and the other two vice chairmen, on your election to this very important commission.

My country's position regarding the level of budget and the Medium-term Objectives has been stated a number of times earlier, because luckily, or fortunately, we are members of the Council, and we are members of the Programme Committee. During the 79th Session of the Council, my country's delegation emphatically supported the level of the summary programme, at that stage presented by the Director-General, and joined the majority of the members of the Council who emphatically supported the budget. Subsequently, during the sessions of the Programme Committee and the joint sessions of the Programme and Finance Committee, the proposals put forward by the Director-General on the basis of these recommendations of the 79th Council were fully endorsed and were supported by my country. Like other member nations, we wholeheartedly and fully agree with the strategies, priorities and thrust of the approach as proposed by the Director-General. We are in particular agreement with the new dimensions approach as reflected in the programme and are happy to see the emphasis placed on TCDC and ECDC and the work that follows.

Regarding the level of the budgets, very briefly, I must state that we are in full agreement with the Director-General when he says in paragraph 90 of his introduction to the Programme of Work and Budget that, with the present state of the world, the World Food Commission would have warranted a much larger budget. We should have been happier with a larger and higher level of budget. We consider the level of the budget presented by the Director-General as the bare minimum required to maintain the momentum which has been gained by FAO in this field.

We in the developing countries have now started to find our feet in the field of agricultural development and production of food. As the leader of my delegation, speaking this morning before the Plenary, pointed out, there are a number of developing countries in the world, in different regions of the world, who have, with the help of multilateral and bilateral agencies, now acquired adequate momentum to be able to move forward in the field of agricultural development. My own country has made progress in agricultural development in the last few years. If this momentum is to be retained, and if the developing countries are to combat hunger and malnutrition in the world, it is absolutely necessary that organizations like FAO, who have adequate technical know-how and a reservoir of knowledge and expertise and very useful programmes like TCP, be financed adequately so that they can go forward and help developing countries to help themselves.

We are of the opinion that during the 79th Session of the Council, the 80th Session of the Council and the Programme and Finance Committees, the overwhelming majority of the member nations of FAO have given emphatic and wholehearted support to the level of the budget. We have done it before and will do it again: we appeal to those countries that have any reservations to join the consensus and support the level of the budget.

Those were my general remarks. When the occasion arises, we shall join the more detailed debate.

O. LUCO ECHEVERRIA (Chile): Permítame, en primer lugar, felicitarlo por la elección a que ha sido objeto para que presida nuestra reunión. Tenemos seguridad de que sus capacidades le permitirán llevar en forma acertada y fructífera el quehacer de esta sala. En lo que se refiere a los documentos que están siendo objeto de análisis, en este momento, desearía si usted me permite, primero hacer un alcance bastante amplio en el sentido de que los países miembros de la FAO tuvieron la oportunidad de conocer el Programa de Labores y Presupuesto con anterioridad a votar, como lo hicimos el día de ayer por el Sr. Saouma como Director General de la FAO para un nuevo período.

El que el Sr. Saouma haya obtenido, si la memoria no me engaña, 138 votos a favor, 3 abstenciones y un voto en contra, está demostrando en forma clara que la mayoría de los Países Miembros de la FAO estaba, en ese momento, ya dando un veredicto indirecto sobre lo que pensaba del Programa de Labores y Presupuesto que el Sr. Director General había tenido a bien poner a conocimiento de los países miembros.

De tal manera que si somos consecuentes con lo que hicimos ayer, hoy día no nos cabe otra cosa que aprobar el Programa de Labores, y discutir quizá un poco sobre el nivel del presupuesto; nivel del presupuesto que mi delegación está de acuerdo en que deba ser aumentado pero que estima que debe analizarse, en el sentido del aumento y la cantidad que este mismo involucre. Es especialmente importante para mi país, los programas de cooperación técnica, el programa de pesca, el programa sobre comercio internacional y en general, todo aquello que en forma directa o indirecta lleve a que una economía sana pueda tener éxito en el contexto mundial de las Naciones, donde se necesitan principios fundamentales como la franqueza, la lealtad para que cuando los países en vías de desarrollo tratan de ingresar con sus productos dentro de otras fronteras, puedan hacerlo sin encontrarse con barreras arancelarias o para-arancelarias que impidan que el pequeño productor pueda ver coronado con éxito su sacrificio, su esfuerzo y su esperanza.

Es por eso que hace un momento atrás, mencionaba que mi país da especial importancia al estudio del comercio internacional. No es menos cierto que también es necesario estudiar con cuidado aquella otra actividad que la FAO realiza, que hace relación con la disminución de pérdidas postcosechas. En ese aspecto, mi país siente bastante preocupación por el monto que se le asigna a este importante programa porque estima que, si bien es cierto es importante producir más, es más cierto que es indispensable hacer que lo que producimos no se pierda. Las estimaciones de la FAO, por lo menos las que yo conozco, indican que la pérdida durante y postcosecha realmente representa cifras no solamente significativas, yo me atrevería a decir alarmantes. Si en este momento, nosotros tuviéramos la capacidad de hacer que estas pérdidas durante y después de la cosecha llegaran a niveles aceptables, gran parte del hambre en el mundo habría desaparecido. Es por ello, que mi delegación siente la necesidad de llamar la atención, con respeto pero al mismo tiempo con energía, a los señores delegados presentes para que analicen este ítem, y de conversaciones positivas para el bien común, veamos la posibilidad de darle mayor fuerza.

Gracias señor Presidente, y me reservo la oportunidad de volver a intervenir si lo estimara necesario.

LE PRESIDENT: Maintenant j'ai le plaisir de vous communiquer le nom du vice-président de la Commission II qui vient d'être élu, il s'agit de M. Nga Ma Mapela, représentant permanent adjoint du Zaïre auprès de la FAO. Je lui souhaite la bienvenue, je suis sûr qu'une coopération harmonieuse s'établira entre les trois présidents de la Commission.

S.J. KAO (Lesotho): I should like to join in congratulating you on being appointed Chairman of this Commission and should like to indicate that your success as Chairman will depend very much on us members in supporting you in that. We hereby give you that support.

The Programme of Works as presented to us by the opening remarks of the Director-General is very well laid out and the objectives very well articulated, with priorities very well set. I should like to congratulate the Director-General and his staff for this. When one deals with a sensitive topic like food and hunger, it becomes very difficult to set up priorities because all the points contained in the programme are very important. Resources permitting, it would be appropriate to see all these programmes implemented with the greatest speed. We support the programme, particularly that of research and a decentralization of services through the appointment of a hundred representatives and regional offices. It is through this decentralization, we believe, that FAO is getting closer to the people of the world and therefore is in a better position to appreciate their problems.

The programmes of the TCP are very well appreciated and certainly do much to assist the developing countries in supporting their management services. Without the TCP, the developing countries would find it very difficult to respond to the responsibilities of the programmes with which they are faced in fighting hunger.

We appreciate very much, and certainly support, the work which is intended to be done on post-harvest losses. If one looked at the figures of the amount of food which is wasted and which disappears through post harvest losses, one would certainly see that food, if utilized to feed the hungry nations, would improve the world food situation a great deal.

With the responsibilities and objectives of FAO, one would expect a much higher budget. In spite of the austerity measures being taken all over the world by all governments in order to contain inflation and depression, I would support the levels of the budget as proposed and would appeal to all governments to give a sympathetic consideration to the plight of the hungry people, and, through this organization, help them to feed themselves.

L. BRAMAO (Portugal): I would like firstly to congratulate you for your appointment as Chairman of his Commission, our Commission II, and I am sure that with your great experience and knowledge of FAO and inside and outside, I am sure that you shall lead our discussions to the very best end. I would also like to take advantage of this opportunity to congratulate the Vice-chairmen. Mr. Chairman we were very impressed by the Director-General's introduction and we also think that his introduction is a very realistic one. My delegation would like also to present congratulations to the Director-General for the excellent work produced in the Programme of Work and Budget, I would like now in this instance to limit myself to a few words concerning the question of self sufficiency in food production. Improved self sufficiency you said in basic foodstuffs is necessary economically for developing countries and developed countries alike. We realise that the amount of food produced in the world is far short of the needs that we have presently and this question of increasing food production for attaining self sufficiency is a theme and one of the four priorities of my government: to increase food production, to diminish Portuguese dependence on imported foods from the world market. The government is aware of the increased price of basic foodstuffs and the fact that the amount of food produced in the world is not sufficient to meet the present needs and probably the situation will tend to worsen in future. We think that much more research to be done by FAO will be necessary. My country thinks that FAO has a fundamental role to play which only FAO can play. FAO's efforts to find in greater detail new areas suitable for agricultural production based on soil studies of the world is, according to our point of view, very important. We think therefore that all this research should be increased in the future in order to be able to serve and to be a basis for these wide and important programmes of obtaining self sufficiency in food production on a world wide basis.

CHAIRMAN: I have been notified by two or three delegations that they would like to make their general remarks at a later moment. One delegation indicated that it might be tomorrow after the statement of the Minister of that delegation had been made in the Plenary. I hope I find your understanding when I say that we cannot suspend now the order of debate but I would suggest that those delegates who wish to make their remarks at a later moment are welcome to do so. I would like to suggest that they indicate at that moment that this is their general remark, the first remark within the Commission.

W.E. ADERO (Kenya): First I would congratulate you on your election as the Chairman of Conference and that goes for your Vice-Chairmen as well. The Programme of Work and Budget before us for discussion is a very important document in our opinion. This document should not end before we give our general comments with the discussions of the document. The document looks at the world situation including regional and national consideration especially as far as food and agriculture are concerned. It is indeed gratifying for us for the entire globe to gather here once more to discuss a programme of Work and Budget for Food and Agriculture at a time when global food problems have reached a desperate stage to the extent that some millions of people are living at and even below the margin of starvation. Security of food in the present world is seriously threatened and we the inhabitants of this planet have yet to adjust ourselves adequately in order to reverse the trend. We have not attained targets we have been set in the international fora. In this connection we would like to observe that targets which have been set to reduce or remove food problems in the world have not been fully met. The 10 million tonnes of grain per year set by the World Food Conference in 1974 has not yet been met. Neither has the 5 000 tonnes of grain per year as an international emergency food reserve. The level of resources of the International Fertilizer Scheme has also declined very considerably and yet the application of fertilizers is crucial in food production. Developments in the International Wheat Council have not been all that positive. The current international food security is unreliable and precarious. My question to this community of nations is: when shall we inhabitants of this earth live with no child going to bed hungry and no child going to bed without knowing what to eat next day? We the developing countries are most seriously affected, and in particular we in Africa. Our population growth rate is high and at times goes up to 4 percent. Food production does not match population growth so we need to produce more food to meet this challenge but our efforts to do so are frustrated by many factors. Fertilizer prices are extremely high. In fact they are in some cases made deliberately high to frustrate our efforts. Prices of agricultural inputs in general have continued to rise. Also costs have climbed alarmingly so investment in our agricultural sector has been difficult and in many cases impossible. One alternative has been to import food whose prices have also continued to rise. This food input has continued to bite off a large proportion of our foreign exchange to the extent of affecting our increased investment in agriculture, yet this meagre foreign exchange is really hard earned. We sell our raw materials to external markets and the prices we get for them are discouraging. Our goods to the external markets have also met with tariff and non-tariff barriers. My delegation believes that the FAO programme of work which we have studied should be fully implemented and this will go a long way in attacking and reducing many of our food production problems and other national and international problems of agriculture as a whole. While supporting the entire programme of work for the years 1982-83 we wish to emphasize under the Natural Resources Programme the need for saving the degradation of soil and water resources and the protection of the environment through afforestation programmes including agro-forestry. In my own country Mr. Chairman we have a preservation commission on soil conservation and afforestation to plan and coordinate efforts and strategies in this area. This indicates the concern we have in protecting our environment for ourselves and for posterity. The growth programme has continued to receive our full support. We wish to lay emphasis on the programmes to improve smallholder production techniques, improved seed, improved cropping systems, multiple cropping, seed propagation, crop protection and appropriate mechanization. Pre- and post-harvest losses need to be given special attention. Emphasis needs to be placed on food preservation and processing within rural communities. The programme on genetic resources also receives our emphasis. As regards livestock we wish to emphasize the development of feedstocks and food quality improvement. We hereto note the high cost of livestock feeds. FAO should focus much attention on meeting necessary livestock food base as well as for the production and conservation. We commend FAO for the animal health work it is doing and special mention should be made of what they are doing on African animal trypanosomiasis. We wish also to focus our attention on the dairy development. In connection with the programme of research support we agree with FAO's selected areas of concentration and under rural development we support the declaration of principles and programme action adopted by WCARRD in 1979. We shall have a chance under another item to discuss this point.



While supporting all FAO's programmes here we wish to put emphasis on agricultural credit and banking programmes, the trading of farmers, and participation of youth and children in all aspects of development. We support action on the nutritional intervention of development programmes. Community nutritional programmes are in order to sustain a healthy nation. My delegation supports and commends FAO in the role it is playing in the implementation of labour's plan of action and in particular in connexion with food and agricultural policies. We in Kenya have produced a national food policy which we have to implement and FAO's support including other agencies will greatly be appreciated.

I said the beginning that discussions we are having are very important. FAO has painfully worked out very important programmes. We have looked at the budget proposed and we wish to express our deep concern, but it is so deep that we consider the budget to be rather small. We would have liked to see it a bit bigger than what it is. We are, however, surprised to hear that a more than modest budget had been proposed. My delegation urges this Conference to approve the proposed budget level for 1982-83 and all that goes with it and more, if it is forthcoming.

K. CHOUERI (Liban) (langue originale arabe): Je voudrais tout d'abord vous adresser mes félicitations à vous, Monsieur le Président, ainsi qu'aux vice-présidents.

Après avoir entendu la déclaration du Directeur Général en séance plénière, ainsi que l'allocution qu'il a prononcée devant ce Comité, et après avoir pris connaissances des points 9 et 10 de l'ordre du jour, et surtout de la partie concernant la situation alimentaire mondiale, les objectifs à moyen terme, l'étude: "agriculture horizon 2000", le niveau du budget pour le prochain biennium, ma délégation voudrait appuyer tous ces éléments, pour lesquels nous sommes entièrement d'accord.

Je voudrais cependant m'attarder sur les stratégies et les priorités pour le prochain biennium; ma délégation appuie le contenu du paragraphe 51 ainsi que les concepts exposés dans cette introduction et les progrès réalisés dans les politiques et activités depuis que le Directeur général assume ses fonctions, ainsi que les résultats effectifs que le programme de coopération technique a réalisés.

Nous voulons aussi soutenir les résultats acquis dans le domaine de la décentralisation qui correspond aux aspirations des pays en voie de développement. Nous appuyons aussi le contenu du paragraphe 53 concernant la diminution des postes, et je ne peux que rappeler ici le consensus qui s'est réalisé à propos des programmes et des priorités.

Pensez-vous, Monsieur le Président, que si nous n'allouons pas les fonds nécessaires, nos priorités, nos stratégies vont se réaliser? Nous soutenons le niveau du budget et le programme de travail et budget parce que ce sont les garants du succès de l'Organisation. Je voudrais évoquer ici la résolution du Conseil à sa 79ème session, où l'on constate que tous les Etats Membres ont soutenu le programme de travail et budget.

Avant de conclure, je me réserve le droit de redemander la parole lorsque nous allons aborder la discussion des autres points inscrits à l'ordre du jour. Enfin, nous félicitons tous ceux qui ont participé à l'élaboration de ce document dont la valeur est incontestable.

Je voudrais également indiquer que la délégation libanaise n'a pas encore prononcé son discours en séance plénière, et que ultérieurement nous participerons plus activement aux travaux de ce Comité.

M.A.AL-SANEH (Koweït) (Original language Arabic): My country's delegation has already given its support for the Programme of Work and Budget for 1982-83 and, indeed, we did that when we discussed it in the Council. We also said that the proposed budget level is a minimum if we are to achieve the Organization's target and combat hunger in the world for the coming two years. Allow me, Sir, to say that the Programme of Work and Budget has been prepared by a team of experts who have been in close touch with the problems of hunger in the world. They were in close touch with the problems and diseases involved and they were therefore in a good position to prescribe the necessary treatment. What the Director-General says here is a panacea, but some colleagues have expressed certain reservations. They would freeze the budget level. They do not consequently wish to put an end to the problem; they simply want to reduce it. They do not wish to eradicate it. I am speaking particularly to those colleagues. I beg of them to change their viewpoint and thereby enable the Organization to assume its role effectively. I have every reason to believe that the support given to the Director-General when he was re-elected, was in fact a support given to FAO as a whole.

Our varying views should not undermine the essence of the Problem. It makes no doubt that the Director-General and his staff have not made their proposals in order to dilapidate the Organization's resources, but on the contrary to achieve the goals set by this same Organization. Mr. Chairman, my country's delegation, wishes to express its full support for the Programme of Work and Budget, and we ask these colleagues to reconsider their views and reconsider the whole question.

R.W.M. JOHNSON, (New Zealand): I should like to address myself to some general remarks on three topics which come under the item under discussion. I should like to briefly touch upon the size of the budget; the presentation of the Programme of Work and Budget, and the question of FAO representatives. New Zealand has the view that the real growth of the United Nations system should be kept within reasonable lengths in the present economic circumstances. We are therefore of the view that the FAO budget should also grow slowly in real terms, and of the view that the appropriate policy for the coming biennium is one of encouraging increases in productivity instead. We are attracted to the United States view of ordering and allocating resources to those programmes and projects of highest priority.

We recognize that evaluation procedures in place have started on this process and would suggest that continued evaluation and vigilance is necessary to continue the process in the future.

On the presentation of the Programme of Work, as on previous occasions, we recognize the value of the details shown in each sub-programme, particularly the manpower and extra-budgetary items. The section on changes and resources in each programme is particularly useful and could be enlarged in our view.

There remains, however, a certain vagueness in the detail of each sub-programme which is probably hard to overcome. This is made up somewhat by the next item on the Agenda, that is the Review of Programmes which we have yet to discuss, but there still remains a certain lack of integration between the Programme and the review which could perhaps be given attention in the coming biennium.

On the question of FAO representatives, we note the large proportion of the real increases in the budget which is devoted to this item. We note that there is an increase of 14.9 percent over the previous biennium; we also note that 13.9 percent of the increase is devoted to this item. As the Director-General's introduction sets out, this increase is due to the 12 new posts which it is proposed to be established. It is our view that possibly some of these posts and some of those already established could well contribute to greater efficiency in administering FAO aid programmes. On the other hand, however, there could be others where duplication and inefficiency are harmful, and the posts could well be dis-established or not established at all. These are very general remarks which give the general tenor of our position and we will possibly make a further contribution later.

S. SIDIBE (Mali): La délégation du Mali saisit l'occasion pour vous féliciter, Monsieur le Président, à la suite de votre brillante élection à la tête de la deuxième commission.

Ma délégation voudrait exprimer toute sa satisfaction au Directeur général de la FAO et à son équipe aussi dynamique, pour l'élaboration du programme de travail et du budget 1982-83.

En effet, le programme de travail et le budget tiennent compte des objectifs fixés par le Plan de Lagos, plan adopté par les chefs de notre région d'Afrique pour arriver à l'autosuffisance alimentaire.

L'aide de la FAO pour atteindre ces objectifs est la mieux adaptée à nos besoins. Le programme de coopération technique a pu ainsi venir en aide très rapidement à beaucoup de nos pays dont le cheptel se trouvait menacé par la peste bovine.

La FAO va plus loin que l'aide d'urgence; elle s'associe à d'autres sources de financement notamment pour éradiquer la maladie dans 24 de nos pays. Elle mène dans nos régions un programme de lutte contre la trypanosomiase animale et afin de libérer des terres propices à l'agriculture. Ces terres seront réparties conformément aux recommandations de la Conférence sur la réforme agraire. Enfin, la FAO apporte son aide pour inciter les paysans à adopter des méthodes de production plus rentables.

Il faut donc souligner toute notre inquiétude quand on parle de croissance zéro en ce qui concerne le budget. Ceci reviendrait à bloquer la progression du développement rural dans nos pays à l'heure actuelle assistés, et à ramener au premier plan le spectre de la faim.

B. KOUNDIANO (Guinée): Nous venons d'entendre la présentation fort brillante du Directeur général au sujet du programme de travail et budget 1982-83. Aussi permettez-moi de dire toute ma satisfaction et aussi mes félicitations pour la qualité des documents et bien sûr l'intérêt qu'ils suscitent.

Comme viennent de le dire certains délégués, les questions que nous voyons maintenant ont fait l'objet d'examen minutieux au cours de sessions du Comité du programme, du Comité financier et, bien sûr, du dernier Conseil. Au cours de ces différentes sessions, ma délégation a toujours appuyé les stratégies des différents programmes, du programme de coopération technique, la coopération technique entre les pays en développement, etc.

En ce qui concerne le niveau du budget qui nous est proposé nous l'appuyons une fois de plus et nous pensons qu'il doit être considéré comme un niveau minimum dans l'état actuel des choses.

La FAO, en effet, a un rôle fondamental à jouer, et pour lui permettre de le jouer pleinement il lui faut des moyens d'action. Ce sont ces moyens d'action que nous devons accepter aujourd'hui, évidemment dans l'intérêt de tous les pays, surtout des pays en développement.

NGA MA MAPELA (Zaïre): Ma délégation vous félicite pour votre élection, et nous félicitons également le Secrétariat pour la qualité des documents que nous examinons.

Comme l'ont déclaré toutes les délégations qui viennent de prendre la parole, nous estimons, pour être conséquents avec nous-mêmes, que nous devons mettre à la disposition de celui que nous venons de réélire à l'unanimité les moyens nécessaires pour lui permettre d'exécuter tout le programme des priorités qui ont été acceptées à l'unanimité par le Comité du programme, par le Comité financier, par le Comité de l'agriculture, et tout dernièrement par le Conseil, les moyens nécessaires pour réaliser le programme de travail de la FAO pour le prochain biennium.

Le niveau du budget correspondant à ce programme de travail, comme nous le savons, est un minimum en dessous duquel on ne pourrait rien faire. Nous disons bien que le niveau du budget que nous propose le Directeur général est un niveau très modeste, voire insuffisant, car nous ne croyons pas que ce budget puisse permettre à la FAO d'aider pleinement les pays en développement à mettre en oeuvre la nouvelle stratégie internationale du développement, aider les pays africains à mettre en oeuvre le Plan d'action de Lagos. Nous aurions souhaité un niveau de budget plus élevé, mais compte tenu de la situation économique mondiale nous nous voyons obligés d'accepter le niveau proposé comme étant un minimum.

En ce qui concerne le point précis des bureaux régionaux représentant la FAO dans les pays, ma délégation pense elle aussi que l'on doit continuer à installer le Bureau de la FAO dans le pays qui en exprime le désir, car cela entre dans le cadre du processus de décentralisation que la Conférence a approuvé précédemment. Il en est de même des bureaux régionaux de la FAO qui, comme nous le savons, jouent un grand rôle en ce qui concerne la coopération économique et technique entre les pays en développement. C'est ainsi que nous approuvons le fait que l'on ait mis l'accent sur cette notion de coopération entre les pays en développement.

Je veux m'arrêter ici, Monsieur le Président, tout en me réservant le droit de reprendre la parole par la suite si cela s'avère nécessaire.

S. AIDARA (Sénégal): La pancarte est petite, certainement à la dimension de la superficie du pays. C'est pourquoi vous n'avez pas pu la lire de la tribune...

Je voudrais vous remercier d'abord pour avoir bien voulu me donner la parole pour faire une déclaration d'ordre général, sous réserve bien entendu que vous voudrez bien me la redonner à un stade ultérieur de nos débats.

Je voudrais ensuite vous féliciter pour votre brillante élection, et féliciter également mes collègues, Monsieur Khalil et Monsieur Mapela, pour leur élection aux postes de vice-présidents.

L'analyse de la situation mondiale de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture implique nécessairement l'adoption de mesures énergiques si l'on veut éviter une crise alimentaire semblable voire pire à celle de 1973-74, et dont les conséquences pourraient être désastreuses.

En Afrique, où les disponibilités alimentaires par habitant provenant de la production intérieure se sont amenuisées de 10 pour cent par rapport à ce qu'elles étaient il y a dix ans, la gravité de la situation est encore plus ressentie du fait, d'une part, d'une sécheresse qui s'est désormais installée dans le Sahel notamment et, d'autre part, d'une conjoncture économique internationale difficile.

On assiste, de jour en jour, à une aggravation des déficits céréalier et vivrier des pays africains, dont les besoins d'importations alimentaires s'accroissent au rythme de 20 pour cent d'année en année et atteignent actuellement le chiffre sans précédent de 98 millions de tonnes, soit l'équivalent de plus de 20 milliards de dollars.

Hier, il s'agissait de 26 pays africains au sud du Sahara qui souffraient de pénuries alimentaires aiguës. Aujourd'hui, ils sont passés à 28. Si cette tendance n'est pas inversée, ce nombre risque de nouveau de s'accroître.

A cet égard, la réalisation du projet CILSS de stocks céréaliers et des objectifs du Plan d'Action de Lagos devient une nécessité impérieuse.

Certes sur le plan international quelques progrès ont été réalisés, progrès dont la timidité cependant nous laisse quelque peu sur notre faim, et c'est le moins que l'on puisse dire.

C'est ainsi que la Convention relative à l'Aide alimentaire a pu être renouvelée pour deux ans à partir de juillet 1981 pour un total de 7,6 millions de tonnes contre 4,2 millions initialement.

Le Fonds monétaire international a accepté d'ouvrir un "guichet alimentaire" destiné à soutenir la balance des paiements des pays en développement qui doivent faire face à une baisse temporaire de leur production vivrière ou à une hausse soudaine des prix d'importation des produits alimentaires.

Mais la gravité de la situation et l'ampleur des problèmes agricoles et alimentaires exigent des mesures urgentes plus incisives et des solutions plus radicales à court et moyen terme.

En ce qui concerne les mesures immédiates, il s'agit d'assurer la sécurité alimentaire dans les pays en développement nécessiteux: 1) par le renforcement effectif de l'aide alimentaire et de l'aide au développement en réalisant les objectifs fixés d'un commun accord et internationalement acceptés de 0,7 pour cent de l'aide publique au développement, de 10 millions de tonnes de céréales de la Convention relative à l'Aide alimentaire, d'un milliard de dollars du PAM, d'un milliard et demi du FIDA et de 500 000 tonnes de la Réserve alimentaire internationale d'urgence (RAIU) qui devrait être transformée en une convention ayant force obligatoire.

Deuxièmement, par la réalisation d'un accord sur la stabilité des marchés mondiaux de céréales et le traitement des pénuries alimentaires globales, donc d'un accord ou d'une nouvelle convention sur le commerce du blé prévoyant des clauses spéciales destinées à assurer un approvisionnement adéquat des produits alimentaires et une sécurité alimentaire effective dans les pays en développement.

Les perspectives encourageantes de récoltes mondiales et d'enlèvement de céréales devraient inciter les pays nantis à fournir davantage d'efforts pour la réalisation des objectifs de l'engagement international sur la sécurité alimentaire.

A court et moyen terme, il s'agira d'aider les pays en développement à accroître leur production agricole, et j'insiste, à accroître leur production agricole par l'accroissement substantiel des investissements et intrants agricoles et par une politique tous azimuts d'irrigation pour atteindre l'objectif de 4 pour cent d'accroissement annuel, soit, selon l'étude de la FAO contenue dans Agriculture horizon 2000, 8 à 9 milliards de dollars par an pendant les premières années de la troisième décennie du développement.

Nous sommes conscients que la responsabilité d'accroître la production agricole et alimentaire dans les pays en développement incombe en premier lieu aux différents gouvernements de ces pays eux-mêmes qui doivent accorder la plus haute priorité au secteur agricole dans leur plan de développement économique et social, en procédant notamment à des réformes structurelles appropriées et surtout en revalorisant les cultures locales traditionnelles. C'est ce que nous nous sommes efforcés de faire au Sénégal depuis les premières années de l'indépendance.

Mais, M. le Président, vous pouvez aisément le deviner, si la bonne volonté et les efforts d'imagination existent, il reste que les moyens financiers font généralement défaut. L'assistance de la communauté internationale est à cet égard requise pour soutenir les efforts nationaux sous-régionaux et régionaux des pays en développement. Vous comprendrez aisément qu'il soit difficile sans un soutien international d'arriver à une maîtrise absolue de l'eau et à une autosuffisance alimentaire dans les pays du Sahel, pour ne citer que cet exemple, où la sécheresse s'est désormais installée et où l'avancée du désert est devenue une réalité inexorable.

C'est pour toutes ces raisons que nous invitons tous les pays donateurs traditionnels comme potentiels à faire preuve d'une volonté politique plus soutenue et à prendre toutes les dispositions nécessaires afin que soient accrus les flux de ressources destinées à l'agriculture dans les pays en développement, ainsi que les moyens financiers des institutions d'aide en matière d'alimentation, d'agriculture et de développement rural et notamment de la FAO dont les mérites et l'efficacité ne sont plus à démontrer.

C'est pourquoi il me plaît d'apporter le soutien le plus ferme du Gouvernement du Sénégal à l'action déterminante de cette Organisation, chef de file en matière d'alimentation et d'agriculture, qu'il faut absolument doter des moyens nécessaires à la réalisation de sa politique et de son programme de travail.

A propos du programme de travail, qui vient d'être présenté par le Directeur général dans sa déclaration, il ne me semble pas nécessaire d'insister sur les priorités et les stratégies qui ont fait l'objet de discussions approfondies et d'un large consensus tant de la part des pays en développement que des pays de l'OCDE au sein des différents comités de la FAO et au cours de la 79ème session du Conseil qui s'est tenue à Rome du 22 juin au 2 juillet 1981.

Ma délégation a en son temps apporté son appui le plus actif aux grandes orientations de ce programme de travail; je n'y reviens donc que pour confirmer cet appui. Si toutes les délégations se sont accordées à reconnaître les mérites du Programme de travail, quelques réticences cependant ont été enregistrées en ce qui concerne le niveau du budget. Ce budget n'est en progression par rapport à celui du biennium précédent que de 5,9 pour cent, soit une augmentation modeste de 22 millions de dollars environ. Le budget qui nous est présenté n'est guère un budget extravagant comme certains auraient peut-être tendance à le penser, mais un budget minimum qui tient compte des réalités économiques de notre temps et pour lequel nous nous posons la question précisément de savoir s'il permettra d'atteindre la mise en oeuvre et l'exécution correctes du programme de travail compte tenu de l'ampleur de ce dernier.

En effet, ma délégation estime qu'une priorité plus élevée et des ressources plus accrues devraient être accordées aux programmes d'action spéciaux de la FAO, notamment le programme de coopération technique, le programme d'assistance pour la sécurité alimentaire et le programme des zones économiques exclusives, pour ne citer que ceux-là, ainsi que les programmes ordinaires relatifs aux forêts, à l'énergie et aux autres domaines d'activité tels que la coopération technique entre pays en développement, la recherche appliquée, le suivi de la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural dans ses aspects relatifs essentiellement au rôle de la femme et de la jeunesse dans le développement.

Par ailleurs, toutes les dispositions nécessaires devraient être prises pour renforcer, développer les représentations de la FAO tant au niveau national qu'au niveau régional. Ma délégation se félicite des progrès réalisés à cet égard et encourage le Directeur général à poursuivre l'achèvement de la phase principale de la politique de décentralisation des activités de la FAO décidées par la Conférence générale.

Toutes ces raisons amènent ma délégation à penser, tout en respectant du reste la politique des Etats Membres, qu'il n'est guère opportun de vouloir appliquer sans discernement la soi-disant théorie de la croissance O à une organisation telle que la FAO dont la noblesse des objectifs implique tout au contraire un réel effort de la part des Etats Membres. Ma délégation est consciente des difficultés économiques et des contraintes budgétaires que rencontrent les pays à plus grosses contributions à notre Organisation du fait de la crise internationale, mais ces difficultés sont encore plus ressenties dans les pays en développement à faible revenu. Aussi tout sacrifice demandé aux contribuables américains, européens ou japonais se voit-il multiplier par deux, voire par trois pour le petit contribuable africain, asiatique ou latino-américain car, comme vous le savez, les contributions sont déterminées par l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies au prorata du PNB des Etats Membres.

La conjoncture internationale difficile que nous traversons tous actuellement exige de nos gouvernements des efforts supplémentaires pour dépasser les égoïsmes nationaux et renforcer la coopération multilatérale pour le bien de nos peuples respectifs.

Je conclurai en lançant un appel à toute la communauté internationale pour qu'elle prenne davantage conscience des dangers réels qui menacent notre planète à travers ces terribles fléaux, facteurs de déstabilisation que sont la faim, la malnutrition et le sous-développement que nous pouvons combattre en unissant nos efforts. Puisque nous avons les moyens de nous détruire, et Dieu sait que ces moyens sont énormes, nous devons avoir les moyens de lutter contre la faim et d'endiguer la malnutrition dans le monde, singulièrement dans les pays en voie de développement qui pourront alors, et alors seulement, dans un cadre politique et social harmonieux, envisager leur développement et leur avenir avec plus d'espérance et de sérénité. Ce combat est un impératif. Il est possible. Il suffit simplement d'en avoir la volonté politique. Je vous remercie.

B.M. SAID (Libya) (original language Arabic): Allow me first and foremost to echo the words of previous speakers in congratulating you on your appointment to the Chairmanship of this Commission. I would also wish to congratulate the two vice-chairmen likewise.

My delegation, and my country, as a member of the Programme Committee, have already had an opportunity to examine in detail the Programme of Work and Budget for 1982-1983. Of course, we took that opportunity to express our views on all the various points included therein. We feel, Sir, that the Director General's introduction provides us with a very realistic analysis of the food situation in the world. We agree also with the priorities proposed, and when discussing this in general terms in this Commission, we wish to express our support for the guidelines of the Programme of Work and Budget as submitted by the Director-General.

Turning now to the budget level, we agree to this budget level, although we are convinced that this does not represent more than a minimum level, bearing in mind the aspirations of the peoples of developing countries. We are convinced the Director-General has taken into full account all the factors, and international conditions, and that his proposals are balanced and realistic ones. When we refer to the zero growth, when we talk about the concept of zero growth, we can acknowledge it or, indeed, accept it when it is really applied to hunger and to poverty. But considering present international conditions and contingencies, it would be quite unrealistic for us to speak about zero growth, and this gives us cause for worry because this concept, if it were accepted, would mean that any multilateral or international activity would come to an end, if bilateral activities were to be strengthened at the expense of international activities. This would have consequences at a political level. For these reasons we object to such a formulation.

Turning to another subject, that is the Country Offices and the country representatives we believe that the activities of these country representatives is a very important one which differs from that of the Regional Offices. We do not feel that there is any duplication of work in this particular context. For that reason we feel ourselves that the proposals made by the Director-General and the Programme Committee as regards the creation of FAO country representatives are proposals aimed at making the organization's activities more efficacious. We would support this, therefore, because this will enable us to achieve the decentralization we are seeking and to guarantee a speedier implementation of projects at country level.

CHAIRMAN: Distinguished delegates, I think we have advanced substantially in the general debate on the Programme of Work and Budget and the Medium-term Objectives. We have had today 19 speakers.

The meeting rose at 17.45 hours

La séance est levée à 17 h 45

Se levanta la sesión a las 17.45 horas

## **conference**

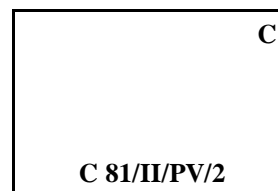
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

## **conférence**

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

## **conferencia**

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION



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Twenty-first Session

Vingt et unième session

21° período de sesiones

COMMISSION II

COMMISSION II

COMMISSION II

SECOND MEETING  
DEUXIEME SEANCE  
SEGUNDA SESION  
(11 November 1981)

The Second Meeting was opened at 10.00 hours,  
R. Steiner, Chairman of Commission II, presiding

La deuxième séance est ouverte à 10 h 00  
Sous la présidence de R. Steiner, Président de la Commission II

Se abre la segunda sesión a las 10.00 horas,  
bajo la presidencia de R. Steiner, Presidente de la Comisión II

II - ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMES OF THE ORGANIZATION (continued)

II - ACTIVITES ET PROGRAMMES DE L'ORGANISATION (suite)

II - ACTIVIDADES Y PROGRAMAS DE LA ORGANIZACION (continuación)

Items 9 and 10      Programme of Work and Budget, 1982-83, and Medium-term Objectives including Agricultural Research in Developing Countries (continued)

Points 9 et 10      Programme de travail et budget 1982-83 et Objectifs à moyen terme, y compris la recherche agricole dans les pays en développement (suite)

Temas 9 y 10      Programa de Labores y Presupuesto para 1982-83 y objetivos a medio plazo, incluida la investigación agrícola en los países en desarrollo (continuación)

CHAIRMAN: We will continue this morning the debate on items 9 and 10 and I would suggest that we move on as early as possible to the debate on the individual chapters of the Programme of Work and Budget.

KYO-EUN KIM (Korea, Rep. of): On behalf of the Korean Delegation I would like to introduce my Government's view on the FAO Work Programme. First, the Government of Korea is very happy to note that the main almost overwhelming emphasis of FAO activities for the next biennium is placed on helping low-income and food-deficit developing countries in making all possible efforts to increase their domestic food production. Unfortunately my Government is also not in a situation to give sufficiently high priority to food and agricultural development either in terms of long-term investment or of current budgetary allocations. The requirements of a great population for better jobs and better living standards is now giving us greater pressures, resulting in the allocation of an even higher proportion of investment resources to rapid industrialization. On the occasion of the first World Food Day, however, the President of Korea reaffirmed his strong political will to achieve self-sufficiency in the supply of major food grains in the 1980's. To achieve this goal, we are going to implement a seven-year plan for achieving food self-sufficiency from next year.

Secondly the Korean Government believes that no country would oppose the proposal of the Director-General of FAO that much greater efforts should be devoted, especially through FAO, to African problems in the next biennium. Improvement of food self-sufficiency in Africa could, in my view, contribute largely to strengthening world food security and also to realizing successfully the objectives of the new International Development Strategy for the third United Nations Development Decade.

Third, on behalf of my Government I would like to emphasize the importance of crops and livestock development, especially for the small farmers in Asia and the Pacific region. Our past experience tells us that real success in agrarian reform and rural development cannot be achieved without the generation of sufficient income for small farmers. Integrated development of crops and livestock including improvement of the crops system may, I believe, be one of the most effective strategies in helping small farmers secure adequate income. In this regard my Government also welcomes FAO activities in Asia and the Pacific which have small farmers as the target group and give high priority to crops and livestock development.

I would also like to make a brief comment on the priorities for the FAO medium-term activities. The overall priorities on development of crops, livestock and fisheries which you may find on pages 8, 9 and 22 of document C 81/9, Medium-Term Objectives, are, in my view, most essential, imperative and indispensable and thus all of them are acceptable in principle. However, the following two points should be given due consideration.

The first point is the establishment of optimum production systems of crops and livestock. Another point is the promotion of a joint-use system for large farm machinery. From our experience it may not always be easy to improve cropping systems or to develop an integrated production system of crops, livestock and fisheries, without an effective means of maintaining agricultural production at the optimum level. In recent years many Korean farmers have been exposed frequently to a wide fluctuation of agricultural prices largely due to the vicious circle of over- and under-production.



The result is obvious: the income of the small farmers can easily deteriorate even more in a growing economy. The need for an optimum production system of crops and livestock cannot, I believe, be overemphasized even in developing economies.

Another major difficulty lies in the process of farm mechanization. On the one hand, the growing shortage of farm labourers requires a speedy implementation of farm mechanization; on the other, the rising cost of farm machinery requires a slow-down in that regard. Avoiding the need to maintain costly large farm machinery by all the farmers can be one of the effective solutions.

The Government of the Republic of Korea is therefore planning to give more emphasis to the promotion of joint-use of large farm machinery at the village level in the next five years, for the Fifth Economic and Social Development Plan.

Another point to be made concerns fisheries. One of the most effective ways to strengthen the capabilities of the developing countries to develop and manage fishery resources is, I believe, the promotion of inter-country collaboration. In particular, for the effective management and development of fishery resources in the Exclusive Economic Zones, technical and economic cooperation among developing countries should be encouraged more and more.

J.O. ALABI (Nigeria): The Programme of Work and Budget for 1982/83 before us is a carefully prepared document which has been evolved over a period of time after searching analysis and heated debates. It has passed through the scrutiny of the Programme and Finance Committees and the Council has had a thorough debate of its content. It is not surprising therefore that what I have heard so far since debate started on this subject is that of support for the programme.

We made our views known on the programme during the debate in the Council. Listening to speaker after speaker since this Conference started, one cannot but sympathise with the Secretariat on the way they have laid emphasis on the various programmes.

Only two days ago, we unanimously re-elected the Director-General for a second six year term. This, we see, as a vote of confidence on the way he ran the affairs of the Organization for the past six years and we have called on him to carry on a work well done for another six years. The Programme Committee, the Finance Committee and the Council in their previous meeting have commended the Programme of Work and Budget. But how do we want the Director-General to carry on his work? It is by providing him with the tools to work. The tool he needs is money. If you want a good thing, you have to pay for it because nothing is free. It is for this reason that we support the level of the budget.

We should remember that the FAO budget is like seed money which is supposed to generate further investment. We are told by the Director-General that as much as \$3 billion investment per annum can be attributed to the budget. This is a measure of efficiency. Judging by the gigantic task ahead of the Organization, if we must help the hungry and the poor, if we must bail out the countries which are constantly in need of food, we should support the level of the budget and that is why my delegation supports the level of the budget which we commend to this Commission for unanimous support. Let us trust in the Director-General's usual efficiency to make savings when possible; let us not tie his hands and make operations difficult by cutting the budget.

We reserve the right to come back again on this important topic.

A. H. ELSARKI (Egypt) (original language Arabic): My delegation would like to express their support, as expressed during the two Council sessions and would like to give our views on the budget and the work to be done in 1982/83. We believe that the Organization's role in the field of food and agriculture is constructive. We also support the priority given to the programmes of work done in Africa. We would like to encourage Technical Cooperation Programmes between developing countries at a regional and local level. My country would stress the importance of the special regional programmes because these are very important and very similar.

We are very satisfied with the work done by the field experts from developing countries and the progress achieved in the implementation of the Agrarian Reform work programme. We want all requests from countries to be examined quickly.

My delegation will discuss the details of all projects submitted later and this will be submitted to the committee concerned but we would like to give a few ideas on a few subjects. We attach a great deal of

importance to the FAO's initiative of giving a momentum to the negotiations on food and agriculture taking place in the United Nations and the elimination of trade barriers. We want to look at the forestry programme and we want to stress the importance of preventive afforestation and the control of desertification and land degradation. We think things have to be done here and I would pledge the help of Egypt in refusing the zero growth and support the budget level proposed.

P. KANGA (Angola): Qu'il nous soit tout d'abord permis de vous présenter à vous, Monsieur le Président, et à vos deux vice-présidents nos vives félicitations pour votre élection à la tête de ce Comité. Le problème dont nous sommes en train de débattre semble à notre délégation le plus important de nos travaux. Je ne voudrais pas répéter tout ce qui a été dit ici par les diverses délégations qui m'ont précédé. Les pays en voie de développement se trouvent en ce moment dans des situations difficiles, qu'elles soient provoquées par la nature ou par l'homme. Nul d'entre vous n'ignore les difficultés que traversent nos pays. C'est un problème d'actualité dans toute la presse internationale.

Comme nous l'avons affirmé lors des 79<sup>ème</sup> et 80<sup>ème</sup> Sessions du Conseil, ma délégation se range parmi les partisans les plus tenaces et les plus enthousiastes du programme de travail et budget pour ce biennium. Nous approuvons sans réserve les orientations proposées par le Directeur général dans tous leurs aspects, ainsi que le niveau du budget fixé à 414 millions de dollars.

Nous tenons à déclarer, comme l'ont déjà fait de nombreuses délégations, que cette augmentation est très modeste en soi, et qu'il nous semblerait irréaliste de la réduire. Beaucoup d'entre nous ont l'intention de la réduire, voire de supprimer le montant de la contribution de leur pays aux organisations internationales. Les raisons invoquées sont diverses, mais il faut reconnaître qu'elles relèvent de considérations politiques et financières.

Nul ne saurait ignorer, depuis six ans, les efforts constants et couronnés de succès du Directeur général, en vue de résoudre les problèmes de l'alimentation au niveau mondial.

Quant à l'austérité financière, la FAO n'a jamais cessé de restreindre ses dépenses de fonctionnement et ce, malgré l'accroissement parallèle du programme approuvé; des postes permanents des services généraux ont été supprimés et le nombre de réunions et publications a été réduit.

En ce qui concerne les bureaux régionaux et les représentations dans nos pays, ils jouent un rôle très important au niveau de chaque région et pays et il ne serait d'aucune manière utile de les réduire. D'ailleurs, mon pays attend impatiemment l'ouverture d'une représentation de la FAO pour l'accompagnement et le contrôle des projets qui entreront bientôt dans la phase d'exécution.

Enfin, pour terminer, ma délégation demande à ceux qui n'ont pas encore approuvé le Programme de travail et budget de la FAO de le faire sans hésitation.

D.H.J. ABEYAGOONASEKERA (Sri Lanka): This morning I do not wish to go into details of the item under discussion as there is ample opportunity for us to intervene later and mine would be a general statement.

The brief introduction which was given to us by the Director-General last afternoon and the introduction given to the document under discussion forms the background under which we are asked to discuss the Programme of Work and Budget for the biennium 1982-83. The world background needs no further amplification; it is quite clear that the world continues to be plagued with the problems of poverty and hunger; food shortages continue particularly in the Third World countries where, due to recurrent drought as well as poverty, malnutrition and hunger continues to be the greatest problem. Although an expected growth rate of 4 percent in food and agricultural production was to be maintained by Member countries, the performance so far of an aggregate of 3.3 percent in the growth of agriculture and food production does not meet the requirements and is far from being satisfactory. We know for certain that a food surplus during one year, could very well turn out to be a food deficit the next year. Overdependence on a few countries which are able to supply food to the food deficit countries is, by itself, a dangerous trend when we realize that the wheat surplus countries, particularly in North America, are dependent on rain-fed cultivation and are, therefore, equally vulnerable.

Coming to the Programme of Work and Budget and the Medium-Term Objectives I would like to preface my remarks by saying that here we see a document well prepared, precise and clear. The format according to which it has been prepared is useful and easily readable. What I fail to see in the text of Programme of Work and Budget, is an indication of the cost, incurred by this Organization on the printing of literature which is distributed to Member countries. Like in all other books, there should be a tag somewhere that this book costs so much, I am sure it would make everyone realize what expenditure is incurred in providing this literature.

Sri Lanka has had the opportunity to participate in the previous Council meeting held this year. We are privileged to be members of the Finance Committee of this Organization as well. During those discussions the position of Sri Lanka has been made quite clear. Unequivocal support to the Programme of Work and Budget has been amply expressed and at this particular moment I wish to reiterate the same stand that we had taken from the very inception, that we do support the budget.

Finally, there has been a certain view expressed by some countries that we should keep the budget of the international organizations also under the same restraint as those of the national governments. The fear of recession in certain developed countries has prompted them to say that in international institutions as well there should be a measure of restraint and caution in expenditure. No one would argue against this. It is something one would like to see in all organizations; but when we consider the problems that this Organization has to tackle, the level of the budget, the increase that has been proposed, I would say, are no where near the problem nor the targets that one should set if we are to solve the problem of food and agriculture in the world. In that sense any expenditure that goes towards agriculture and food development should be given unstintedly. In fact we are the one Organization that talks of agriculture. What we do in this regard will affect the future of society and whatever investment is made in the sector will pay dividends for humanity. In that sense I think eventually all of us if we are true to our conscience will support the budget and see that this programme is implemented. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the right to come in later on in the debate as and when it becomes necessary.

J. PILANE (Botswana): Botswana has already spoken in favour of the Programme of Work and Budget, including the level of the Budget suggested in the Council.

The trend of debate on this issue can always be predicted irrespective of the level of the Budget suggested. Arguments on the so-called zero growth are not therefore surprising. It is easy to conceptualize when problems of hunger are beyond one's boundaries. The paradox or the irony of the present situation is that although we are all agreed about the gravity of the food situation we seem to be at variance on almost every point as to how this problem can be tackled. In theory multilateral and bilateral aid are complementary but in practice they seem to be competing. Those who provide aid clearly seem to prefer bilateral aid, while those who receive aid seem to prefer multilateral aid. It is probable that bilateral aid does not always go where aid is most needed.

Again talking about Programme of Work and Budget, so far the specific issue mentioned in opposing the Programme of Work concerns that of FAO representatives. Again we seem to be at variance here, since those who receive aid have strongly supported the decentralization process. There has always been talk on cost effectiveness of FAO programmes. Again the Director-General's report is an apt one.

If we agree on the seriousness and the urgency of the food situation in developing countries and if we ourselves sincerely believe in the role of FAO or the role that FAO must play in tackling this problem we can only be unanimous in supporting the level of the Budget suggested. But how can support the Programme of Work, which we have done at the June session of the Council, and not support the level of Budget proposed? It is our sincere hope that we will not have to vote on this issue.

If we really believe in cost effectiveness this Conference could be cut short with consequent financial saving for our poor countries. If I were to leave Rome a week earlier I would save enough money to provide two small roads according to our arable lands development programme.

On the Budget, on behalf of the delegation of Botswana I would like to urge those countries that have reserved their position to reconsider their position and support the level of the budget suggested by the Director-General.

C. THOMSEN (Denmark): The Danish delegation would like to join others in congratulating you, Mr. Chairman, and the two vice-Chairmen on your election to these important tasks.

With your permission I would like to make a combined statement on the Programme of Work and Budget, that is to cover both the general remarks on the introduction of the Director-General as well as some more specific comments on some of the individual chapters of the Programme. At the same time I will refer to the document on Medium-term Objectives in accordance with the procedure suggested, particularly in regard to the relative order of priorities beyond the period of the next biennium as we find it indicated in this document under each programme.

First, in regard to the format of the document I would just like to say briefly that we consider that there is no ideal solution to this complicated issue but we would value a certain amount of continuity and uniformity of presentation which facilitates the task of those who try to get an overall impression of the activities of the Organization and we find that this has been in fact the case for some time now.

Our general remarks on the introduction of the Director-General would be mainly limited to the sections dealing with strategies and priorities for 1982-83. Here we would first to pay tribute to the efforts made to reduce the number of established posts at Headquarters as well as the number of meeting and documentation. We realize that this has not been as easy task.

We have also noted with satisfaction in connexion with the section on priorities that there is an acknowledgement of the inputs provided inter alia by the Council committees, and here I mention in particular not only in my own case the Committee on Agriculture but also the Committee on Forestry and Fisheries, although again we realize that it may not be so easy to accommodate all the input from these Committees within a limited programme. The crux of the matter is, as stated in paragraph 57, that FAO cannot of course hope to resolve all the agricultural problems of the world. There is inevitably a need for setting priorities in order to concentrate on the areas in which the Organization has its comparative advantages. This is always important, but it becomes particularly compelling in times of economic hardship to exercise some of these harsher judgements that are needed in order to eliminate obsolete and marginal activities and concentrate on more essential and effective activities - and again I am quoting the document.

As regards the paragraphs on the thrust of priorities, we would like to make a few more detailed comments, admittedly of a selective nature. On the paragraph on International Data Base, we would emphasize the importance of the work on the Fifth World Food Survey which is under way. This will provide highly needed and more up-to-date basic information for all of us. On the other hand, we question the relative importance of the proposed Fertilizer Data Bank for reasons that time does not allow us to elaborate here but we will take advantage later with the people concerned.

As regards Agriculture and Rural Energy, which has been referred to under Technical Advice and Assistance to Member Governments, there will be an opportunity to comment further on this under another item on the Conference Agenda. Here we would only like join in supporting that emphasis is given to energy aspects in the FAO programmes as a whole and avoid starting new separate initiatives and activities in this very topical subject.

Our next comment is related to the Technical Cooperation Programme which has proved its value in meeting the needs for which it was established. We have noted that it is not intended to increase its proportion of the total Budget, although it would appear from the table on the programme changes that in fact the TCP has received a somewhat larger share of these proposed programme changes than would correspond to its previous proportion. We would only like here to caution against any risk of changing the nature and scope of this programme as it was originally envisaged. This might lead to more distinct increases or marked increases in its share of the total Budget in the future.

With regard to the paragraphs on FAO Representatives, we agree that they can provide valuable means of decentralizing the activities of the Organization providing there is, as it is stated, a progressive delegation of authority at the same time. We also in this connexion consider the question of quality to be of prime importance and for that reason alone we would plead for a gradual expansion of the numbers so as not to move faster than the availability of qualified candidates will permit.

We also hold the opinion that this proposed expansion of the number of Country Representatives should lead to an alleviation of the burden or the task of the operating divisions of the Organization in their dealing with projects in the field, and we cannot help feeling that it should have consequences for the tasks of the Regional Offices in the future. But this is obviously a complicated issue which needs careful consideration. We wish it to receive such careful consideration.

Let me finish this part of my remarks by again commending the efforts which have been made to eliminate obsolete and low priorities and redistribute resources so as to ensure more effective use of resources. If I may repeat, this is a necessary continuing feature of any well managed organization but it becomes particularly necessary in times of shrinking resources. I would also like to express our satisfaction that the action or the intention of the Organization has been consistently pursued as appears among other places from the decreasing proportion of the staff expenditure compared to the total Budget as well as from the information on the level of the Regular Programme on the field programmes.

I would then like, with your permission, to make some more specific comments on two chapters on some of the programmes, and again I have to refer to both documents - that is, the Programme of Work and Budget and the document on Medium-Term Objectives, where we have listed these relative priorities for the medium term.

Under the chapter on agriculture, with regard to the Programme on national resources, which is page 77, just for my own perusal, we support the relative importance to be given also in the Medium Term for a more efficient use of fertilizers as well as recycling of organic waste, and with regard to the fertilizer programme, we welcome the continued efforts to integrate these activities and the general extension activities of the countries concerned as part of their agricultural development.

Under crops, we have a comment on seeds. We feel that more emphasis should be given to promotional activities relating not only to seed utilisation but to the organization of seed production which we sometimes feel got lesser attention than it deserved, and here we would mention forage seeds in particular.

Under livestock I would just like to say that we fully support the intention as referred to in connection with dairy training for this programme of training to become an integrated part of dairy development with more emphasis on the national training institution, and we would like to offer our assistance in the further move toward development in this direction.

On the other hand, referring to the relative priorities given in the Medium-Term Document we question whether also in the Medium-Term it is justified to give such outstanding priority to the control of the African animal disease trypanosomiasis compared to the other activities there.

Under research support, I would give our remarks later in relation to the document circulated, but I would like here to say that in connection with the priorities listed in the Medium-Term Document, we feel that more importance should be given to what has been called the research extension linkages and application of research results so that they could move higher up in the list.

Under rural development, I would just like to repeat that we always emphasise the importance of the work of the Organization on agricultural extension, and there is a reference in the document to the Inter-Secretariat Working Group between FAO, ILO and Unesco, and we believe those will get sufficient attention to promote the continued collaboration between the organizations in this important field.

The Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development will be commented on under a separate item of the Agenda, so I would just like to say briefly that we support the priority given in the Medium-Term Document to the role of peoples' organization in this regard.

Then nutrition: my country considers that this area of the Programme deserves more attention in the total of the activities of the Organization. I have two specific comments; one is that we consider that the work of assessment is the most important and should get higher priority, and the second one is related to the World Food Programme feeding projects where the collaboration of nutritionally adequate programmes seems to us to be something deserving attention, and this we would like to see also reflected in the Medium-Term Document where you have the relative priorities for this Programme and where the item I refer to about the World Food Programme has received a rather low priority.

This ends my comments on the agricultural chapter, and if I could be permitted just to make one quick remark relating to Chapter 5, Support Services, it deals with information and documentation, documentation systems, what is called AGRIS. We would like just to say that we find the development around thesaurus AGROVOC very valuable, but on the other hand, we question the desirability of setting up a pilot project to include extension materials under this service. We feel that this would lead to an undesirable dilution of the coverage system, and we consider that the documentation under document called Agrindex or however you pronounce it is perhaps not necessary but could be replaced quite adequately by the availability of what is called the microfiche, but I do not want to go into details here, I just want to say that we would like to contact the person concerned in the Organization about this.

I have come to the end of my statement, and I thank you for your patience. I would have to say that the Danish position on the budget level will be indicated at a later stage.

M.A.M. IBRAHIM (Sudan): (original language Arabic): My delegation supports the Programme of Work and Budget for the 1982-83 biennium as presented by the Director-General. We believe that the level of the budget proposed by the Director-General for the two coming years is a very low one if we wish to have the Organization cope with the situation all countries have to face. In developing countries we need aid and technical assistance. We also require other forms of assistance so as to be able to guarantee development in our countries, and we feel that the Organization has a very important role to play by means of the various projects it implements, and it should have the necessary resources to do so.

The Head of our delegation at the Plenary stated that the Programmes implemented are of great interest to those developing countries that have an urgent need for foreign aid, considering the economic situation in the world, we cannot ask for an increase in the budget, but at least this budget should not be reduced. We feel that it is our right to say so, and some Heads of delegations have spoken of the Regional Offices, they have asked for cuts in the budget of these regional offices. This was discussed a number of times, and we reached an agreement in 1977 on the activity of these Regional Offices. I do not think anything new happened since then to start this discussion again.

As regards representation in individual countries, it is definitely very useful. At least this what we in Sudan believe. The FAO Representative in our country has helped us receive technical assistance and there are now closer ties between the Ministry of Agriculture of Sudan and the various departments of the Organization, and therefore we feel that Country Representatives play a very important role. Of course, these Country offices should be first requested by the Member country itself.

With reference to the allocation of the financial resources required for this project, we agree with the priority that has been given to agriculture. We also endorse the special programmes, such as the Desert Locust Control Programme, the Trypanosomiasis Programme, and we also endorse all those schemes and projects for forestry development. We believe that these special programmes should be pursued and should have all the necessary resources.

We wish to go along with other speakers in saying that we are against zero growth for the budget of our Organization. We cannot accept this principle in this general statement. I shall just confine myself to these brief remarks and I am sure that my points may be of some use in your discussion.

A. AZEEZ (Maldives): The Maldives associate themselves with the good wishes expressed to our officers here. I also thank you for giving me the occasion to present the views of Maldives on the Programme of Work and Budget presented before us at this Commission by the Director-General.

In so doing I wish to thank first of all the Chairman of the Programme and Finance. Committee for their detailed reports to us on this very important subject. Their reports are realistic and respond to the problems of food and agriculture as perceived by Member Governments.

My country therefore fully supports the Programme of Work and Budget proposed by the Director-General. Given the seriousness of the problems, this is the barest minimum with which we can get by.

We also note that once again in the name of efficiency and cost cutting there are calls for the review of the work of the regional offices. Everyone is for efficiency, but in all humility may I suggest that perhaps those best qualified to comment on this proposal are the recipients of these services.

In the case of the Maldives, a seelock country, I wish to put on record our sincerest appreciation for the prompt, effective and useful work done by the regional offices in Bangkok and providing us with useful services. The very proximity of the offices to us makes these services cost-effective. Furthermore, we have also benefited from the Technical Cooperation Programme in terms of its quick response to our short-term needs.

On the budget level, we recall our Conference has repeatedly reaffirmed the principle of full budgeting to cover the total cost of the Programme of Work and Budget. Given the currency rate of inflation and the currency cost-effectiveness, it is obvious that the budget presented to us in the document will be seriously eroded.

My delegation asks the Commission to fully support the Programme of Work and Budget as proposed. We think it should be levelled at the rates prevailing at the present time.

I. MOSKOVITS (Malta): First of all, I would like to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman and the Vice-Chairmen, for this very important function which was entrusted to you. I am sure under your guidance this Commission will do really valuable work.

May I remind you, Mr. Chairman and this Assembly, that in the first period of the life of FAO we had annual conferences, and the conferences were preceded by technical panels. At that time, of course, a certain rigidity of the programme work was a possibility, but it was not a very great difficulty to overcome this drawback.

The situation now is completely different, and what is needed for the Programme of Work and Budget is a certain flexibility. This flexibility is ensured in the present Programme of Work and Budget through the inclusion of the Technical Cooperation Programme, the Special Action Programmes, and decentralization - three aspects which I would like to single out as extremely important to the life of the Organization.

They are in themselves not enough, as our colleague from Nigeria pointed out a few minutes ago. We elected the Director-General unanimously, and we should give him a free hand in managing the programmes. There will certainly be some shifts in the programmes during the biannual period, and this will be done, and must be done, of course, by the Director-General who can always consult the Council and the Council Committees on financial matters and on programmes.

If I am speaking about flexibility as a very important item, it already included my remarks concerning the budget. The zero growth is an impossibility for an organization dealing with agriculture matters. The changes are extremely rapid, both in the economic field and also in the technical field, and we must give very important consideration to these two aspects.

I do not wish to go into the details of the various programmes, Mr. Chairman. If you give me the right, I will come back later when we are discussing the individual chapters, but I would like nonetheless to point out now that FAO needs flexibility, and this Programme of Work as it is presented to us should be regarded as a whole. It is like a mosaic composed of small and larger stones.

It is not possible now for the coming two years to change very much on this composite issue, and I must congratulate the Director-General and his very able staff for presenting to us a whole which I think is satisfactory to all countries. We should not forget that in the membership of FAO it is always growing, and to satisfy other countries and to give a certain service to each of them it is necessary to have the flexibility which I have just described.

This is what I would like to say in general. There are some items on which we would have liked some changes and shifts. For instance, we consider the increase of the Technical Cooperation Programme much too small, and we would like to have had a much larger increase, but we accept the explanation of the Director-General when he said that he did not wish to give more for the Technical Cooperation Programme, although this programme proves of very, very great utility to the Organization just now with complicated changes of the importance in the situation. The TCP can finance FAO programmes, but we accept the level now as indicated by the Director-General, commenting, however, that this chapter is relatively small.

A.R. SIAFFA (Sierra Leone): The Sierra Leone delegation wishes to associate itself with the congratulatory sentiments expressed in the Committee on your election to conduct the affairs of the Commission. My delegation attaches very great importance to the subjects of our discussion.

We are heartened to observe that provision has been made in the Director-General's Programme of Work and Budget for 1982-83 to support research aimed at increasing food production. This item is expected to benefit many of our developing countries in both the crop and livestock sectors.

We note with satisfaction that the crop programme is specially geared to increasing agricultural production in order to meet food needs. We particularly wish to endorse the plan of action under the following sub-programmes: - genetic resources, crop protection, agricultural engineering, prevention of food losses and food and agricultural industries.

On rural development, in some of our countries there is a serious communication gap on the transfer of technology from research stations to the fields used by farmers, who sometimes can neither read nor write. In order to be successful the world food development programmes need the participation of the people who are expected to benefit from them.

In the plan of action for rural development programmes we support the emphasis placed on the sub-programmes of development support communication; agricultural education, extension and training; home economics and social programmes; marketing and credit. My delegation wishes to emphasize the fact that development support communication is particularly relevant and important to most developing countries because it is especially capable of participating in education, training, and extension activities.

Technical Cooperation Programmes (TCP) are welcome because they play a vital role in rescuing unexpected situations, which left unattended, might lead to instability.

In conclusion we strongly support the Programme of Work and Budget for 1982-83 and the medium-term objectives which were so ably introduced yesterday by the Director-General.

I must hasten to add that we support the level of the budget as proposed by the document under review.

Finally, we do not subscribe to the idea or concept of zero growth in respect of FAO activities. We believe that the need to increase or intensify the activities of this Organization - particularly in the area of food production or food security programmes - is greater today than ever before. It can hardly be otherwise, in view of the repeated warnings from responsible bodies such as FAO about the dangers ahead if greater urgent efforts were not exerted to improve the fast deteriorating food situation.

H. REDL (Austria) (original language German): First of all I should like to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, and your two Vice-Chairmen on your election. It is a particular privilege for my delegation and a great pleasure for us that you have been elected Chairman of this very important Commission, and so we would like to wish you and your Vice-Chairmen all the very best of luck.

Basically, on the Programme of Work and Budget for 1982-83, I would like to note that it has been presented in a very clear, lucid fashion according to the priorities, and the possibilities of solution are enumerated. It shows us how we can attain our goals. From the Austrian point of view this is a very good and balanced programme and I would like to give particular thanks to the Secretariat for its presentation.

As our Minister said yesterday at the Plenary Session in his keynote speech, Austria can agree to the Programme of Work and Budget for 1982-83: no increase in staff, cuts to be made in certain areas and the deficiencies which are going to be cut by the Director-General, are things which we can support. The fact that 302 posts in Headquarters are going to be cut and that 479 are going to be created in the field seems to be a very balanced approach to the Programme. We trust that the Members will be able to support this Programme and that it can be implemented as soon as possible.

These were just a few remarks to the Programme and the Austrian delegation will of course come back in detail when we examine the individual items of the budget.

M. SALAMEH (Syria) (original language Arabic): First of all I would like to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, on your election as Chairman of this Commission. I would also like to extend our congratulations to the two Vice-Chairmen. I wish to congratulate the Director-General on his unanimous election as Director-General of the Organization. I also wish to congratulate him for this document which we are studying at the moment. This is a very concise document and very clear indeed. We all know the vast knowledge of the Director-General in the activities of this Organization and his long experience, without leaving aside the fact that he has been in the driving seat for six years. We believe that our support for this Programme should be expressed in the same way that we supported the re-election of the Director-General.

We would also like to say here and now that we do appreciate the Council's work, and that of the Finance Committee as well as that of the committees on agriculture; they all helped to prepare this Programme of Work and Budget and adopted it. You all realize that this Programme took into account a number of studies, a number of Conferences such as the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, and the Lagos plan of action, and the Third Decade for Development. This also takes into account the technical and economic co-operation between developing countries.

We do support this budget. We think that as regards food in the world at the moment the situation is deteriorating. The objectives that have been agreed upon by the WFP and the World Food Security Strategy have not been reached. We have not yet achieved a reasonable level of prices that were requested for fertilizers. The prices of imported goods are not at the level recommended by developing countries, as has already been said by some delegations, in particular Kenya.

The present budget level is needed because this Organization's activities are very important so that we can bridge the gaps between rich and poor countries. This will help the Organization to carry out its tasks which are becoming more and more complex.

My delegation supports the activities of this Organization; this attitude can be explained by one will, to improve the world situation, both socially and morally. It must be possible for the Organization to overcome difficulties, particularly those faced by the developing countries. History has taught us



many lessons. Certain countries have insufficient food and these countries were in the past very rich in food production. Nowadays, some of the developing countries could produce more food if they were given the necessary resources.

My delegation believes that this budget increase is modest and we do support it, and we are against zero growth, for the following reasons. We think food problems affect all countries of the world and that we have to face up to the challenge represented by the deficit in food production and the increase of population and natural catastrophes. Moreover, we must be able to solve other difficulties as well but this cannot be done without the support of this Organization. That is why we support the budget increase. We also support decentralization through increasing Regional Offices and Country Representatives, for the following reasons. We think decentralization has proved its worth in a number of areas. It is also getting more and more important and more pressing if we look at present trends.

We also believe that decentralization would allow the Organization to reduce red-tape. We have to take account of all these facts. Decentralization would mean that the relationship between developing countries and the Organization would be closer.

As regards nutrition, we think the Organization has a more deep role to play. An effort should be made because after all this Organization is called "Food" and Agriculture Organization. Activities should be extended particularly in those areas which fall within the Organization's jurisdiction, i.e. Nutrition. Even this is done by other specialized organizations such as WHO, Unicef. We therefore support this role of the Organization as regards food and nutrition and we believe that the Nutrition Division of this Organization should be raised to the level of Department.

As regards medium-term objectives, we think that what is given here is adequate, but that there has to be a greater increase, particularly in the following areas to which we attach great importance: (a) remote sensing, this is given in paragraph 35; (b) the early warning systems in paragraph 46; (c) CARIS System in paragraph 59; (d) environmental pollution control, paragraph 143; (e) the implementation of the international strategy for cooperation between Unesco, UNICEF and FAO, paragraph 138; (f) updating statistical information for developing countries, support for agricultural research in the developing countries to give researchers and policy makers more confidence, paragraph 57; (g) giving priority to the monitoring of food imports by developed countries. The necessary experts need to be found to do this work; (h) setting up national, regional and international systems for food security; this is in paragraphs 90 and 91.

D. DYER (Jamaica): On behalf of the Jamaican delegation may I add our congratulations to you, Mr. Chairman, and to your Vice-Chairmen on being elected to your respective positions. We know, Sir, that under your inspired leadership, things will proceed smoothly and with the utmost expedition.

May I, by way of a general comment - and that is all it is, at this stage - say that the Jamaican delegation supports and endorses the developmental strategies and priorities which have been so eloquently articulated and spelt out in the Director-General's introduction to the Programme of Work and Budget for the 1982-83 biennium and also the document on the Medium Term Objectives. We believe that the documents faithfully reflect the genuine and felt needs of the majority of the member countries of this Organization. We believe that they address the fundamental and basic issues and we believe that they focus on the realities of agriculture in the decade of the 1980s. May I take the opportunity to congratulate the Director-General and his staff and, without being invidious, the Assistant Director-General in the Office of Programme, Budget and Evaluation, Mr. West and his staff for the excellent contents and presentation of the budget.

We support the level of expenditure proposed. As we move into a more detailed discussion of the budget there may be room for minor adjustments here and there within the Programme of Work and Budget but even at this stage we would like to make an impassioned and emphatic appeal for retaining the integrity of the Technical and Economic Programme, of the Development Support Programme and particularly the Technical Co-operation Programmes.

WANG SHOU RU (China) (original language Chinese): In his introduction to the Programme of Work and Budget for 1982-83, the Director-General, basing himself on the world economic development, has made a clear, concise and logical analysis of the main objectives and work of the Organization. The Chinese delegation is in agreement with these basic views and would like to express our appreciation. In our view the major objectives of the Organization for the next biennium should continue to be the changing of the Third International Economic Order as referred to in Document C 81/3, as well as the promotion of food production in developing countries.

The minimum global programme for food and agriculture as set out in paragraph 27 of the same document can be realized through efforts on the basis of current international negotiation. In this connection we would like to stress one more point, that is the question of raising, in a more effective way, the level of agricultural production, technology, and scientific research work in the developing countries.

As we all recognize, to increase food production the developing countries rely mainly on the appropriate policies by their own governments and by the mobilization of their farmers' initiative in production. The World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development has already made some relevant proposals in its declaration and programme of action. In the meantime, FAO in recent years has effectively organized some financial assistance and investment activities in agriculture. All these are obviously of vital importance. Furthermore, we also consider the raising of the developing countries' level in agricultural technology to be an important factor. By intensifying the training of technical personnel in developing countries through various means and by strengthening their national agricultural research aiming at disseminating appropriate agricultural technologies to farmers according to the specific conditions of their own countries and regions, in so doing the utilization of national resources and funds and the objective of increasing production can be realized. Therefore we strongly support FAO in its work in this field in the future.

As regards the budget of the Organization for the next biennium we feel that in the context of the current world food and agricultural situation support should be given to increasing those activities that are truly necessary in this Organization with a corresponding increase in the budget so as to promote food and agricultural production in developing countries. Therefore, in spite of the fact that China is now in a period of readjustment and therefore tight financially, my Government decides to endorse the budget level proposed by the Director-General. At the same time we hope that the Organization will, as always, continue to practice economy in its administrative costs, improve and coordinate the work of the internal units and improve efficiency. We also hope the Organization will give full play to its special technical competence, avoid duplication in the work of the various international agencies and have a better division of labour and cooperation among agencies so as to make a greater contribution towards the promotion of the development of the food and agricultural production in all member countries.

The activities of the various regional offices carried out in harmony with the regional characteristics are of great help in promoting the exchange of experience and cooperation among the countries of the region. We hope that the work of these offices will continue to be reinforced.

As for the specific details of the Programme of Work we will reserve our right to express our opinion later on.

A. KADIRI (Maroc): Tout d'abord la délégation du Maroc vous exprime, Monsieur le Président, ses félicitations pour votre élection. Elle les exprime également à Messieurs les vice-présidents.

La délégation du Maroc a déjà fait connaître, lors de la soixante-dix-neuvième session du Conseil de la FAO, son point de vue sur le Programme de travail et de budget pour le biennium 1982-83, ainsi que sur le point de vue de certaines délégations sur l'objectif éventuel d'un développement à croissance zéro.

Je ne puis ici que confirmer le soutien total de ma délégation aux objectifs à moyen terme, aux priorités et au plan d'action qui se dégagent de ce budget, qui représente à nos yeux un minimum minimorum par rapport aux besoins immenses de l'agriculture et de l'alimentation dans le monde.

Nul n'ignore la situation précaire de dizaines de millions d'êtres humains, et les études prospectives pour l'agriculture "Horizon 2000" nous montrent l'immensité des problèmes de la FAO reconnue comme source d'aide multilatérale, de coopération technique et comme agent efficace d'exécution pour des projets de développement. Elle sera appelée à jouer un rôle déterminant dans la mise en oeuvre de la stratégie du développement pour la troisième décennie pour la partie intéressant l'agriculture en particulier, cette stratégie au sujet de laquelle il existe d'ores et déjà un accord général concernant certains de ses points fondamentaux, comme la production alimentaire, la sécurité alimentaire et l'aide alimentaire.

Dans ce contexte, la FAO, et à travers elle l'agriculture et l'alimentation, mérite de recevoir une aide financière soutenue. Les discussions autour du budget de la FAO, auxquelles nous avons assisté lors de la tenue de la soixante-dix-neuvième session du Conseil et auxquelles nous avons assisté au cours de cette présente session, nous laissent rêveurs. Car comment pourrions-nous être d'accord sur la gravité de la situation alimentaire mondiale, sur les dangers que cette situation fait courir à l'humanité toute entière, et en même temps lésiner sur les moyens financiers à fournir à la FAO pour lui permettre d'aider à la solution des problèmes de la faim dans le monde avec plus d'efficacité?

L'analyse du document C 81/3 montre les efforts déployés en vue de répondre aux préoccupations des uns et des autres: -la compression des charges d'administration. Le Directeur Général vous a expliqué l'augmentation des fonctionnaires des terrains par rapport à ceux du Siège. - Le choix opéré pour dégager les priorités essentielles malgré l'ampleur des tâches à accomplir. - La prise en considération de la situation économique et financière de tous les Etats Membres.

Tout cela montre les efforts déployés qui sont le témoin du soin méticuleux avec lequel ce document a été préparé.

S'il est vrai que les pays riches fournissent la plus grande partie des crédits budgétaires, il n'en reste pas moins vrai, comme l'a souligné le Directeur Général et certaines délégations, que les contributions versées par les pays pauvres représentent pour eux une charge proportionnellement aussi lourde, sinon plus, que pour les pays riches.

La délégation du Maroc se réserve de préciser ultérieurement sa position sur les différents chapitres du budget présenté.

MAI LUONG (Viet Nam): Permettez à notre délégation de présenter ses sincères félicitations au Président et aux deux vice-Président pour cette importante présidence et pour les résultats positifs de notre Commission II.

Dans le cadre d'une déclaration générale, sans entrer dans le détail, sur le document C 81/3 présenté à notre Commission et la présentation faite par le Directeur Général lui-même hier ici, notre délégation renouvelle son appui au niveau du budget proposé pour l'accomplissement du Programme de travail de la FAO durant le biennium 1982-83.

Nous avons apprécié jusqu'ici l'aide positive de l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture, la qualité des services assurés aux gouvernements des Etats Membres, le souci d'économie et d'efficacité dont elle a fait preuve dans l'exécution de ses activités.

La confiance que les pays du monde ont donnée à Monsieur Saouma, dirigeant cette importante organisation des Nations Unies, pour sa réélection à presque 100 pour cent des voix, est une des preuves de l'efficacité de l'Organisation, du résultat positif de ses activités, de la popularité grandissante parmi les pays en développement et les pays développés.

L'examen détaillé du Programme de travail et du niveau modeste du budget 1982-83 a montré qu'on a déjà tenu compte des difficultés économiques mondiales actuelles de tous les Etats Membres, développés ou en développement -mais surtout ces derniers-, qu'on a le souci d'une politique d'austérité dans l'Organisation: réduction du nombre de postes au Siège, des réunions, de la documentation, souci de la décentralisation.

Cet examen a montré aussi que les priorités sont choisies sur une base très sélective, efficace et économique et que l'on a concentré le Programme sur des activités indispensables, conformes aux quatre rôles fondamentaux de la FAO: formulation et discussion des stratégies et politiques, rassemblement des données, aide consultative et de coopération technique, agents d'exécution pour les projets de développement financés par d'autres sources et par le Programme ordinaire lui-même.

C'est un programme et un budget modestes et minimums pour une organisation qui doit faire face à une demande grandissante des pays membres et devant la campagne actuelle lancée contre la faim dans le monde. La croissance zéro du budget risquerait de limiter l'activité positive de l'Organisation au profit des pays en développement.

Nous terminons notre brève intervention en vous renouvelant notre appui pour le Programme et budget 1982-83 et ce qui a été dit d'ailleurs par notre délégation à la soixante-dix-neuvième et quatre-ving-tième session du Conseil.

Vous nous permettrez Monsieur le Président de reprendre la parole plus tard sur le sujet qui nous concerne.

P. OLMOS MORALES (Uruguay): En primer lugar, mi delegación desea expresar su calurosa felicitación por vuestra elección que hago extensiva a los Sres. Vicepresidentes. En nuestra primera intervención general en este Comité, nos vamos a referir fundamentalmente a lo establecido en el documento C-81/3 y, en particular, a la presentación del Sr. Director General que nos fuera ampliada en la tarde de ayer, al inaugurar los trabajos de este Comité.

Nuestra delegación comparte los fundamentos de la estrategia de desarrollo y prioridades establecidas en el documento. Consideramos que la producción de alimentos constituye el objetivo básico de esta estrategia y constituye una respuesta a las necesidades del mundo, que fueron generalizadas a través de la celebración del Día Mundial de la Alimentación, el 16 de octubre próximo pasado. En ese sentido, reafirmamos, como país en desarrollo y exportador de alimentos, nuestra vocación a contribuir a atenuar la incidencia de este flagelo universal.

No obstante también estimamos oportuno señalar, compartiendo lo expresado por el Director General en los párrafos 18 y 19 de la Introducción del Programa de Labores y Presupuesto, que la producción debe estar acompañada también en los aspectos que se refieren al comercio internacional de producciones agrícolas, y en particular de alimentos.

Vemos con inquietud que pese a todas las Conferencias, a todos los encuentros en los cuales se han condenado las prácticas de proteccionismo, de barreras arancelarias y no arancelarias y de otras formas que inciden en la colocación de productos agrícolas y, en especial, de productos alimenticios de países del tercer mundo, aún no se han logrado avances positivos. En ese sentido, exhortamos nuevamente a que los efectos del proteccionismo sean debidamente analizados, como se menciona en el propio documento, a nivel de Comité de Problemas de Productos Básicos debe merecer especial atención.

En líneas generales, nuestro país comparte los lineamientos propuestos por el Sr. Director General en lo que tiene que ver con el Programa de Labores y Presupuesto para el bienio 1982-83. Interesa señalar algunos rasgos que se han introducido y que merecen un énfasis especial en lo que tiene que ver con el Programa de Cooperación Técnica. Consideramos que es un instrumento muy valioso y que debe ser incrementado para la ayuda y la asistencia técnica en los países en desarrollo.

La experiencia de mi país, en los últimos años, ha sido sumamente positiva en este campo, destacándose las actividades que se han logrado aun en casos de emergencias o de situaciones excepcionales, como fue la amenaza de peste porcina africana en nuestro país en los últimos años, y el apoyo y la colaboración brindadas por la FAO a través del Programa de Cooperación Técnica.

También nos merece especial atención la incorporación dentro de las actividades, de los programas de cooperación técnica y de cooperación económica entre países en desarrollo. Constituye, a nivel de nuestra Organización, un apoyo efectivo al Plan de Acción de la Conferencia de Buenos Aires de 1978. En ese sentido abre oportunidades y nuevas dimensiones a la cooperación técnica y económica entre países en desarrollo que, efectivamente, redundará en beneficio para su posterior evolución y ampliación de esta cooperación.

También deseamos referirnos a la política que se ha seguido por parte del Director General en cuanto a la descentralización de los servicios de la FAO. La experiencia recogida en los últimos tres años en mi país, por la integración de un representante de FAO, a nivel nacional, ha repercutido efectivamente en una cooperación más estrecha, en una realización de programas con mayor efectividad y mayor rapidez. En ese aspecto, y si bien las limitaciones y los incrementos de presupuesto deben ser moderados, nuestro país apoya la decisión de una mayor descentralización, de una mayor participación dentro del esquema de organización de la FAO, de los representantes a nivel nacional. Consideramos que ése ha sido uno de los aspectos más importantes en la gestión de nuestro Director General y ha llevado a mi país, justamente, a considerar en ese sentido unos de los aspectos fundamentales de nuestro apoyo.

En lo que concierne a los aspectos presupuestales, mi delegación considera que dicho aumento resulta moderado, y si bien pueden existir dificultades por algunos países, sobre todo aquéllos que tienen una mayor carga en las contribuciones, el incremento que se plantea no desequilibra, evidentemente, la situación fiscal o presupuestal de ninguno de ellos y, además, desde el punto de vista de lo que pueda ser una política general, la trascendencia del problema de la alimentación y de la agricultura en el mundo, creo que son causas suficientes para que exista una excepción a normas de política general que puedan haberse adoptado. Son respuestas a la cooperación internacional, como bien lo señalaba el Director General en su discurso a la Conferencia. Evidentemente, los aspectos del hambre y de la malnutrición constituyen, en este momento, una de las metas prioritarias por encima de todos aquéllos aspectos políticos o filosóficos que puedan separarnos.

Desde este punto de vista, nuestro país desea expresar públicamente el apoyo al Presupuesto presentado en el documento C 81/3 y ratificar los lineamientos que en aspectos generales se han planteado. No obstante, nos reservamos el derecho de intervenir en el desarrollo de nuestros trabajos sobre aquéllos aspectos particulares que merezcan el análisis de cada uno de los programas propuestos.

ABUL AHSAN (Bangladesh): Allow me first of all to extend our warmest felicitations to you, Mr. Chairman, and the other members of the bureau on election to this important Commission.

My delegation has listened carefully to the statements that have so far been made by the delegates of the different Member Nations on this item, Programme of Work and Budget 1982-83 and Medium-term Objectives. As all of us are aware, the subject has earlier been discussed at some length in the Governing Bodies of this very Organization.

The deliberations made one point abundantly clear: the Member states unanimously commend and endorse the strategies and priorities set out in the proposal. A few Member states have, however, suggested that efforts should be made to cut administrative costs and to improve the efficiency of the Organization. My delegation fully respects these views. We have no doubt that the suggestion has been made with the best of intentions. The Director-General himself is fully committed to such a course, as is evident from his efforts, which have already resulted in a substantial reduction in Regular Programme established posts.

We have also noticed that during 1982-83 the proportion of the Budget earmarked for administration will go down to 9.1 percent and common services to 3.9 percent. The total expenditure on administration and common services as a proportion of total funds is only 6.5 percent, among the lowest in similar organizations. This in our view is indeed a commendable performance, particularly at a time when most national governments and international agencies have experienced rapid escalation in such expenditures. It also merits a special mention that apart from providing direct technical cooperation assistance, the Regular Programme generates and supports a field programme which currently runs at about \$3 billion per annum.

The valuable and universally acclaimed contribution of the Technical Cooperation Programme and the field centres in providing prompt and effective assistance to the developing countries are but two other examples of the use of the Regular Budget funds. Furthermore, the FAO regional and representative offices in our view serve as a vital step towards decentralization and are an important instrument geared to develop national and regional capabilities.

Lastly, the point has also been made that currently the donor countries are passing through a difficult economic situation. As a consequence, the level of the proposed Budget is not in accord with the prevailing economic realities. Frankly, it is not easy for my delegation fully to grasp this argument, especially when the proposed real increase in the Budget is very modest. The donor countries, we should like to think, must have grossly underestimated the resilience of their own economies. My delegation also requests them to consider the matter in the light of their own renewed commitments recently at Cancun and earlier at Ottawa to accord the highest priority to food and agriculture.

Finally, my delegation urges them to appreciate that the relative sacrifice that the proposed increase in the Budget may impose on them is only marginal compared with the benefits that would accrue to the developing nations.

In the light of the above, my delegation joins others that spoke before us in requesting the donor countries who may still have reservations to support the level of the proposed Budget and thereby demonstrate their renewed commitments further to strengthen FAO, the lead Organization in the United Nations System in the field of food and agriculture.

V.E. DLAMINI (Swaziland): On behalf of the Swaziland delegation, I also wish to join my colleagues in congratulating you, Mr. Chairman, on your election to the chairmanship of this Commission. I also wish to extend my congratulations to the two Vice-Chairmen on their appointments. I do trust that you will execute your duties accordingly.

Allow me to comment on some of the Director-General's introductory remarks. Indeed, throughout his comments, he demonstrated beyond reasonable doubt a high skill of eloquence and clarity and has also shown a great wealth of experience on global problems, more especially on the world food situation.

Hungry people are an angry community. I therefore wish to reciprocate our appreciation on the section dealing with food security. Swaziland is at present implementing a project on grain silos. History has taught us, especially those of us from the continent of Africa, that food production and security is of highest priority in our developing nation. The importance of food reserves cannot be overemphasised. The need for research should not be overlooked. Research linked with adequate extension is one of the vehicles that convey agricultural development.

Trade and reasonable terms of trade facilitate the transformation of rural societies from subsistence to semi-and commercial farming.

Flawed international economic order has put the international community in disarray. Therefore, a new international economic order is a necessity.

Coming to the Programme of Work and Budget, FAO activities are well recognized. Swaziland does realise that quite a great deal of skill, time and labour have gone into the preparation of this document, and some economy has been exercised. As a result of this, we wish to express our appreciation of this document, and it is on this basis that we take into account this budget level.

I do hope that I may have some other points to raise as we continue with our deliberations.

A. BERE (Haute Volta): La Haute Volta a demandé la parole pour une brève intervention d'ordre général, mais auparavant, je voudrais vous féliciter, Monsieur le Président, ainsi que les vice-présidents, de votre élection à la tête de cette Commission. Nos félicitations s'adressent également au Directeur général et à son Secrétariat pour l'effort qui a été accompli en vue de soumettre à l'Assemblée des documents clairs.

La Haute Volta se joint aux autres délégations de l'Afrique pour apporter son appui au programme de travail et budget, présenté par le Directeur général, programme qui a déjà reçu la sanction favorable du Conseil. Nous appuyons ce programme car il contient la stratégie clé du plan d'action de Lagos adopté par l'OUA.

Nous appuyons ce programme parce qu'il reflète les orientations contenues dans les discours-programmes des représentants de l'Etat voltaïque présentés le 1er mai 1981.

Nous appuyons enfin ce programme parce que la Haute Volta, située au sud du Sahara, est le siège de plusieurs organisations sous-régionales dont les ambitions se résument toutes à l'élévation du niveau de vie de nos populations, à la lutte contre la faim, la misère, la malnutrition, à la recherche permanente de l'autosuffisance alimentaire des populations.

Qu'il nous soit néanmoins permis d'insister particulièrement sur certains points qui, dans notre pays, demeurent des priorités et qui méritent, de la part de la FAO, une attention plus particulière.

Il s'agit, dans le domaine du développement rural, du problème de la sécurité alimentaire, de l'équipement des petits exploitants, de la maîtrise de l'eau, de l'amélioration du rendement des cultures, des actions portant sur la conservation des sols, l'amélioration de l'environnement, l'énergie domestique, le bois de chauffage, les crédits aux paysans, l'organisation du monde rural, la recherche agronomique, l'élevage et la production animale, et plus particulièrement la lutte contre la peste bovine, la trypanosomiase et les actions portant sur l'amélioration des pâturages, l'alimentation animale, l'amélioration de l'exploitation du cheptel.

En dépit de la cohérence et du réalisme de ce programme, nous éprouvons cependant une certaine inquiétude quant à sa réalisation, vu la modestie du budget proposé pour son exécution.

C'est pourquoi, tout en appuyant ce programme et encourageant le Directeur général, nous regrettons l'insuffisance de ce budget face au programme qui lui est soumis.

Telles sont les remarques d'ordre général que nous voulions formuler sur ce programme de travail et budget.

A. RACHMAN (Indonesia): Allow me first of all to join the previous speakers in expressing our satisfaction in seeing you presiding over our deliberations in the Commission II meeting of the Twenty-first FAO Conference. I would also use this opportunity to congratulate you, Sir, and our Vice-Chairmen for the unanimous support obtained from the Conference.

My delegation has already had an opportunity to examine Document C 81/3 which we have under discussion now, and we found it to be of great interest, while we are satisfied with its method of presentation and analysis.

During the last Council meeting, the Indonesian delegation conveyed its support for the Programme of Work and the level of the Budget as submitted by the Director-General. Given the seriousness of the problem at hand, the modest increase proposed may only barely cover the needs. This position is consistent with my country's observation with regard to the food outlook during the coming biennium. Therefore we would like to reiterate our support here.

In assessing the world food situation, a review of the adequate production and food stocks are important factors, and it is necessary to obtain an objective and balanced view of the overall situation. The discouraging progress of world food production, the downward trend of the world carry-over stocks are very important indicators. In this connexion, my delegation wishes to underline the assessment made by the Director-General that early action is needed to implement a minimum global food programme for the rest of the decade in order to ensure sound actions commensurate with the objectives of the International Development Strategy.

Turning to some of the specific items mentioned in the Document, my delegation realizes that there is still room for improvement. For example, the Technical Cooperation Programme which was designed to respond quickly to emergency situations or provide bridging activities, those projects are limited in time span to one year and have a cost ceiling of \$250 000. My delegation holds the view that TCP projects meet with needs of developing nations, since in addition to the above-mentioned functions, it also provides an opportunity to maximize the utilization of available small resources with the emphasis on reaching the poorest among the poor.

But even then, it is occasionally observed that administrative routine procedures of TCP applications still need to be improved, since every single project has to be referred to FAO Headquarters for approval, no matter how small the project is. In order to speed up the implementation of TCP projects, which were in the first place designed for quick action, my delegation would like to suggest that FAO should consider entrusting the decision-making for approval of TCP's to the FAO Country Representative with a commitment project cost limit up to \$50,000. Decisions taken on the spot are essential features of timing and effectiveness.

In relation to the decentralization aspects of FAO activities, my delegation believes that the existence of and efforts carried out by FAO Regional Offices are desirable because they are nearer to reach and very accessible to Member Nations. On top of that, these Offices provide effective service at a lower cost rate.

Therefore, we support the decentralization policy of FAO, including the expansion of the number of Country Representative Offices because it responds to the needs and aspirations of Member Nations with total understanding and comprehension.

J.L.F. BUIST (United Kingdom): Others have congratulated you and your colleagues on your election. I do so too, but I add my commiserations for all the extra work this causes you.

Unlike my Danish colleague I will speak entirely on the budget issue. We shall take up separately in due course important questions of priority and substance in each sector of action.

I have noted in this discussion a pleasing range of agreement on certain points. We concur in most of these. We believe that the problem of hunger and the development of renewable natural resources is the main issue which confronts our conscience after peace and war. We believe that while short-term prospects have improved, the balance is still perilous. We see much progress made, but far greater challenges ahead. We are particularly worried about the prospects in Africa. We applaud the role FAO has so far played in helping the world to exercise the fearful spectre of famine, and we accept FAO's special central role in the UN system on food and agriculture issues. But where we part company from many of the previous speakers is this. They believe acceptance of this draft budget is an essential step. I quote what seems to be a rather peculiar litany: i.e. "the barest minimum to maintain and increase the past momentum of agricultural advance." We do not share that view.

They also, on the whole, endorse the budget in the apparent belief it contains no necessary fat, and that it fully reflects the agreed priorities and strategies of Member states. We believe the budget is not itself flawless and immaculate in every detail. Nor would it be so even if it were accepted as it stands. It does certainly, on the whole, reflect agreed priorities, but there are also, equally certainly, points on which it does not.

I will now argue these points in a little more detail.

First, I must make it plain that for Britain every pound that we have to pay towards the regular programme comes from our overseas aid programme. That reflects the great and happy bias in the Organization's history towards solving the problems of the developing world. But it also means that every pound going to FAO means a pound off our ability to contribute to other important multilateral channels or bilateral aid projects.

Those who have here urged us to accept the budget as it stands must accept in their turn, and pledge their governments to accept, that the extra cost to us may have to be found in the rejection, the reduction, or the postponement of the help we want to give to their own countries for schemes which they desperately want us to support. Many of these schemes are directly for agricultural and food production support. I shall be happy to discuss bilaterally in the corridors with any delegate, who feels particularly strongly that the budget should be accepted as it stands, how we might accommodate the consequences by adjusting our bilateral programme to his own country accordingly. Alternatively, if there are no volunteers, it may be less painful and less unfair simply to reduce further our contribution to other multilateral agencies like the World Food Programme. If that has to happen, it will be no use other delegates here wailing and beating their breasts. They will have forced these consequences upon us, and they should face up to them squarely now.

Our guiding concern is to get real operational value for our aid. From this point of view the size of the real increase in the FAO's budget and its distribution between regions and between operational and back-up spending are both of critical importance. The Director-General rightly drew attention to the fact that a lower apparent cost in dollars does not relieve the extra burdens of those, like Britain, who have to find an assessed contribution in another currency.

As is well known, we believe the calculation of basis for the real increases in this draft ought to be the cost of the budget at the 1980-81 price, and this yields a real increase of some 8 percent. The staff take another basis yielding a real increase of about 6 percent, but either way the total cash increase at 1175 lire to the dollar is about 32 percent. A call for restraint, as other agencies and parts of the UN systems are accepting, does not have to be based merely on a philosophical prejudice; it is a simple counsel of practical common sense.

Then, does the draft budget actually represent the best possible deal we could get for the money? There are some areas in which we feel it falls short of what could be done. I heard some speakers, among them the Yugoslavian delegate, yesterday point to some of these weaknesses. I entirely agree with what he said about meetings. Let me, too, give four or five examples.

First, does the draft budget give a special priority to Africa and other worst affected areas? I am afraid their difficulties are not properly reflected in the distribution of activities proposed. Table B on page 199 shows that of the \$368 million we are asked to approve, \$143 million are for global activities. Dividing the rest, we find that Africa has only 35 percent of the whole, and Asia and the Pacific where the vast bulk of the poor and malnourished people live has only 25 percent. Forty percent or more goes to the three remaining wealthier regions. That simply cannot be right, as I think the Korean delegate said. It contrasts starkly for instance with the distribution of the UNDP and virtually all multilateral soft funds supported by the taxpayer in rich and poor countries alike. On this test alone, money spent by us on FAO is a far worse bargain for the poorer countries.

Second, does the draft budget give us the greatest possible administrative efficiency? Once again there are doubts. For instance, in major programme 2, Agriculture, we see that the overall percentage rise in the programme is between 8 percent and 9 percent, but the cost of management of the same programmes goes up by 13.7 percent at Headquarters and over 22 percent if we include both the Headquarters and the regional offices.

Third, the distribution of spending between the regional offices is skewed even more unfavourably than the overall figures I quoted earlier. I have the figures, but to save time I will not quote them. More generally, we wonder if those delegates who have specifically supported these offices have thought properly about the effects of extending field representation. We think regional offices should be strictly confined to what can and must be best done on a regional basis, for example, in fisheries. We are not content with the Director-General's wish to push this question off into the cloudy future.

Fourth, I am shocked - there is no other word for it - to see from Table C on page 26 the extent to which FAO is now providing support for investment and technical cooperation by other organizations from its own resources. If FAO can do the job effectively in fair competition in the market place with



private consultants and others, it should be paid the rate for the job. In this context, I welcome the new arrangement with the Asian Development Bank which I heard about last week when I was in Manila. I must also say that we think the UNDP 13 percent is a perfectly adequate figure on which to operate. For example, it is much more than the 10 percent which the Asian Bank, a highly efficient institution, charges the European Community in similar circumstances. We do not, therefore, accept the Director-General's suggestion that the Regular Programme must find extra.

Finally, amongst my examples, I mention the rising cost of publications, and the common services, travel and consultancies. Publications should be more market-oriented and charges made according to the sales or subscription value of many. We also note at this point the concern of the Sri Lankan delegation about the cost of these publications. Common services, despite what is said in C 81/INF/20 to which our Bangladesh colleague drew attention, shows the largest percentage increase after the TPC and Field Representatives, of nearly 24 percent.

Column B in Table G on page 41 is based on assumptions which are not apparent to us, and so for the moment at least must remain questionable.

I risk overrunning my time; I am not entering the detailed debate now. We must come back to these points and many more over the next few sessions. But these few examples show that there is scope for readjustment and for reductions.

I hope I have also shown that there is behind our stance on the budget sound sense and real sympathy for the cause of effective and faster agricultural aid on the ground to many of the governments represented here. I hope they will all consider very carefully the substance of these points, for as the Director-General said, we must approach them on their merits and not from the pre-determined principle that this draft budget "is the barest minimum" and has to be passed lock, stock and barrel.

Finally, to conclude, when I lived in Africa I learnt a lot from my many friends there, and they have many useful proverbs. One was: "Simba akikutanaye njiani, asimpige kama ng'ombe" - which means, "If you meet a lion on the road, do not make the mistake of treating it like a cow." That has several layers of meaning here, and I commend all of them to your attention.

A. L. TANIS (Haïti): La délégation d'Haïti profite de l'opportunité qui lui est offerte pour vous présenter ses chaleureuses félicitations à l'occasion de votre élection à la présidence de cette importante Commission. Ces félicitations s'adressent également aux vice-présidents de cette Commission.

Tous les responsables des pays se doivent de relever un défi affligeant, celui de la détérioration des conditions écologiques de la planète, de combattre la misère, l'ignorance et la malnutrition, et de fournir de l'alimentation à plus de 800 millions d'individus qui vivent actuellement dans les affres de la misère et de la malnutrition.

Nous pensons que la FAO, qui est l'Organisation des Nations Unies spécialisée dans la lutte contre la misère rurale, a un rôle essentiel à jouer dans ce combat que nous menons pour que tous les individus vivant sur cette planète puissent manger, non pas à leur faim, mais manger tout court, car le droit à manger constitue un droit fondamental de l'homme.

La délégation haïtienne a eu l'opportunité d'étudier le Programme de travail et budget ainsi que le document intitulé "Objectifs à court terme" qui est soumis à l'attention de cette Commission. L'examen de ce document révèle qu'il constitue une partie d'un plan général combinant la croissance de structure des différents éléments de la stratégie globale de développement dans un ensemble bien coordonné, tout en reconnaissant à chaque secteur ses particularités propres de production et de commercialisation.

Nous sommes particulièrement heureux que le document embrasse les différents éléments de l'activité socio-économique du développement, car en agriculture plus que partout ailleurs on ne peut toucher à un élément du secteur sans provoquer des bouleversements dans l'ensemble du programme.

Cet examen nous a permis de constater que le Programme de travail, ainsi que le budget et les objectifs à court terme, tels qu'ils ont été soumis à l'Assemblée, révèlent le soin qui a été porté à leur élaboration par la direction générale ainsi que par le secrétariat. Nous profitons de cette occasion pour les féliciter de la qualité du travail qui est soumis à l'Assemblée.

La délégation haïtienne voudrait formuler quelques remarques en ce qui concerne le contenu de ce document de travail. Pour excellent qu'il soit, il n'en demeure pas moins vrai que nous avons relevé ce que nous pourrions appeler quelques faiblesses sur lesquelles nous voudrions attirer l'attention de cette Assemblée.

D'abord, en ce qui concerne la décentralisation des activités et du terrain, contrairement à l'opinion émise par quelques délégués, nous pensons que pour prudente que soit l'évolution de ce Programme, il demeure un point essentiel dans la stratégie globale des activités de la FAO, car nous demeurons convaincus que ses représentations, et particulièrement celle qui existe en Haïti, a grandement facilité les rapports entre la représentation de la FAO et les diverses agences gouvernementales et internationales engagées dans la bataille du développement agricole d'Haïti.

En ce qui concerne les relations entre le PNUD et la représentation de la FAO, je pense qu'une attention toute particulière devrait être accordée à ce chapitre, étant donné qu'il y a, pour ainsi dire, un antagonisme entre les programmes proposés par la FAO, qui le plus souvent répondent à des besoins pressants et urgents, et le financement accordé par le PNUD. Je crois que le problème ne dépend pas uniquement de la FAO et du PNUD, mais je pense que les gouvernements nationaux ont également leur rôle à jouer, étant donné qu'en principe ils demeurent les utilisateurs du chiffre indicatif du Programme proposé par le PNUD.

En ce qui concerne l'ensemble du Programme, je pense que si l'on veut arriver vraiment à un développement harmonieux de l'activité rurale, il faut que l'on tienne compte de l'amélioration de l'élément primordial de cette activité, c'est-à-dire l'homme, et plus particulièrement l'homme rural. Je pense que dans cette intervention conjointe de la FAO et des gouvernements nationaux en vue d'améliorer le niveau de vie des populations rurales, une attention particulière devrait être accordée à la promotion de l'homme rural. Cette intervention nécessite une organisation et une technique solides. Mais cet objectif ne saurait être atteint seulement par ces deux moyens. Ceci exige un certain élan du cœur, une certaine vocation à la fraternité universelle, et malgré toutes les déclarations qui ont été faites dans les différentes organisations internationales, et récemment au Sommet de Cancún, rien n'a été vraiment fait pour arriver à une amélioration, c'est-à-dire à une formation de l'homme rural.

En ce qui concerne l'élevage, une attention particulière devrait être accordée à l'amélioration de la zootechnie, et plus particulièrement au dépistage de certaines maladies infectieuses comme la peste porcine africaine qui actuellement menace l'hémisphère américain et qui représente un véritable fléau pour l'élevage porcin de la plupart des pays de cette région.

Le gouvernement haïtien est en train de conduire avec efficacité un projet d'éradication de la peste porcine africaine, avec l'appui technique et financier des Etats-Unis d'Amérique, du Canada, du Mexique et de l'Institution de la coopération agricole. Mais j'attire l'attention sur le fait que ce programme qui était censé être patronné par la FAO a beaucoup traîné en longueur.

En ce qui concerne les activités de la recherche et de la vulgarisation agricole, la recherche constitue un travail d'équipe qui nécessite certainement des techniciens d'un certain calibre en ce qui concerne leur formation économique et technique, et la recherche est également coûteuse. Je pense donc qu'une attention particulièrement soutenue et régulière devrait être accordée à la vulgarisation, dans certains pays tropicaux, de certaines recherches qui ont été faites ailleurs dans des conditions similaires, écologiques et économiques. Cette vulgarisation de l'information contribuerait dans une large mesure à alléger le budget de recherche proposé par certains pays.

Quant à la vulgarisation, je pense que son contenu devra être défini parce que dans la plupart des pays on parle de développement en vue d'aider le petit paysan à améliorer ses rendements, mais le problème qui se pose parfois est le suivant: que doit-on vulgariser en l'absence de toute recherche de base et de toute donnée statistique?

En ce qui concerne la nutrition, je pense qu'elle devrait occuper une place beaucoup plus importante dans les objectifs à court terme. Mais le problème qui se pose parfois est qu'il existe un certain dualisme du problème de la nutrition. La nutrition, dans la plupart de ces pays, relève de la compétence du Département de l'agriculture ou de la compétence du Département de la santé publique et de la population. Je pense que c'est un problème que la FAO devrait approfondir avec les gouvernements intéressés.

En ce qui concerne l'utilisation des engrais, on devrait apporter une emphase tout à fait particulière à la relation coût/rendement ainsi qu'aux quantités appropriées d'engrais à utiliser, à une certaine rotation des cultures qui permettrait d'utiliser plus valablement les différents éléments contenus dans les engrais complets.

En ce qui concerne le stockage, là encore on devrait approfondir un peu plus en détail cette question étant donné que même lorsqu'on arrive à améliorer considérablement les rendements des cultures, il n'en demeure pas moins vrai qu'en l'absence de toute infrastructure de stockage les pertes continuent à être grandes. Le stockage devrait se réaliser non pas au niveau individuel mais plutôt au niveau collectif, dans le cadre des coopératives, des groupements d'élevage ou des groupements agricoles.

Au terme de cet exposé, quoique la délégation haïtienne se réserve le privilège d'intervenir dans le débat au moment de la discussion des problèmes dans le détail, je voudrais formuler les remarques suivantes en ce qui concerne le budget tel qu'il a été proposé par le Directeur général.

Un auteur a dit que l'argent constitue le nerf de la guerre. Nous pensons vraiment que les pays en voie de développement sont en guerre permanente contre des ennemis communs qui s'appellent l'ignorance, la malnutrition, la misère et la pauvreté rurale. Si l'on veut vraiment engager une croisade et la mener jusqu'à ce que l'humanité rejoigne les vastes idéaux de paix et de justice qui fermentent dans toutes les couches sociales, qui constituent la fin suprême de l'humanité, il faudrait mettre à la disposition de la direction générale les crédits qui lui permettront de conduire à bien le Programme de travail tel qu'il a été préconisé.

C'est dans cette optique que la délégation haïtienne appuie le budget et le programme de travail soumis à cette Assemblée.

O. RAMADAN (Tchad): Pour l'honneur qui vous a été fait en vous confiant la responsabilité de notre Commission, la délégation du Tchad vous présente ses compliments ainsi qu'à vos collaborateurs.

A propos du travail contenu dans le volumineux document présenté par la direction générale, je pense qu'il est le résultat d'un compromis, la direction ayant étudié la réaction des uns et des autres pour établir ce document volumineux. C'est également le résultat de l'intelligence de l'homme qui qu'on le veuille ou non, a ses limites.

La délégation du Tchad donne son agrément à ce travail effectué par la direction générale.

Le Tchad a connu une rébellion armée qui a duré plus de dix ans, et qui a abouti à des guerres civiles en 1979-1980, qui ont eu lieu dans la capitale. A la suite de ces guerres, un plan de reconstruction a été demandé par le gouvernement aux différents services, la Direction de l'élevage et la Direction de l'agriculture qui font partie du Ministère du développement rural. Les points contenus dans le volumineux document de la Direction générale de la FAO reflètent exactement ce que nous avons fait pour le gouvernement tchadien, c'est-à-dire que l'on a mis l'accent sur la santé animale, la production animale, les productions agricoles, sans oublier les stocks de semences pour les paysans.

Le seul point du document de la Direction sur lequel la délégation du Tchad voudrait attirer l'attention de l'Assemblée est la croissance économique zéro.

La délégation du Tchad pense que c'est ignorer totalement la réalité actuelle. C'est aussi, qu'on le veuille ou non, une sorte d'égoïsme.

La délégation du Tchad appuie le Programme de travail et budget 1982-83 sur tous les points.

Monsieur le Président, je ne voudrais pas vous retenir trop longtemps. En espérant pouvoir intervenir dans les discussions ultérieures, la délégation du Tchad vous remercie pour lui avoir donné la parole.

G. JIGU (Ethiopia): Pressed for time, I am going to be very brief in making my statement with regard to Items 9 and 10 of the Agenda. We shall, however, participate fully as the debate develops in the course of the Commission's proceedings.

The topics I am going to touch upon fall into three categories. The first concerns our firm overall support for both the Programme of Work and Budget for 1982-83, and the Medium-Term Objectives. The Director-General's conception of the Work Programme and Budget for the next biennium is eclectic and realistic. In it have been incorporated all the elements that elicit concern with regard to prevailing anomalies that impinge upon both the actual and potential food and agricultural production in the developing countries. The Medium-Term Objectives too constitute an assembly of well-chosen goals.

I feel that the general remarks I have made so far in support of the Director-General's proposals must be buttressed by some concrete merits that are enshrined in those proposals. One example, among many, is that only a modest increase in the level of the budget for the coming biennium has been asked for rather than a large increase which the prevailing problems could have justified. Another good thing is the proposed policy of pragmatic decentralization. The idea of a graduated, controlled expansion of FAO Representative Offices is, in our opinion, highly desirable. Solving problems on the spot is preferable to operation by remote control in the face of myriad kinks associated with such a control.

The second category of my remarks pertain to what we vehemently oppose. Whereas the apostles of the concept of zero-growth would have liked the Conference to adopt it, and with it their policy of condemning the developing world to a stand-still, we the opponents of that sinister thought appeal to all men and women of goodwill here as well as everywhere else to join forces and arrest the theory of zero-growth in any aspect of FAO's activities.

The third category of my comments may be termed a humble proposal. Inasmuch as there is no static society, that is, since all nature, and therefore, man and his society, is subject to irreversible change, the low-income, food-deficit countries of today can be producers of surpluses tomorrow. In the lives of nations, two decades or fifty years or more do not constitute a long time. Therefore, my humble suggestion is that, starting here and now, it would be much the wiser for us all to work together for "growth with equity" so that we may all prosper together.

May I repeat, in concluding, that assuming that the debate may get more stimulating, we shall ask for your kind permission for us to intervene should we find it to be useful to do so.

U KHIN MAUNG LATT (Burma): Since 1976 under the dynamic leadership of the Director-General, Dr. Saouma, FAO has pursued with vigourous economy in administration costs and efficiency. Available small resources were used effectively to benefit countries to the maximum extent possible. During 1976 to 1981 regular programme posts both at headquarters and regional offices were reduced by 302 and personnel in field programmes were increased by 449. This is the right step taken by FAO and therefore our delegation would like to support this brilliant policy of decentralization, administrative efficiency and economy.

I would like to mention here the important role played by the regional offices of FAO. These regional offices are nearer to member countries and are easily accessible. They provide cost effective services and assist in developing field programmes in the countries in collaboration with field officers. In our region, Asia and the Pacific, the regional office at Bangkok is an exemplary unit of FAO, providing efficient and cost effective services at short notice to member countries. It is the focal point in the region for FAO activities. The regional offices maintain close contacts with member countries, stimulates and catalyzes field action. By virtue of its central location within the region and composition, outlook, attitudes of the professional team, there is preeminent rapport between RAPA and the member countries. Moreover, being familiar with the cultural, socio-economic, political and institutional features of the countries, RAPA responds to the needs and aspirations of the countries with total understanding and identification. The regional office complements and supports the skeleton staff at the FAO country offices with technical expertise, which can be drawn upon at much less cost to the FAO than any other alternative.

The regional office provides technical and logistic services in developing field programmes. They assist member countries in identification, formulation, implementation and evaluation of field projects. They provide technical backstopping to ongoing projects. The regional office plays a vital role in meeting emergencies, executing the TCP of FAO and promoting technical help among the developing countries of the region.

Every other United Nations agency had decentralized its activities and established regional offices which are much bigger and staffed by greater numbers than RAPA. The budget on all regional offices together is less than 10 percent of the total FAO budget which is modest when compared with the effectiveness and services provided by them.

Now I would like to switch over to support the establishment of FAO country offices. They are at hand to the country, they are accessible. They facilitate direct contact and easy exchange of information and views. FAO representation in the countries was established: - for the Organization to be at hand and provide quick and direct communication between the Organization and the member country; to respond to their needs and serve them with a sense of urgency; to identify and design the field programmes realistically; to render direct technical cooperation through TCP; to provide technical, logistic supports services and support agricultural development projects.

In conclusion, for the efficient and effective running of FAO, our delegation would like to suggest that FAO regional offices may be strengthened financially as well as in personnel staffing and establish the country offices as much as possible.

R. SCHIFFNER (Germany, Fed. Rep. of) (original language German): I would also like to associate myself with previous speakers in congratulating you on your election. Last week at the 80th Council session the German delegation reserved its final opinion on the budget. We have in the Council made a number of

comments on the Programme of Work and Budget 1982-83 and we have announced the conclusion drawn there from. I would like to refer to what we said in the Council because I do not want to go into all the details again today because we are very short of time.

The food situation in the world is very serious at the moment and this requires, we believe, immediate and effective help from all sides. A lot of delegates from developing countries have referred to this and I cannot improve on what they have said. Many of these delegates will wonder though, how, in the light of the situation, it is possible that a Member State makes objections to the budget as submitted by the Director-General. As my delegation is one of those that is going to vote against this budget I would like to give you the reasons which have caused my Government to take this position.

I would like first and foremost to tell our friend from the developing countries what this decision means and what it does not mean; that is very important to us. I set great store by making this clear. I would like to make three remarks to this end. First of all, I have to say something about the situation in the Federal Republic of Germany. Currently we can no longer speak of a real growth in the public aids in our country. On the contrary, the government has had to make decisions to the effect that all policy areas and almost all sections of the population have felt the effects of cuts. For example, national agricultural expenditure had to be reduced nominally in the current year by 7.8 percent and for 1982 a further reduction of 1.8 percent is planned. I am talking about the nominal reductions here, so if you look at it in this context the FAO budget also, without a growth in real terms, already has a priority position.

The second point: so that we can tackle the problems in the coming years we believe that numerous bilateral and multilateral activities are necessary. FAO activities are important in this effort but they represent in no way the financial priority of our aids for the developing countries. This is a point referred to on numerous occasions by our delegation in the Council. Minister Ertl when he spoke to the Plenary on Tuesday said quite expressly that the portion of agricultural development in our overall development aid increased from 13 percent in 1979 to 20 percent in 1980. This year DM 1.3 billion will be made available by our country for aid to developing countries. This is more than one third of all our development aid. We have gained the impression that this contribution is recognized by recipient countries. We therefore hope that these countries will understand our position. I would however also like to appeal to all Member States, please do not misunderstand our attitude to the FAO Budget. The Federal Government gives the utmost priority to questions of world food security and agricultural development.

My third comment refers to the structure of the Budget. As we have said in the Council, we have certain criticism that we would like to raise here. Not everything that is included in the Budget directly serves to fight hunger in the world. The yardsticks that were set by Willy Brandt in his opening speech for the World Food Day here in Rome on 16 October 1981 are only partially and to a limited extent covered by the document before us.

This morning the delegate of Botswana made a proposal that we could save money by shortening this conference by one week. Perhaps some people did not take this as a serious proposal. But if you look at the Budget you will note that this Organization is spending more than \$12 million for sessions and working meetings and the documents needed for them. I think we have to ask ourselves very seriously indeed whether some of this expenditure could be curbed and used elsewhere.

We would also like to criticize the fact that the Director-General in his proposed budget suggests a real growth for general policy and direction and support services.

My delegation does also not believe that the work of FAO can be improved by upgradings. These examples -and I could add a lot more to the few that I have given - show that a lot of work has still to be done if the structure of the Budget and the efficiency of the Organization are to be improved. The Director-General has already made some achievements here and we recognize these and we want to encourage him to continue in his efforts.

I would like to stress in this connection that we are not in principle against all expansions of the Programme but we are sorry that only 5 percent of the real programme growth of 23.7 million should be financed by a reduction of current programmes. In this context we have a lot of sympathy for the proposals made just now by the United Kingdom delegate.

To conclude, I would like to make a few comments about our future cooperation in the Organization. If my suppositions are correct, the 1982-83 Budget will gain less broad agreement than the Budget did two years ago. We find this very unsatisfactory and we are very worried about it. This must lead to misunderstandings and public criticism. We think it is quite normal that Member States have different opinions on the rate of increase and budget priorities. It is the task of the Director-General to mediate here. We regret that the Director-General has so far not taken account sufficiently of our

considerations and ideas, ideas which are shared by other delegations. We believe that in the two forthcoming years the Director-General has to dedicate himself more to this task to avoid possible confrontations. Such differences of opinion would have an extremely negative effect on international solidarity in the fight against hunger in the world and the role that FAO has to play in this struggle. I would like to stress once again that we agree with the objectives which serve the work of the Organization. Even though we sometimes have different opinions on the course to follow and the effectiveness of individual measures, this can only be fruitful for our future discussions. We are prepared to scrutinize in the course of deliberations all suggestions and proposals from Member States or from the Secretariat as regards the Budget and we will include them in our considerations.

To end, perhaps, I could add one comment on the Medium-Term Objectives. We welcome the efforts of the Secretariat in that field. We agree to the document submitted. We would like FAO to continue to present this important paper in the present form, because this makes the work of the Organization more transparent. It should be tried to identify already in the medium-term objectives realizable priorities and to highlight them accordingly.

The meeting rose at 13.00 hours

La séance est levée à 13 h 00

Se levanta la sesión a los 13.00 horas

**conference**

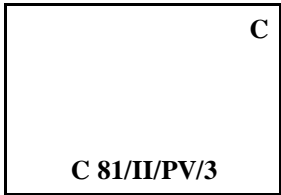
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

**conférence**

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

**conferencia**

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION



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Twenty-first Session

Vingt et unième session

21° período de sesiones

COMMISSION II

COMMISSION II

COMMISSION II

**THIRD MEETING  
TROISIEME SEANCE  
TERCERA SESION  
(11 November 1981)**

The Third Meeting was opened at 15.00 hours  
R. Steiner, Chairman of Commission II, presiding

La troisième séance est ouverte à 15 h 00, sous la présidence de  
R. Steiner, Président de la Commission II

Se abre la tercera sesión a las 10.00 horas, bajo la presidencia de  
R. Steiner, Presidente de Comisión II

II - ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMES OF THE ORGANIZATION (continued)

II - ACTIVITES ET PROGRAMMES DE L'ORGANISATION (suite)

II - ACTIVIDADES Y PROGRAMAS DE LA ORGANIZACION (continuación)

Items 9 and 10	<u>Programme of Work and Budget, 1982-83, and Medium-term Objectives including Agricultural Research in Developing Countries (continued)</u>
Points 9 et 10	<u>Programme de travail et budget 1982-83 et Objectifs à moyen terme, y compris la recherche agricole dans les pays en développement (suite)</u>
Temas 9 y 10	<u>Programa de Labores y Presupuesto para 1982-83 y objetivos a medio plazo, incluida la investigación agrícola en los países en desarrollo (continuación)</u>

J. KAHANGIRWE (Uganda): Since this is our first intervention in the Commission, let me on behalf of my delegation congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, and the two vice-chairmen on your election to guide the proceedings of this Commission. Allow me also to add my support to the Director-General's proposed Programme of Work and Budget for the biennium 1982-83. When we debated the Programme of Work and Budget in 1977 and in 1979, we proposed certain improvements in the format and analysis of the presentation. My delegation has studied document C 81/3 with this in mind and we are satisfied that the improvements have been reflected in the present document. I should like to thank the Secretariat for producing a clear, precise and balanced document. The priorities of activities and programmes reflect our own concern and therefore we support them.

Concerning the level of the proposed budget, the Organisation will need to be extra careful if it aims to achieve all the proposed programmes and activities within the budget in view of the mounting inflation and the fluctuating exchange rates. We ourselves would have liked to see, or welcomed, a higher level, if only to support FAO's noble causes and objectives. My delegation cannot therefore support the concept of zero growth which is being advocated.

The delegation of Colombia yesterday advanced a proposal to consider the merger of the Programme of Work and Budget and the Medium-Term Objectives. My delegation would like to support this proposal which might be cost-saving. This proposal should be examined by the appropriate organs of the Organisation to ascertain its feasibility.

The Programme of Work and Budget has already been subjected to strict scrutiny by the Programme and Finance Committees and the Council and has been passed. It is only fair that at this late stage it should receive our unreserved support, if only to enable the Director-General to achieve his Programme of Work.

C. MATTHEWS (Saint-Lucia): First of all may I join the previous delegates in extending our congratulations to you, Mr. Chairman, and to your vice-chairmen on your respective appointments. We have the confidence that under your guidance this meeting will come to a conclusion to the satisfaction of all our countries.

We support the Programme presented by the Director-General. We consider it to be comprehensive and to reflect an excellent knowledge of the felt needs of developing countries. The Director-General and his staff must therefore be complimented.

In regard to priorities in the Programme, I feel that the Director-General and his staff are in a better position, though an unenviable one, than I am to assess the priority of needs. This we expect will be reflected in his decision on the allocation of resources available to the Organisation among the various countries. We are sure that our closeness to our problems must in itself affect our vision on the question of needs and priority, and so we must work with him and assist him in coming to his decisions.

However, in that regard I should like to seek his indulgence for greater emphasis on assisting in developing food production systems not based on cereals and grain. Reference to this is made at page 226, paragraph 33 of the 1982-83 Programme. I say this because if we are to achieve the required goals of food production and food security, our country would find it impossible to correct the high dependence on imported foods under the present situation where our food production is seasonal and without effective storage or preservation systems. Furthermore, particular regard to small territories, economies of scale of food production for local consumption is practically impossible. Our small population and derived demand do not allow us this advantage. Therefore food production must be tied to a food production plan based on local and export demand. This calls for assured markets as well as fair and remunerative price and protection against loss of earnings.



The assistance of FAO in making a contribution to the development of an effective food system for our territories whose foods are based on roots and tubers would be complementary to our own efforts in fulfilling our total food production and food security goals.

Since our agricultural production and particularly our food production is based mainly on small farmer production, we would also ask that emphasis be strengthened on the establishment of small farmer organisations. In that regard we wish to refer specifically to cooperatives, credit unions, and similar organisations.

I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the assistance of FAO to Saint-Lucia in the past years. This assistance continues and has been strengthened by the FAO policy of decentralisation in providing an Area Representative for my country and our neighbours. This has led to considerable speed in the processing of applications for emergency assistance. Furthermore, the presence of the Representative provides on-the-spot guidance to us, a small developing independent nation, in making proper use of opportunities of assistance from this Organisation. I would wish therefore, on behalf of Saint-Lucia, to place on record our great appreciation of FAO through its Area Representative.

While we cannot disagree in principle, in these times of financial deficits and stresses, to the proposals for cost effectiveness, for we have through recent experience learned the benefits of applying this principle, we would nevertheless ask for greater understanding and cooperation of the countries which have rightly stressed such a need. We wish them to reflect on the fact also that the importance and benefits of projects undertaken in the Programme cannot always be assessed successfully in monetary terms. Saint-Lucia is now pursuing, in the face of tremendous financial constraints, a strategy of agricultural diversification the details of which are not appropriate in this forum; but suffice it to say it includes many issues and programmes outlined in the Director-General's Programme. We are committed to helping ourselves while we seek assistance beyond our own capability and capacity. It is our hope that not only God but also the nations with the capacity and capabilities to help us will do so, through the Director-General's Programme and other Programmes to come.

J.C. McCOLL (Australia): I wish to present Australia's views on, firstly, the Programme of Work and Medium Term Objectives, and then on the level of the budget. In accepting the broad thrust of the Programme of Work, we recognise that no set of Programmes can be perfect and satisfy all parties. Whilst also appreciating the improved format of presentation, we agree that it would be useful to amalgamate the Medium Term Objectives into the overall Programme of Work in future presentations, as suggested in the Finance Committee and in the last Council Meeting.

We recognize the demand on the services of FAO and the vigorous efforts required across a broad range of activities if the world food problems are to be adequately tackled. Nevertheless, we feel that FAO should be careful not to spread its interests too far afield, take too much upon itself, given the activities of other agencies, and thus risk spreading its resources too thinly. Thus we would like to see the Organisation concentrate on those areas where it has specific agro-technical expertise and where it can therefore (in a relative sense) have a greater chance of achieving a real impact.

With a limited regular budget relative to the wide range of needs and possibilities for action, the requirements for increased effort in the identification of programmes of lower priority is of considerable importance, thus providing the necessary capacity to implement vital new programmes.

On a more particular point, I would like to emphasize the importance of thoroughly understanding the existing farming systems as a necessary prerequisite to developing programmes aimed at improving productivity. It is important to understand the whole farming system, to appreciate the interrelationships between the various components of the system, including technical, economic and social aspects. This allows identification of the resource capacity, the existing constraints and disincentives to increased production, and the most appropriate directions for agricultural research and extension programmes. I am thus emphasizing the important integrating role of farm management and production economics projects and studies in this important area. Some comment has already been made regarding the FAO representatives and their contribution to effective decentralization.

We support the move towards decentralisation and the opportunity this provides for a closer relationship and more relevant programming at the field level. After all, the field is where the results are achieved. Although decentralisation will lead to some increased costs, which we strongly suggest should be offset by reductions in headquarters staff and other savings, including possibly a review of the role of the regional offices, we believe that this move provides a good opportunity for a more cost-effective performance by FAO.

We suggest that this whole area be examined within the context of the 1984/85 budget. With regards to the level of the budget, the Australian delegation has made its position clear at the recent Council meeting. As always, the Australian government finds some difficulty in reconciling humanitarian principles with a hard-nosed and critical approach to the administrative and financial arrangements within international organizations.

As expressed previously, in my comments on the programme of work, we expect that there should be the same positive and vigorous approach to the development of programmes as occurs in the formulation of our own national budgets.

We are well aware of the increasing pressure on international organizations concerned with food and agriculture. We see food and agriculture as a focal point in the new international development strategy, in the North/South discussions and in other international approaches in this important area. In recent months, the Australian government has considered this vital matter and has committed itself in a series of decisions and at various international fora including the recent meeting of Commonwealth Heads of Government in Melbourne to expanding its own efforts to contribute to ensuring world food security.

The Australian government's position is that given the seriousness of the world hunger and malnutrition problem, the performance of FAO in a practical and effective way in doing something about these problems, the evidence of improved efficiency and management within the Organization and we expect to see this. continue, the comparative modesty of the requested budgetary increase particularly given recent movements in exchange rates, it supports the level of the budget requested for 1982/83.

Sra. Dña. M.I. CASELLAS (Venezuela): En primer lugar, permítame, señor Presidente, que mi delegación le felicite por su elección en este Comité e igualmente a los Vicepresidentes.

Adoptando la posición fijada por el Sr. Ministro de Agricultura de Venezuela en la Plenaria, el día de ayer, queremos dejar constancia de nuestro apoyo al Programa de Labores y Presupuesto presentado por el Sr. Director General a esta Conferencia. Consideramos que dicho Programa es el mínimo requerido para mantener la marcha de los programas de esta casa.

En este sentido, señor Presidente, le expreso el apoyo de nuestro país en este tema.

F. BREWSTER (Barbados): My delegation wishes to give full support to the Programme of Work and Budget and the Medium-term Objectives as presented in the documents before us. We consider that the level of the budget does not, in a manner of speaking, contain any excess fat which can be melted away. We believe that the work and the budget proposed by the Director-General is appropriate to meet the challenges of stimulating food production to which the FAO is seriously addressing itself. We feel that the financial resources requested are minimal to meet these challenges. My delegation does not support the approach of zero growth in the budget as this would actually mean a loss in FAO's delivery capability to countries which are seriously in need of its assistance at this critical stage in their developmental efforts in improving food production.

The Barbados delegation endorses the plan of activity under the various sub-heads and particularly the technical programmes and the technical cooperation programmes which have shown themselves to be of substantial assistance in energizing needed activity in the countries using these programmes. I should mention also that the Director-General's programme also for decentralization of the work of the FAO has so far proved to be very effective and we are quite pleased with its operations in my country. We would therefore wish to support this aspect of the programme.

I would just make one final comment on the programme dealing with information and documentation; my delegation wishes to support the objectives presented therein. In our experience we see a need for more information to be relayed in an effective way in order to reach the younger people in the country. We saw the effect of a concentrated public relations programme at work during World Food Day's activities. It is therefore vital to keep the public awareness alive through a strong public information system in agriculture.

A.F.M. de FREITAS (Brazil): Allow me first to congratulate you and your Vice-Chairman on your election. If you permit me I will speak on both items under discussion, that is the Programme of Work and Budget and the Medium-term Objectives. My delegation would like first to commend the format and presentation of document C 81/3, especially the Director-General's introduction which contains valuable support for the discussion that we are having at this moment.

In the last few days we have been listening to interventions by important personalities and by different delegations in which the economic situation of the world has been extensively analyzed and discussed. The consequences of such a situation on non-oil exporting developing countries have also been emphasized and have been generally acknowledged. In the view of my delegation this general economic framework should be kept in mind in the discussion of the Programme of Work and Budget for the next biennium.

A brief study of document C 81/3 shows that in practically all programmes there had been increases and those increases are due not only to costs but also to the expansion of the programmes themselves. If we look at the Programme of Work and Budget of the previous biennia as we see in the Table P on page 51 of the English text, that cost and programme increases reach 8 percent in real terms, as against 5.8 percent and 7.1 percent in the previous biennia. The Brazilian delegation believes that the present picture of the world economy does not encourage the adoption of such an increase and it believes that it should be postponed for a later opportunity in a more favourable situation. Moreover in purely nominal terms the budget for the next biennium is much higher than the present one, approximately 32 percent to 36 percent higher, even though it has been calculated on an exchange rate about 40 percent to 43 percent higher. The document also shows an increase in activities not directly oriented to improvements in productivity and increases in production. The Brazilian delegation believes that in times of scarce resources priorities should be redefined and the efforts of the Organization should be concentrated on programmes that effectively help, and effectively increase the production of food and agricultural productivity in developing countries.

We do believe that resources should be redistributed from certain activities to other activities, in an effort to reduce the link between programmes which are not directly connected to production and increasing those which are directly connected to production of food.

It is not the intention of my delegation to discuss separately each one of those programmes. We believe that all delegations here had an opportunity to read and study the document we are discussing now. Even so my delegation would permit itself to mention programme 5.1.1 as an example. This is Public Information Programme, page 168. This is a typical case which we believe should be reformulated and resources should receive a different allocation to more objective and concrete programmes.

I will turn now to Medium-term Objectives. We believe that the Medium-term Objectives should be focussed together with the Programme of Work and Budget. I would like to refer in particular to Chapter V of C 81/9 on Special Topics. The Brazilian delegation agreed with the statement in paragraph 144, according to which in the coming years developing countries will need an increased supply of energy to increase the production of food and to increase agricultural activities. We would just like to express our conviction that this need in our view is a present one, it is not a need for the future. My delegation also believes that certain measures should be introduced for the utilization of new and renewable resources of energy. My Government has been working on new and renewable sources of energy for six years now and different programmes for better utilization of energy have been introduced with very favourable results in the country. However, the Brazilian government is very careful in the allocation of land resources to the different programmes, land for agriculture on the one side and land for energy on the other side. We believe that our country is capable of handling the situation in a correct way without inflicting any damage to the production of food.

The Brazilian delegation supports paragraph 153 of document C 81/9, which deals with the questions of training. We believe that training is essential for rural and agricultural development and we appreciate the emphasis that has been given by the Organization to this topic. As regards Brazil in this special case we are developing training programmes for the utilization of the humid valleys of the tropics, seeds and soil conservation, forestry and fisheries. On this last topic, fisheries, the Brazilian delegation would like to refer to activities already in course in the regional centre for aquaculture in the city of Piressununga, in the State of Sao Paulo in Brazil. This is a joint project by the Brazilian government, UNDP and FAO agencies. We believe it will be an important step in the development of aquaculture in Latin America.

My delegation also reaffirms its interest and the availability of the Brazilian Government for projects under technical cooperation among developing countries.

My delegation would also like to express its support for the Medium-term Objectives as expressed in paragraph 193 of the document under discussion. The Government believes that the primary responsibility for development rests on each developing country individually, but we also believe that Objective difficulties could be helped to be overcome with foreign assistance, especially in the form of financial resources.

My Government sees with concern the downward trend of resources in international financial institutions and the consequent reduction of flow of investments to agricultural production, especially the attempts to introduce restrictive criteria as far as assistance to the developing countries is concerned.

As regards priorities and regional perspectives my delegation supports the Medium-term Objectives for Latin America as stated in paragraph 202 and I wish to emphasize the special agreement with some of those topics as listed in paragraph 202, for instance the extension of the Latin-American network in agro-industries, the formulation and implementation of cooperation of projects among Latin-American countries, the development of fisheries and better utilization of forestry resources as well as the dissemination of agro-forestry techniques and better utilization of tropical and sub-tropical resources.

RAMADHAR (India): In this general discussion on the Programme of Work and Budget for the biennium 1982-83 I will confine myself to some general observations. I will reserve detailed comments for later discussions.

FAO's Programme of Work and Budget for the next biennium has to be examined against the increasing number of hungry and malnourished people in the world. Food deficit developing countries inputs of foodgrains have been mounting and depleting their scarce foreign exchange resources. It is against this background that food and agriculture rank among the foremost issues on the global scene. The United Nations Conference on LDCs, the heads of Commonwealth Governments' Conference in Melbourne and the North-South Summit at Cancun have all stressed the priority of food and agriculture. How can we translate these concerns and these intentions into concrete action? FAO is the Specialized Agency within the United Nations System concerned with food and agriculture. The reorientation of FAO activities during recent years in making this Organization more practical and action-oriented has amply demonstrated the increasing relevance of this Organization for the developing countries. The Technical Cooperation Programme, decentralization at country level, Special Action programmes, these are the hallmarks of this new orientation. Against this background my delegation finds that the Budget level proposed by the Director-General is the minimum to meet the challenges before this Organization. If we want the Director-General to fulfil the mandate that we have given to him and to adhere to the decisions of the Governing bodies of this Organization he has to be given the necessary resources to achieve the aims and objectives of this Organization.

I have carefully listened to many delegations who have referred to the difficult economic situation in the world. But who are the people who are the hardest hit by this difficult economic situation? These are the developing countries who need FAO's assistance and who have found an echo of their aspirations in the FAO programmes priorities.

FAO's record in efficiency and economy had been outstanding. I can refer to any number of instances in Council and Conference in which the Director-General's efforts in cutting down posts, documents and meetings have been commended. I think the record of this Organization in this regard has been unquestionable.

Before I conclude I would like to reiterate that there could be no better way of demonstrating our concern for the hungry and malnourished in the world than fully supporting the FAO's Programme of Work and Budget which, as I said earlier, is the minimum one, and which my delegation fully supports.

S. DE MARE (Sweden): Mr. Chairman, let me begin by stating how happy we are to see you in the Chair of this very important Commission.

Sweden is at present a member of both the Council and the Programme Committee and we have had ample opportunity to make our views known. Therefore I will now limit myself to some general aspects concerning the Regular Programme of Work and Budget and the Medium-term Objectives.

As has been stated earlier by my delegation, the priorities presented in the documents before us seem in many aspects to be in full accordance with our own view of the future work of FAO and Sweden's national development assistance in the field of food and agriculture. We also agree that food and agriculture should be given overall development priority, as has also been recognized in the report from the summit meeting in Cancun in which my country participated.

Within the Swedish development assistance still greater importance will now also be given to the rural and agricultural development, which is also reflected in cooperation programmes with FAO.

The importance given to Africa, the least developed countries' investments, is highly appreciated by my delegation. We also note with satisfaction that steps have been taken by the Organization to change priorities both within and between programmes to make FAO more action-oriented and effective. Serious and effective efforts also seem to have been taken to curtail staff at Headquarters. We would, however, like information concerning to what extent this reduction in established posts at Headquarters has been replaced by consultants; we would very much appreciate some information on this.

As regards the paragraphs in document C 81/3 on the Thrust of Priorities, we would like to support the remarks made earlier in this Commission by the delegate of Denmark. The Technical Cooperation Programme has proven itself a valuable instrument to provide fast assistance to developing countries. It is important, however, as was stated by my Danish colleague, that TCP keeps its share of the Regular Budget and that its nature and scope is not changed.

Concerning the FAO Representative officers and Regional Officers we have nothing more to add to what has been stated earlier both by my delegation and the Danish delegate. We would like to stress the importance we attach to the decentralization to country level of decision-making powers and execution of responsibilities from operational divisions at Headquarters and from Regional offices in connexion with the establishment of Representative offices. We are somewhat disappointed that we still lack information concerning this very important aspect.

Concerning the Budget level, my delegation will present its final position later during this Conference.

Finally, we are somewhat surprised that constructive criticism concerning the FAO Budget, including the level, was sometimes conceded by delegates as something almost synonymous with attacks on development aid in general and the urgent need of developing countries in food and agriculture, which we all recognize. If countries could be judged for selfishness in this respect they should be judged according to the record of development aid in general and not for their criticism of different aspects of the FAO Budget.

G. STREEB (United States of America): Mr. Chairman, I have had the opportunity to congratulate you in private and I would like to reiterate my congratulations to you and extend them to the Vice-Chairmen as well.

I am almost afraid to proceed with my statement after the eloquent conclusion to the statement by the delegate of Sweden. But perhaps in my own way I can express much the same idea. In fact I had planned to begin my statement by reiterating my Government's continued concern over hunger and for the development of the agricultural sector worldwide. Our interest in the problems of hunger and development is found at all levels of responsibility in our Government. President Reagan has made clear his direct and personal interest in the problems of stimulating increased attention in solving food and agricultural problems. In this connexion the President at Cancun recently suggested that task forces could be sent from the United States to developing countries to assist them in development and in agricultural programmes. Obviously, it is not - and I want to stress not - our intention to duplicate the work of others but to supplement the efforts of the international community in situations where a requesting country sees that we might be able to help. It is therefore our intention to maintain close coordination with efforts under way by the World Food Council to assist in development of food security strategies and by the FAO to assist countries in the implementation of the Action Programme approved by the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. All these efforts require much more emphasis on the development of domestic policies in the developing countries to serve as the framework for bilateral and multilateral assistance as well as to assist the flow of private capital into the relevant parts of the agricultural sector.

In the course of the Council meetings and the discussions here so far, it seems to me that there are certain questions which are most on the minds of the delegates regarding the question of the budget.. Some of these questions are: How can a country with a large economy oppose the FAO budget increase? How is it consistent with the universally expressed desire for increased attention to agriculture? Why should the domestic economy situation and restrictions on the national budget be carried over into the international organization?

I am not sure that it is possible to provide a satisfactory answer or to even reach a meeting of the minds on these, but in order to try to answer them I would have to explain on the one hand the approach to our efforts toward controlling inflation and stimulating the domestic economy, and on the other, our approach to the budgets of international organizations. The two can be but are not necessarily linked. I am not going into the explanation of our domestic policy, since I think that has been done

frequently in many fora in the past nine months. Let me only say that the basic motivation is to engender economic recovery and to reduce inflation, two issues which to our mind are probably the most significant contributions we could make toward the developing countries. I am reminded of many complaints last week about the prices of imports and about the fall in exports because of economic decline in the developed world. I therefore believe that both of these aspects of our domestic economy should be of great interest to the developing world.

On the international side, our call for budget stringency is not new. I can personally testify that when I went to Geneva in 1977 and ever since then, my government had been very much concerned about reigning in the growth of international organizations. I suggested that there may be a link between these two policies. Now, obviously I do not expect the delegates here to be so naive as to think that the greater pressure on our domestic budget is not somehow also related to our position on inter-national organization budgets. In fact, I would be quite surprised if the budget or finance ministers of most of the countries represented here would not expect some linkage between these budgets. When virtually all programmes are being tightened it is expected that the budgets for international organizations or at least our budgeting for them will also be limited and that the growth of these organizations will be limited.

Note that I said "limit the growth of". I have heard some delegations refer to the desire by some for "reduction" in FAO's activities. I have heard no one in this room make any such suggestion.

There is another link, and that is the clear belief that these organizations, like domestic programmes, have grown too rapidly. I am not just referring to the actual programmes in the field, I am referring also to travel, supplies, conferences, documents, etc, which are all part of the programme. We already have four bodies dealing with food and agriculture. Virtually every conference in the last several years has called for the establishment of yet another body or a new fund. Thus, we have advocated a pause, a time for consolidation in the programmes and re-evaluation of the priorities. This we believe is necessary irrespective of our domestic situation. The question of relative sacrifice seems to underlie the questions I noted at the outset. I do not think that this issue can ever be answered satisfactorily nor do I expect that it will ever be understood. Nevertheless, I can assure you that the US share in the actual budget increase, some \$22 million, is not taken lightly as a relatively easy sum to add to a tight budget.

When our efforts in food, emergency relief, assistance to refugees and the like are looked at in their entirety, including both government and non-government activities, and when taking into account recent shifts in our AID policies toward agricultural development, there can be no doubt that we have already begun to give meaning to our efforts on agriculture in development. The FAO budget can thus not be looked at in isolation.

Now, my government must obviously undertake a careful reappraisal of its position and our role in this Organization. We have for several years attempted to make our views on the budget issue clear, but these views have by and large not been accepted by the other members of this Organization, particularly from the developing countries. This causes us concern regarding our role in this Organization, primarily because it leaves us wondering what it is we can do in the future. My concerns are the more heightened as I have listened to several delegates today tell us that some of the programmes should not concern us; it is those who are the recipients of the programme who should make the decision as to their value. The choices, I believe, to my delegation are fairly obvious. On the first, we can accept the budget. This of course would be the easiest and obviously the most popular way out. In any case, it is inevitable, since we are likely to be outvoted. The problem with this is, of course, that we then would face the same inevitability at every point in the future.

The United Kingdom this morning suggested two other possibilities, which I think my government will have to consider. One is to consolidate all of our activities into one budget and then shift the amounts within that budget between the multilateral and the bilateral activities. Like the UK, having heard many of the pleas last week and in the several days this week for shifting to multilateral focus, it might be worthwhile for us also to consider requests by those countries who wish to give up bilateral assistance, to put it into the multilateral institution.

A third option is for us simply to shift the emphasis from one UN body to the other, and this certainly in the case of FAO is something we are prepared to consider, as I suggested last week, in terms of the relative emphasis on food. I would assume, of course, that given our posture on the overall budget situation in the UN, representatives of governments represented here who participate in those other bodies will not object when we are much more restrictive on their budget if indeed we decided to be more favourable to FAO.

The fourth option is to reject the budget as proposed. As far as my delegation is concerned, this is clearly the most honest approach and consistent with our position elsewhere. Of course, we will still have to pay according to our obligations in this Organization. In this respect, then, we must vote against the budget as presented, and unless the increase is significantly reduced, we must maintain this position.

ISKANDAR DZAKURNAIN bin BADARUDDIN (Malaysia): First of all, the Malaysian delegation would like to congratulate you on your election as Chairman of this very important Commission. We would also like to congratulate the two Vice-Chairmen on their election.

We have listened with keen interest to the statements of the various delegates, many of whom echo the Director-General's concern regarding the world food supply, world food security, and world food aid which have not reached anywhere near the goal that the international community has agreed.

The world community has contributed a great deal of effort and resources in the past towards the eradication of poverty, hunger and malnutrition, but the situation demands that much more should be done if the goals are to be achieved, otherwise there would continue to be starvation and malnutrition unless there is improvement in the food and agricultural sector. The degenerating food and agricultural situation in many countries needs the continuous support of the international community as well as the sincere efforts of the country itself. Whether or not the prospect for the world food supply is going to be grim will all depend on how each of us face up to the realities of today and make the necessary sacrifice.

We are all aware that efforts to increase food and agricultural production are more pronounced and complex in the developing countries, mainly due to lack of resources, technical and financial, to enable them to fully exploit the available resources in the country. They need assistance to help them plan and develop their resources, to help them plan their infrastructural requirements and implement their development programmes aimed at increasing food and agricultural productivity. In this respect FAO has played a leading role in providing the necessary assistance and expertise required for such development.

To play this role FAO has drawn up priorities and strategies with full participation of the developing countries so as to be in line with the objectives of the International Development Strategy. The efforts of FAO have gained the full support of all because the main thrust of its activities is directed to serve the developing countries in their struggle against hunger. FAO is carrying the directive given to the Organization to make the Third Development Decade more successful in food and agriculture than the previous decade.

The impact of FAO's programmes and projects and its importance to the developing countries is reflected by the increasing demands from the developing countries for FAO to support them in their priority projects, which keep increasing year after year. Intensified efforts and revised priorities in many developing countries mean that more assistance could continue to be given, the efforts of the developing countries could go a long way toward overcoming the precariousness of the present food situation.

We realize the present world economic and financial situation affects most of us today, more so in the developing countries. However, the continued presence of the serious world food situation should not restrain us from giving our continuous support in the development of this sector, which is vital for the survival of mankind. Any implication of lack of support, and worse still any withdrawal from the very effort that we have agreed to, will only result in a feeling of betrayal. Again, it is our moral obligation to continue to play our role and to provide the necessary funds so that the programmes which are vital for the survival of the poor in the developing countries can be carried out.

My delegation has studied the Director-General's Programme of Work and Budget as well as the material documents with great care and keen interest, and we have found the proposals very interesting. In preparing the proposals the Director-General has taken into consideration all the views expressed by the Member Countries. However, he has also taken into consideration the current world food situation and the economic situation prevailing today. While all efforts should be made to ensure the common cost effectiveness of the Programme in the Organization and the world, we must bear in mind that FAO is charged with the extra responsibility to ensure that there is food security in this world. The Director-General's proposals should be considered as the very minimum the Organization needs to carry on its activities effectively.

We would like to reiterate our support to the Programme of Work and Budget for the biennium of 1982-83 proposed by the Director-General, as we think the efforts of FAO are greatly needed by the developing world.

A. CONTE MAROTTA (Italy): After Cancún, my country is very much engaged in political strategy to support also within the frame of the European community every possible action to try to balance global disasters in the Third World. The political attention of my government is also based on the work done in the programme of FAO from Rome. This is why my government looks at the technical aspects of the next budget with positive political eyes.

B.E. PHIRI (Zambia): I wish to begin by congratulating you, Mr. Chairman, and you Vice-Chairmen, on your election to your posts in this Commission.

As you know, my Minister made a statement in the Plenary, not only on behalf of Zambia but also as regards the Programme of Work and Budget, as Chairman of the Group of 77.

For obvious reasons, he did not go into any detail but confined himself to the strategic issues of policy concerning FAO's budget.

In this Commission, we must, however, take up in more detail some of the important issues involved in our debate on this question. We in the Group of 77 have discussed these issues, and I am therefore now making a statement on their behalf.

It is made in the same spirit as the statement of my Minister in the Plenary. We want to make our views clear and hope that our statement would encourage the doubters - those who have in previous discussions reserved their position - to join with us. We would also like to think that we could persuade any who may not be so convinced, at least to refrain from a negative vote on the Director-General's proposals.

Now, as regards these proposals, there is no controversy about the priority of food and agriculture, nor about the need to increase food production, nor about the strategies, policies and programmes upon which the Programme of Work and Budget is based. This has been amply confirmed in all discussions in the main Committees and governing bodies of the Organization.

The Council, at its June Session, fully supported the strategies and priorities proposed by the Director-General. It endorsed the major programme proposals and the balance between them and reached a consensus in supporting the broad strategies, priorities and means of action proposed for 1982-83.

The acceptance of the priority of food and agriculture is also fully evident in discussions at the highest international political levels. Leaving aside the Ottawa, Melbourne and Cancun Summits, let us recall the speeches and messages made on World Food Day. We cannot make a mockery of these by now refusing to FAO the very modest resources it requires.

Furthermore, we are completely convinced that FAO plays an absolutely vital role, out of all proportion to the smallness of its Regular Programme, in mobilizing food and agricultural development financed from domestic and external resources.

As far as the Programme of Work and Budget is concerned, I hope the Commission will excuse me if I quote what has already been quoted in Plenary by some delegations what the Under-Secretary General for Administration, Finance and Management of the United Nations said to the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly just a few days ago in distinguishing between the proposals for the UN Budget and those for FAO. He said: "With regard to FAO, to which reference has also been made in this debate, the paramount need to combat starvation and malnutrition in this world must certainly find most prominent recognition in the budget of that Organization. As a corollary, the budget of FAO is not only characterized by an emphasis on technical cooperation programmes - about five times more in percentage terms than in the United Nations - but also by the fact that a great part of the overall programme of FAO is of a far more operational nature than that undertaken by the United Nations. In our Organization, economic programmes, which in their purpose and effect may be seen as comparable to those of FAO, account for only about one-third if not even less of the budgetary expenditures." That shows that even in that body they recognize the role that FAO plays is a unique one and must be supported.

And yet, despite the highest priority which is now universally given to world food and agricultural problems, FAO's proposed budget of \$360 to \$380 million is relatively modest. It compares with that of the United Nations of \$1 251 million, WHO at \$469 million and Unesco at \$406 million. Moreover, unlike the United Nations and some other organizations, FAO does not have any provision by which its budget can be increased in the course of the biennium. For example, in 1980 the United Nations budget was increased by \$100 million, nearly half the proposed annual budget of FAO.



We are, of course, unfortunately aware that the FAO/UNDP Field Programme may go down next year. We understand that it may go down between 15-20 percent. We hope that this will not be the case, but if it is we have all the more reason to support the proposed increase in the Regular Programme, including the Technical Cooperation Programme. They do not and cannot substitute for UNDP projects, but they do satisfy our needs in a number of different ways.

Incidentally, we believe that the Technical Cooperation Programme is one of the most cost-effective and efficient programmes of the FAO. If, therefore, other member nations are in favour of greater cost-effectiveness, they should support an even greater increase in the Technical Cooperation Programme. In any case, we regard the Technical Cooperation Programme as an absolutely fundamental part of FAO's services to its member nations. We are satisfied that it is administered in accordance with the strictest criteria and standards. We therefore fully support it.

In this connection, we are very grateful to the Director-General for Document C 81/INF/20 which has recently been circulated, providing further information on the significance of the Regular Programme, particularly its leverage on the Field Programme. What is revealed in that document is a remarkable achievement which we owe to the dynamic leadership of this Organization by the Director-General. We are not aware of any parallel within the United Nations system for this kind of dynamism. This document shows very clearly how the modest FAO budget generates and supports a full Programme which is running at the rate of nearly \$3 billion per annum. This represents, in the terms of the words used in the document, a gearing of the Regular to Field Programme of 1: 25. In 1980, almost \$2.4 billion of agricultural investment was generated and UNDP and Trust Fund Projects were delivered to the value of more than \$287 million; the World Food Programme aid for agricultural development projects in the order of \$204 million were assisted by FAO, as well as more than \$191 million in emergency food aid.

The document C 81/INF/20 also brings out FAO's economy and efficiency in staffing and administrative costs. Here again, we are witnessing a remarkable record achieved by the exercise of constant effort and will from 1976 onwards. It is a pity that the astonishing reduction in posts made in 1976 and pursued ever since with unrelenting effort is conveniently being forgotten.

Here again the Council at its June Session commended the Director-General for the economies he had achieved in previous biennia in his administration of available resources and the further cuts now proposed for administrative costs.

In this connection, we note the figures given in the report of the Finance Committee as well as in the document C 81/INF/20 concerning the posts in Regional Offices and in FAO Representatives Offices. We strongly support the view that these should be regarded as part of the decentralisation process, and we have heard it said I think by Australia this afternoon. In any case, we are fully satisfied that there is both a separate and a mutual supportive role for both as well as Headquarters. In particular, we are the people who are affected by this and we will see whether the Offices are effective or not, and as soon as we see that they are not effective, we shall come here and say so. But so far we are satisfied that the FAO Representatives' Offices are an essential part of FAO's structure. We are the countries to which FAO Representatives are assigned, and we see what they are doing.

We understand that some people feel this should not be said because judgement can be passed by anybody. Yes, we do not stop anybody from seeing what is happening, these people are working in broad daylight and we are merely stating what we know. If we had doubts we would not accept and support the establishment of these Offices in our countries.

There is always room, of course, for improvements, and Australia this afternoon put it all clearly on the line. We support those who call for continuing improvement wherever possible. But we are more than satisfied with the record of the Director-General in this regard, and are happy to leave it to him to continue to pursue his efforts, which we know he will do in a constant and practical way.

It takes a lot of vision and scrutiny to find whether to cut in the Programme when this is drawn up out of requests received from various kinds of countries with various kinds of background and development stages. It all takes a lot of unpopularity to cut off a programme which countries have been requesting must be put in the Programme of Work and Budget, and we know that the Director-General has been bold enough to cut down on staff, to cut down certain projects in order to achieve saving and increase efficiency.

Although it is not in this Commission but in Commission III where some related financial matters will be discussed, I would like to mention them briefly here because of their relevance to the resources and the flexibility which would be made available to the Director-General. I wish to refer in particular to the recommendations coming to us from the Finance Committee regarding the status and replenishment of the Working Capital Fund, the proposal to increase the level of the Working Capital Fund from \$6.5 million to \$13.25 million and the proposals regarding amendments to the Special Reserve Account. The improvements suggested are part and parcel of ways in which this Organization can be more effective, and, on behalf of the Group of 77, we wish to indicate our full support for them.

There are some - ironically, the richest countries - who will not dispute anything I have said so far but plead an inability to support the proposed budget because of their own domestic problems of inflation, recession and unemployment. To these we can only answer emphatically that the problems they experience are immeasurably harder for the poor developing countries to bear and to overcome.

The issue we are facing is not the marginal one of economy and efficiency but the fundamental issue of whether, at this stage of the world food situation, we believe that the Organization should have a modest increase in its budget. This we see as the issue. With due respect to the views of everyone on this issue, although we do not necessarily agree with all the arguments, we do not agree with those who believe that because social services are being cut in their own countries, this is a time to cut multilateral aid and assistance to food and agriculture development. Some have argued that by reducing FAO's budget they will increase bilateral aid. One might ask: was it the FAO budget which prevented them from increasing their bilateral aid in the past? Assuming that this is so, should we understand that the real increase in the FAO budget of \$11 million per year is what will prevent the rich countries from increasing their bilateral aid? We do not see it that way. Therefore we do not think economy is the real issue.

We therefore support the Director-General's proposals to the full without fear or equivocation, and we will continue to hold this position as long as it is right. We hope that in doing so and in making our statement we will be able to convince those others to go along with us in spite of their present stand and to maintain the spirit of consensus for which this Organization has justly become known.

D. BETI (Suisse): Qu'il me soit tout d'abord permis de vous féliciter, Monsieur le Président, comme l'ont fait toutes les délégations, pour votre élection à la tête de notre Commission, qui est saisie de questions très importantes, voire décisives, pour l'avenir de notre Organisation, Mes félicitations s'adressent aussi à nos deux vice-présidents. Nous aimerions vous assurer que nous ne ménagerons aucun effort susceptible de vous faciliter la tâche consistant à mener à bien les travaux de notre commission.

Vu que le temps qui nous est imparti pour l'examen du Programme de travail et budget 1982-83 est déjà très entamé, vu aussi que tout ou presque tout a déjà été dit en ce qui concerne les priorités du programme, qu'il me soit permis de me limiter, dans le cadre du débat général de ce jour, à quelques breves remarques générales concernant le Programme de travail et budget qui est soumis à notre examen, ceci en vue de clarifier la position de mon pays à ce sujet.

Personne n'ignore que nos Etats sont soumis à des contraintes budgétaires considérables car, qu'on le veuille ou non, même les pays dits riches ont leurs problèmes. Il est donc normal que les Organisations internationales en tiennent compte également dans l'établissement de leur programme.

Il nous paraît dès lors indispensable que la FAO cherche à compenser le renforcement de ses activités dans les domaines prioritaires par des économies sur les programmes plutôt marginaux pouvant être retardés, voire éliminés. Nous nous permettrons de revenir sur ce point dans la discussion de détail.

Il y a deux ans, ma délégation avait, non sans de sérieuses hésitations, approuvé le budget pour le biennium 1980-81, tout en soulignant qu'elle considérait l'augmentation de celui-ci comme étant à la limite de l'admissible et en demandant au Directeur général d'en tenir compte dans l'établissement du budget pour le biennium suivant.

Nous nous trouvons aujourd'hui devant un budget dont l'augmentation dépasse les limites de celui pour 1980-81.

Au moment où le Secrétariat commençait à élaborer ce nouveau budget, nous n'avons pas manqué de lui faire savoir, par différents canaux, et souvent avec plusieurs autres pays, quelle allait devoir être notre attitude à l'égard de tout budget qui prévoirait de trop fortes augmentations.

Ma délégation continue d'estimer que le budget administratif de la FAO, comme par ailleurs, soit dit en passant, les budgets des autres organisations internationales, doit tenir compte de la conjoncture économique mondiale.

Or le budget qui nous est actuellement proposé par le Directeur général ne prend pas suffisamment en considération ce souci.

Par conséquent, ma délégation ne se voit pas en mesure de l'approuver.

Je tiens cependant à affirmer concrètement - et je m'adresse ici plus particulièrement à nos partenaires des pays en développement, en souhaitant qu'ils puissent comprendre aussi notre point de vue - que notre désir d'économie dans les budgets administratifs ne signifie pas un manque de volonté de mon pays de faire des efforts financiers supplémentaires là où ils sont le plus nécessaires.

Je n'en veux pour preuve que la participation continue et considérable de la Suisse au financement de programmes extra-budgétaires de terrain de la FAO, dans des domaines comme la sécurité alimentaire, la production de semences et la lutte contre les pertes alimentaires, domaines considérés à juste titre comme prioritaires par tous les membres de la FAO.

R. GARCELL (Cuba): Con el permiso del Sr. Subdirector General, al inicio de la sesión de esta tarde, usted nos sugirió que en el día de mañana podríamos debatir conjuntamente el continuar el debate general y analizar los capítulos por separado. Nuestra delegación así ha enfocado este aspecto, y por lo tanto, quisiéramos reiterar nuestra solicitud para hacer uso de la palabra mañana, por cuanto queremos estar presentes en la intervención de nuestro Ministro, que dentro de breves momentos tomará la palabra en la Plenaria.

CHAIRMAN: I understand the point of the delegate of Cuba; I would imagine other delegates are in a similar position. And I would repeat again that those delegates who wish to make several remarks still can do so at a later moment but are invited to combine these statements with remarks pertinent to the Chapters we are going to deal with at that moment.

E.M. WEST (Assistant Director-General, Office of Programme, Budget and Evaluation): I appreciate very much this opportunity to make a few comments on the general remarks made so far and with your permission I would like to begin on a somewhat personal level. At the end of the Council the retiring Independent Chairman kindly referred to his acquaintance with me in the past as a delegate of my country and he noted especially my sense of humour. I think it has been moderated somewhat over these last few years and I should not like it to be thought that I was trying to take over from the present United Kingdom delegate in the telling of stories. But I would like to begin also with a story about Africa to show that I at least keep a sense of proportion as a member of the Secretariat. The story is of an African lion that was going through the jungle shouting "Who is king of the jungle?" and each animal that he met was expected to reply "You are, Mr. Lion." And this happened. He said to the rhinoceros "Who is king of the jungle?" and the rhinoceros said "You are, Mr. Lion". He met the hippopotamus and he said to the hippopotamus "Who is king of the jungle?" and the hippopotamus said "You are, Mr. Lion". Then he met the elephant and said "Who is king of the jungle?" The elephant picked him up in his trunk and waved him around his head and threw him to the ground. The lion picked himself up and said "It is not my fault if you do not know the answer to a simple question." Like the other jokes, this can be applied in a number of ways.

Now turning to some of the comments made it has, of course, been a long discussion and it would be invidious to single out delegates. If I do not mention many it is because I think that they are of one mind and did not raise points on which I should comment. But there are a few on which I would like to comment. For example, the delegate of Colombia, who is not always so friendly to me, made a number of constructive comments and also one particular suggestion concerning the future of the document on Medium-term objectives which was taken up by one or two other delegates. Now this is not a pressing matter but if some kind of direction could be given to the Programme and Finance Committees at least to consider the possibility, and they have indeed suggested that they be asked to do this, of some further transmutation in the present documentation, particularly in the context of saving documentation costs, we would be glad to provide them with the necessary information to discuss this, without prejudging the outcome. The delegate of Argentina stressed TCDC and ECDC in which he is not, of course, alone. I think he expressed a fairly general feeling and this is one matter on which we will try to make further progress in the coming years.

A number of delegates made remarks on programmes which had been noted by my colleagues and which will be taken up. For example, the delegate of Denmark, in the course of his remarks, referred to Agrindex and extension on which he said he would like to have discussions with the Secretariat. I can assure him the Secretariat are fully ready for this and look forward to a constructive discussion with him.

I also would like to express my appreciation to him as Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture, for the remarks he made about the document and on some of the substantive issues.

There was another point which was fairly common in a number of delegations' statements. That was the reference to a need for further decentralization to the country offices. This is indeed our policy, but it is limited by certain constraints; one of them is the rigour of our financial management which calls for high standards. That means a certain number of staff and certain amount of documentation. As you will have noted from the audited accounts, most of the comments made by the external auditor are usually in relation to problems which arise in the field because of situations spread all over the world which are rather different from those that you find in headquarters cities. If we want to maintain our very high standards of financial management, then we must be very careful about the extent to which we decentralize powers which involve financial responsibility, especially as this would inevitably mean increasing the staff of country offices quite substantially. This would run against the feeling in some quarters that we should not increase the size of individual country offices, nor increase their budgets substantially. So we are constrained here by certain real problems and therefore the policy must be applied cautiously.

Links were also made between certain remarks and the regional offices. But, on the other hand, some of them were highly positive. Here again I can assure you that the Director-General, in making his judgments has exercised great rigour and has taken into account various factors, including, of course, the need to increase our efforts on behalf of the least developed countries. If we are going to make a real effort on their behalf, then it is inevitable that we support regional endeavours. In this connexion, the latest JIU report on the regional economic commissions recommends a considerable strengthening of those commissions in order to take up regional activities of all types in conjunction with the agencies. This may not be something that we particularly welcome, but if it is going to happen because the JIU have recommended it to the General Assembly then we are expected by the General Assembly to play our part, quite apart from the needs of the FAO programme itself.

In order not to take too much time, I would like to come now to a particular category of remarks which inevitably focus on the views expressed by some delegations about the budget level. This is obviously a difficult problem and almost all delegations have spoken of it with what is, to the outside observer, if I can say that, evidently a very high sense of responsibility and seriousness. Most of the arguments used have been at a high political level but some of them have, I fear, not been as much based on fair interpretation of facts as we would have hoped. Let me take, for example, the remarks made to the effect that we are not giving sufficient priority to Africa. In this regard, reference was made to Table B on page 199. The percentage used was actually a percentage of the total funds, including extra-budgetary funds. Well, of course, the extrabudgetary funds are not in the control of the Secretariat: they are in the control of the donor and the recipient countries. So, if the total proportion for Africa is lower than some countries desire, it is within their hands. Nevertheless, I would point out that if you compare that total with the corresponding total in the previous budget you will see that quite a notable increase in the proportion of the budget being devoted to Africa has been secured. As stated in the summary budget, although it is difficult to make a precise estimate of the increase, the four main technical departments are stepping up their present level of activity to Africa by an average of 50 percent or more. We will continue, although the overall results cannot show dramatic changes from one year to the next. At the same time, we cannot continue at the expense unduly of other regions who also have some poor countries and who need help. We serve all member countries, even though our priorities may dictate a certain balance in our activities.

Reference was made to the cost of programme management under Agriculture, but that provision for programme management includes the new priority for energy. This is because energy is concentrated, for the sake of economy in administration and integration of energy into all the activities of agriculture (as one delegate at least suggested, was desirable) into the office of the ADG Agriculture. That is why it shows up under programme 2.1.9. To suggest that that new high priority is simply administration is a complete misreading or misuse of the document. The programme also includes the undistributed reserve of consultant funds in the hands of the Regional Office for the Near East, which, as you know, is here in Rome and cannot programme the total funds it has in this peculiar situation in the same way that other ADGs in the regional offices can do. So it has to maintain a reserve for unexpected demands to meet the needs of the region in these peculiar circumstances. For the sake of administrative convenience, it is also budgeted under that programme.

Next it was suggested that what we were proposing on support costs was outrageous, or shocking I think was the word used, and reference was made to the parallel record of the Asian Bank. As I think the Joint Inspection Unit and other great authorities, including the Governing Council of the UNDP, have freely recognized, you cannot compare support costs on technical assistance activities with support costs on capital assistance activities. Technical assistance activities, particularly on behalf of the UNDP, call for a great amount of logistic as well as technical support. That is our function - to provide technical support as well as logistic support, demands for which are going to be increased as we have to get rid of a very large number of experts in the next couple of years. In fact, in the UNDP Governing Council, the delegation of the United Kingdom was one of those who said,

let us maintain the support costs at 14 percent. In the document submitted to this Conference, we have asked you the question, do you want to do that or do you want to follow the Governing Council? So I do not see what is shocking about this, and it certainly is not to be compared with the support costs on capital development institutions.

I have much sympathy with the view - and these have been expressed by developing as well as developed countries - that the amount of money being spent on support services, in particular on publications, should be cut down. However, I must observe respectfully that whenever in the Programme or Finance Committees or in the Council I have suggested reducing documentation, I have been opposed, usually by those countries who want budgetary restraint. I have frequently said - and I am afraid this remark does not translate very well - that the only thing which is read about this document, the Programme of Work and Budget, is its colour ! Why have it if you are not going to read it? If we are going to talk about big issues of aid policy and say that we want to cut down the Budget even though most of us are in broad agreement, or majority agreement, by the thrust of the Programme? Therefore, let us save money by not producing those words and have a few simple tables such as you have now in the INF 20 document and concentrate the debate on the general debate which you have had today. This is a very important debate. Let us agree to abolish the Medium-Term Objectives document or agree not to have JIU documents translated into all languages and circulated. Generally speaking, you have not agreed with most of JIU recommendations. So it is in your hands. The same applies to many coordination activities, not to mention coordination organisations, which have been the fastest growing business in the UN System in the last few years. If we had your authority, we would certainly be willing to make every effort to cut down on documentation. Even though we do intend to cut down as much as possible on publications and on meetings in the coming biennium and thereafter, I must say regretfully that most of the increase in that particular area of the Programme is for printing equipment. We have no alternative but to replace a lot of printing equipment which is constantly breaking down and reducing our productivity and increasing our expenses for repairs and maintenance. We have delayed too long in replacing that equipment. Even so, I think our record in producing brief documentation on time has been recognized by many delegations.

Then I come to the question of the calculation of the real increase. This was mentioned in the Council. I think it has been mentioned by only one delegation here. You can make various calculations. You can make it 8 percent or 5.9 percent. If you do it the way it used to be done 15 years ago, you can make it 5.3 percent. But I have always felt it is not the percentage that matters, but the dollars, how many more dollars you have to pay, especially taking into account the currency adjustment. Many of you, I recognise, will have to pay more dollars now, because of the change in the exchange rates. But the biggest contributor will be paying much less than would otherwise be the case.

This debate about the budget level began at a time when the theoretical budget level proposed was about \$50 million more than it is now. I know it is good fortune, but why not take advantage of good fortune instead of saying "We must have another \$22 million out of you"? Are we really talking about percentages or are we talking about dollars?

Talking about dollars brings me to one of the most controversial points in what has been said today. Certain remarks were made about the choice facing this Conference. Two delegations referred very explicitly to the need for the majority here to make up their minds whether they wanted to support the FAO Budget or face the consequences in the form of cuts in bilateral aid or in World Food Programme assistance. One delegation, however, said it was one of four alternatives. If I am right, he indicated that this was not the alternative he was choosing but the more "honest" course of voting against the Budget. We must fully accept the right - we are your servants - of all delegations to make up their minds about our proposals. Certainly no set of proposals is ever perfect, and if you feel strongly about it, you will vote accordingly. We have had a very honest statement on that issue from one of the two delegations which mentioned this point. The statement, which I should like to refer to again in a moment, was in other respects also at a high level and one which merits close study, because the issues raised therein are very important for the future.

The other delegate who raised this point - and I have the text - said however that developing countries "must accept and pledge their governments" to accept that the extra cost of their support for FAO's Programme may have to be found in the rejection, the reduction or the postponement of bilateral aid and may have to be found by reducing the contribution of that country to other multilateral agencies, like the World Food Programme. I believe that is a very serious statement, of which due note will be taken by you, and also by the Committee on Food Aid, coming particularly from that delegation.

It is, I am afraid, incumbent on me in this connexion to try to complete the statistics stemming from those remarks, to try to give an idea how I see it of the consequences for the Organization and its membership. I know they do not like these calculations, but they happen to be facts. The contribution

of that country is \$7.5 million per year. But out of the Regular Programme and the field programme generated and supported by FAO, \$9.5 million - \$2 million more - go back to that country directly or indirectly in the form of contracts and purchases. \$3.8 million more goes back in the form of payments to consultants from that country. Apart from that there are 922 staff, nationals of that country, serving here and in Regional Offices and in the field in various projects. If you make a fairly modest calculation of the average salaries paid to those staff, it comes to about \$42 million. So here is a total of some \$55 million, or about seven times the amount of the contribution. I know that other calculations can be made, but let me make this point too, that the share of that country in the increase, if approved, will be less than \$600,000 per annum, which is about 0.03 percent of their total aid programme. If that is divided by one hundred countries, let us say, then it amounts to stg £3300 per country. So you are being asked to go into the lobby and negotiate a reduction in your bilateral aid or in your World Food Programme assistance of an average of stg £3300 per country.

I do not want to be controversial, but I have to make this point to come back to the central issue, which is that we are talking about a certain number of dollars. The Director-General and the majority of countries in the Council and here today have made the point very clearly that the number of dollars is very small. It really is very modest, especially when you break it down into an individual contribution.

This is not to say that the Secretariat are refusing to acknowledge the economic and financial circumstances in countries and the political repercussion, the political climate that those difficulties create. Quite clearly we are facing in the next biennium an extremely serious situation. It is incumbent on us to do all we can together in a harmonious atmosphere to overcome those problems, to establish better communication between member countries and with the Secretariat, so that we can see our way out of those difficulties and maintain the harmony that this Organization has been so well known for over past years and which has been referred to by a number of important countries today.

We certainly want to maintain that harmony. How to do it? I think a great deal will depend on how we come out from the situation today and at the end of this Conference and it will depend a great deal on what the Secretariat do. In that connexion, I can certainly assure very strongly Mr. Chairman, that the Director-General will make every effort during the next biennium - he has even begun thinking about it now - where we can make further savings with a view to coming up with proposals for 1984-85 which will gain general acceptance, if not unanimity.

Reference was made in this connexion to the need for rigour. I can assure you that it exists already. Most of my colleagues think of me as so mean that I will put a drawing-pin on the electric chair. But I can be even meaner perhaps and will certainly try to do that.

The main problem, however, I believe, is a problem of understanding. At the moment, we seem to be in a situation in which one of us is fishing and another one comes up and says "What are you doing? Are you fishing?", and they reply is, "No, I am drowning worms." I think we must try to establish a better communication on the real issues.

Finally, I would like to say that seen from the point of view of the Director-General the central problem is this. Do the needs of the world food situation, does the record of FAO, does the spirit as well as the content of the resolutions of the European Parliament, the Melbourne Conference, the Cancún Conference - which all referred to the need for greater efforts on food and agriculture and greater international cooperation but without saying that multilateral aid was an alternative to bilateral aid - do all those statements mean that FAO is to be treated as if it were an organization which has to be restrained and given pause, or does it mean that we deserve and may have our little modest share of the total effort going into increasing food production in developing countries and in world food security?

CHAIRMAN: I thank the Assistant Director-General very much for his clarification.

G. SILOU (Congo): Nous remercions Monsieur West de son intervention et sommes pleinement d'accord avec le contenu de celle-ci.

Au nom du Groupe africain, je souhaite formuler une protestation ferme et énergique quant au ton et à la nature de la déclaration faite par le délégué du Royaume-Uni en fin de matinée. Cette déclaration est une insulte pour tous les pays africains, et essayer d'obtenir la grâce en utilisant des références choisies ne fait que rendre l'affront plus grave encore. C'est un manque de respect à notre égard et une preuve d'incapacité à comprendre nos besoins et nos points de vue. C'est une réaction typiquement néo-colonialiste de la part du délégué d'un pays qui précisément a profité du passé colonialiste sur notre continent. Il est présomptueux de sa part de nous menacer et de nous aviser de ne pas traire exagérément la vache à lait.

Monsieur le Président, c'est au contraire ceux qui nous soupçonnent qui abusent de cette Organisation, et le Royaume-Uni est au premier rang parmi eux. Chacun sait que quelque 1 000 citoyens de Sa Majesté britannique sont fonctionnaires de cette Organisation, nombre d'entre eux occupant des postes clés, plus souvent que ne le font nos propres nationaux. Le Royaume-Uni reçoit plus de contrats, vend plus d'équipements et de fournitures dans le cadre de nos projets que tout autre pays. Les consultants du Royaume-Uni sont les plus nombreux. Pour toutes ces raisons, il est de notoriété publique que le Royaume-Uni reçoit près de dix fois sa mise concernant la contribution de ce pays au budget de notre Organisation.

L'invitation qui nous est faite de discuter de nos besoins d'aide bilatérale dans les couloirs nous est inacceptable. Alors même que nous discutons l'important problème du budget de cette Organisation, une telle invitation équivaut à la leçon que l'on donnerait à des mendiants dans l'arrière-cour.

Nous sommes reconnaissants pour toute assistance bilatérale reçue, de quelque source qu'elle vienne, à condition que nous l'ayons acceptée; toutefois notre préférence va à l'assistance multilatérale, car elle est libre de conditions qui peuvent être attachées à l'assistance bilatérale. Nous comprenons toutefois que l'assistance multilatérale doive être un complément de l'assistance bilatérale. Les discussions sur l'assistance bilatérale appartiennent aux forums auxquels participent les donateurs et les gouvernements participants intéressés. Il est toutefois indécent d'utiliser ce genre d'argument ici, alors que toute notre attention devrait être accordée à l'allocation de ressources que nous voulons donner à cette Organisation.

MAI LUONG (Viet Nam): Nous serons très brefs, en soutenant l'explication très claire, très constructive, embrassant tous les aspects du problème, et la déclaration pleine de responsabilité de Monsieur West, qui représente Monsieur le Directeur général Saouma ici, et qui a répondu aux problèmes cruciaux posés par certaines délégations.

Nous rejoignons l'opinion exprimée par le délégué du Congo en protestant contre l'image présentée à la fin de l'intervention du Royaume-Uni ce matin. Une fois de plus, nous espérons que ce projet de Programme et budget sera approuvé à cette Conférence.

A. RODRIGUES PIRES (Cap-Vert): Nous avons écouté avec beaucoup d'attention les explications données par Monsieur West, et les appuyons entièrement. Il nous est difficile de comprendre les positions de certaines délégations, parce que toutes les motivations prétendent économiquement avancées par elles pour tenter de réduire le niveau de budget ne résistent pas, à notre avis, à l'analyse. Le bon sens le plus commun nous interdit d'admettre que quelques milliers de dollars épargnés par les pays les plus riches de notre planète sur le budget de la FAO sauveraient la situation. Cet argument ne nous paraît pas solide. Par contre, plaider pour la réduction injustifiée d'un budget qui est déjà remarquablement modéré serait lourd de conséquences politiques. Notre Conférence se tient en effet, nous le savons, dans un climat international qu'elle ne peut pas ignorer. Tout d'abord, une situation alimentaire catastrophique pour un nombre croissant de pays, dont le mien. Nul n'ignore que cette situation n'est pas seulement imputable à des difficultés d'ordre interne, mais, dans une très large mesure aussi, certainement à l'interrogation constante des termes d'échange, qui interdit à ces pays de bénéficier des ressources financières nécessaires à leur développement.

La responsabilité de la FAO dans la misère est donc une responsabilité collective en parlant des mesures de solidarité internationale. D'après nous, la FAO est le cadre institutionnel dans lequel cette solidarité doit se concrétiser.

Pour terminer, nous voulons joindre notre voix à celles qui nous ont précédés, et vous dire que nous appuyons entièrement le budget présenté par le Directeur général Saouma.

CHAIRMAN: Before I give the floor to the delegate of the United States, I would like to come back to the statement of the Assistant Director-General, Mr. West, which I feel was an excellent reference already to specific elements of the budget and to specific parts of the seven chapters we have to handle and conclude by tomorrow evening. If this august assembly accepts, we should move as quickly and as early as possible to debate on the individual chapters.

I would suggest we combine the debate on chapters 1 and 2 and make another round on chapters 3 to 7, and I would like to repeat again, according to the time schedule accorded to Commission II, Items 9 and 10 will have to be concluded by tomorrow afternoon, by the end of tomorrow's afternoon session.

G. STREEB (United States of America): I just wanted to make one observation with respect to the statement Mr. West made about the budget. I do not understand why there is still confusion on this point, but just to clear it up, let me clear it up.

We are talking about the level of programme growth. All of the numbers he has used about the budget up and down and exchange rates and the like are totally irrelevant to the question of programme growth. I am quite concerned about the direction this discussion has taken.

Actually, I have been warned or I should say perhaps advised by delegations who have come to previous meetings like this that such interventions in fact have come to be expected and the norm where in fact individual delegations are attacked severely by the Secretariat.

Now, last week I had the opportunity to observe several things about FAO procedure which differed somewhat from my experience in other international organizations, and I must say that I have never yet observed to the degree I have here the way the debate gets away from discussion between delegations to a debate between delegations and the Secretariat. I thought that we were trying to have a discussion amongst those who actually determine what the programmes are. I appreciate that the Secretariat and the Director-General have to give us their best opinions, and they are responsible for drafting up the Work Programme and the budget, but nevertheless, it is still delegations who have to take the decisions, as the Director-General himself has on several occasions noted.

I could if I wanted go through each intervention by many delegations here and challenge some of the statements they have made, and in fact I suppose I could even challenge their integrity and their motivation, but I do not see how that would benefit us at all, and I certainly do not see how the recent exchange we have had in terms of its tone and in terms of its pointedness serves our purposes. As Mr. West suggested, there are many statistics one can quote regarding benefits and who pays and so forth. Again, I do not see how that benefits our debate here. What concerns me is that Mr. West's intervention has indeed had its effect, which was to immediately provoke comments by several delegations rallying to his call to attack another delegation's motives here today. I simply do not see any purpose in this sort of exchange. I hope that we can indeed return the discussion to a level of a reasonable exchange between delegations, and I am thankful it is near the end of today, and perhaps we can come back tomorrow and start afresh on what I would hope to be a more reasonable level.

CHAIRMAN: I thank the delegate of the United States. May I assure him as Chairman of this Commission I would not allow "that a delegate be attacked by a member of the Secretariat". I personally accepted Mr. West's explanation as a contribution to the discussion, and I hope all delegates can join me in that view that he has brought enlightenment to items which we will debate in further detail today and tomorrow.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): It was not my intention when I raised my flag to be involved in a bitter confrontation, and I will try my best to resist temptation now. I share the view that it is unnecessary, really. I want to assure you, Mr. Chairman, that my delegation has always respected all views expressed. We consider that is the only way to respect fully a solemn principle, otherwise the international principle and each international agency would not be able to survive, but I question very much the point raised by the US delegate that he challenged the integrity and motive of many delegations, as he mentioned. It really does not seem to contribute to the final vision that he expressed. I would ask him at least not to challenge the motives and integrity of my own delegation.

I am coming now to the point I wanted to raise even after Mr. West's information. I believed even until this afternoon that I had read already all pros and cons in the programme of work and budget but in the afternoon, or better, at the end of the morning's session as well as in the afternoon, I heard some new arguments, and I would like to clarify our own thinking on at least two points.

One is whether a contribution of any country to the assessed budgets of international organizations in the United Nations System represents or does not represent part of official development assistance. I will refrain from making any reference to the so-called methodology or agreed methods within the ODA Committee of OECD which shows quite clearly that the contribution to the FAO budget is not part of the ODA and is not counted accordingly.

Of course, it could be argued, and everybody has certainly argued, that the part of the budget of the FAO and in particular the TCP is the sort of programme which could be compared with the ODA type of assistance, and I fully agree; but to our minds, especially since we have heard one option, it is the feeling of these bodies that more should be done through FAO. When I am referring to FAO I am referring to TCP only because it is the only part of FAO which could be compared with the official development assistance or perhaps the views of the Director-General.



If this option is seriously open, I am even optimistic to the extent of believing that an agreement in this Commission and this Conference could be reached in a minute, and as far as my delegation is concerned the answer is, "Yes", we would prefer a much greater increase in TCP at the expense of indirect bilateral aid of donor countries.

In that regard I have to ask two questions. One is whether really some countries pretend that their bilateral programmes are more efficient than the programme of FAO. I think this is a crucial argument in our debate. We have to hear, at least as far as part of FAO is concerned, which is called TCP. Secondly if this option is seriously open then I think we have to debate it and reach a full consensus in this Commission.

J.L.F. BUIST (United Kingdom): I listened very carefully to the Assistant Director-General and delegates who have spoken and I made some notes of what they had said, and I am grateful to them for taking so seriously the remarks which I made this morning. I would like to assure the delegate from the Congo in particular that there is no intention on the part of my delegation or of myself personally to insult Africa, from which indeed I have learned much which I value, and where I had very many personal friends; and equally I am sure Mr. West had no such intention to insult Africa in telling his experience there and telling his little story at the beginning of what he had to say.

I was glad to note the preference of the delegate of the Congo for multilateral assistance. It is, of course, inherent in all such assistance - and this is the basic principle about which the Group of 77 as well as the DAC donors though not all others insist - that the resources of the institutions which are multilateral should be distributed on the principle of the best use of the money. I am quite certain that the Director-General, Mr. West and their staff, feel obliged in the interest of the doctrines which Mr. West has only just reaffirmed to apply these principles ruthlessly. So let us have no more talk about relative procurement and all the rest of it. Value for money is what counts, and so long as the Organization manages to secure that value we do not ourselves care where the chips may fall.

I would like thirdly to reaffirm that while I will be studying rather carefully the comments of the Assistant Director-General on the points which I made, naturally I would like to check them against my own understanding of the facts. None of my comments were made in a frivolous or vain or ulterior way; there was no intention to do anything other than to point to certain trends which we will have to discuss as we go through the budget.

In this respect, Mr. Chairman, I fully endorsed your view that what Mr. West has said will be a useful input, together with what the rest of us will say when we come to the detailed scrutiny.

I would however, like to reaffirm that our remarks about the relative shares of Africa and the other regions are based fairly and squarely on Table B on page 199, the column which talks about the total Regular Programme - not the total Regular and Extra-budgetary Programmes, of course. It is those percentages which I worked out this morning, and it is on that basis that I repeat: FAO is not such a good bet for the use of multilateral aid money or aid money generally as some other multilateral channels for the poorest countries.

On Mr. West's calculations I was a little surprised - though I always compliment him on his mathematical calculations. But I calculate myself, however, that 5.46 percent of \$278 million is indeed \$7 1/2 million a year. However, 5.46 percent of \$368 million is something like \$10 million a year. I can only assume Mr. West has been applying his welcome knife to the size of our likely bill, and if indeed it turns out to be only \$8.1 million a year if the budget is carried, instead of \$10 million, we shall be a good deal less unhappy than we are now.

Finally, I was grateful to our Yugoslav colleague for drawing attention to another point. I am not myself certain about the DAC basis of accounting although I know it varies quite a lot from the way in which the individual countries make up their aid programmes. However, it did disturb me that he seemed to be arguing that the bulk of the activities of FAO, apart from TCP, were not really of developmental advantage to the developing countries; and of course that assertion, if it has some justification, lends substance to my own argument that contributions to the regular programme generally - though perhaps not the TCP in particular to which we also attach some importance - are not so valuable as some others.

I am sure we will come back to these points and others later on, and I will not take up any more time of this meeting. I must thank our colleagues for the patience with which they have listened to us and assure my US colleague that if I have intervened again now it was not to carry the debate forward in the type of terms which he feared it might follow.

CHAIRMAN: I thank the delegate of the United Kingdom. I suggest that we move now to the debate on Chapters I and II, but I see the delegate of Hungary would like to take the floor first.

P. VANDOR (Hungary): Mr. Chairman, I would like to join the previous delegates in congratulating you on your election. My delegation is convinced that under your guidance we will conclude our work both in time and successfully. Taking into account the twenty minutes which is at our disposal for each delegation on all agenda items I would like to make a combined statement. First, however, I would like to offer two sets of comments, one referring to the Programme of Work itself and the second on the level of the budget, though acknowledging the integral unity and the inseparability of the Programme of Work and of the Budget.

Finally, I would like to put forward a proposal, a draft resolution relating to Chapter II of the document.

As far as the Programme of Work is concerned I would like only to associate myself to all those who commended the Secretariat for the remarkable efforts to compile such a good and comprehensive paper. The Programme is serving adequately the medium-term objectives of FAO.

The different chapters of the Programme may - as a matter of course - be commented upon according to the member nations' differing food and agriculture priorities. Hungary, for instance, would not have any objections were the programmes on strengthening assistance to up-dating agrarian structure to be given major emphasis. We are, however, happy with the marked action-oriented approach of the Programme of Work and with the efforts of the Secretariat to cut further on administrative and personnel costs.

My comments now refer to the level of the budget. If you look back to our history with FAO you can see that in the past my government always supported the budget of FAO. In 1979 it was only FAO in the whole United Nations system where Hungary supported the proposed budget level.

My government had and has the view that the principle of zero growth should be applied in the whole United Nations system at all international agencies. Administrative cost should be reduced and resources from unnecessary administrative costs and from low priority activities should be shifted to priority activities. This position of my Government is closely related to our economic realities. Hungary finds herself in a not-fully satisfactory financial position because of the well-known world market situation. The rate of growth of the Hungarian GNP was below 1 percent last year and the prospects for this year are only slightly more promising. My Government, however, is fully aware of the global importance of the food and agriculture issues. We acknowledge the urgent need to find solutions to world food problems and the special role FAO plays in this field. That is because we are not against the budget level proposed by the Director-General at the real-term increase of 5.9 percent. The question of whether we can fully support the budget level is still under consideration by my Government. At this stage I can express only my hope that we will be able to do so when this issue comes back to the Conference for final approval.

Coming now to the proposal of my delegation related to Chapter 2 of the Programme of Work and Budget, which is Technical and Economic Programmes, I would like to commend the Director-General for his successful implementation of Resolution 1/79 establishing World Food Day. We witnessed an outstanding response by nearly all Member States of FAO. We think that the maintenance and enhancement of World Food Day activities on an annual basis require continuous effort and initiative.

My delegation has the honour to put forward to the Resolutions Committee a draft resolution in which we recommend the continuation of the efforts in future years, both in the FAO and at the national level in all member countries of FAO.

CHAIRMAN: I understood that the draft resolution moved by the delegate of Hungary has already been passed to the Resolutions Committee and upon review by the Committee we will have this resolution in Commission II for later debate. At that stage I shall insert the draft resolution for debate in Commission II.

B. SIGURBJORNSSON (Iceland): Mr. Chairman, I am very pleased to see you, chairing this Commission and I wish to extend my congratulations to you, Dr Steiner. We are very pleased with the general presentation of the Programme of Work and Budget for 1982-83 and with the tone of the Medium-Term Objectives in the documents distributed. We feel that an effort is being made in the various programmes

to address the main problems of increasing the level of food production in the world. As stated in document C 81/3, a growth of 4 percent is foreseen annually in food production in the 1980's. In view of the extent of the existing world food supply problem and the expected population growth during the same period, this would seem to be a necessary goal.

It is difficult to see how such an increase in food production can be achieved unless we vastly increase our efforts to advance agricultural technology in the developing countries. We in Iceland have experience with the work of FAO, both as receivers of development aid and now from the other side of the development fence. From our experience we strongly believe that FAO must strengthen its leadership in the field of agricultural technology and research. It should be in the forefront in the field of agricultural science, emphasising the use in the developing countries of conventional technology as well as the most advanced scientific disciplines such as genetic engineering, remote sensing, nuclear technology, biological control of pests, computer simulation of production models, to mention a few.

The Organization needs to sharpen its focus and raise its priorities in this most important of its tasks. We do not feel that FAO should function primarily as an agency disbursing development aid, although such activities will have to be a major function of the Organization. The FAO should also strengthen its role as an international centre for all Member Nations in the broad fields of food, agriculture, fisheries and forestry, as a focal point for agricultural science and technology, coordination of research and training and a common source of information and statistics.

I entirely agree with the viewpoint expressed by the Assistant Director-General Mr West with regard to FAO's role in this area. If FAO were to cut meetings and publications further, it would be neglecting an essential and integral part of its functions and some other international body would in any case step in, undoubtedly using funds from the same taxpayers. It is clear that the increases in food production which are required in the coming decades will put an increased strain on our land and water resources, and the introduction of new high-yielding varieties and breeds may further erode the existing genetic resources of the world. Land, water and genetic resources form the very foundation of agriculture and are the most valuable heritage of mankind. We feel that land and water conservation and conservation of genetic resources are amongst the most important aspects of FAO's work. Increasing food production must not be effected at the expense of depleting this precious heritage. We must not kill the golden goose called earth.

My delegation wants to give full support to the proposed Programme and to the Medium-Term Objectives as outlined in the documents. In view of the general economic difficulties in the world, it can be said that the Director-General's Budget proposals are at the upper limit for the coming biennium. Nevertheless, we must appreciate the enormity of the problems ahead and the need for funds to carry out the ambitious programmes proposed. We do hope and, in fact, assume that restraint will be shown in the execution of the programme and that the funds appropriated will be efficiently applied to the serious tasks ahead.

CHAIRMAN: Are there any further comments to Chapters 1 and 2?

S.J. KAO (Lesotho): We would prefer to reserve our remarks for tomorrow morning.

CHAIRMAN: That is acceptable.

A.G. NGONGI NAMANGA (Cameroon): We would like to request to speak on this item tomorrow morning and also to make some general comments at that time.

M.A.M. IBRAHIM (original language Arabic) (Sudan): We would prefer to present this statement tomorrow morning, if we may.

S. AIDARA (Sénégal): Je voudrais tout simplement faire une proposition. J'ai l'impression que beaucoup de délégations ne sont peut-être pas prêtes à faire leur déclaration cet après-midi. Etant donné qu'il est déjà 17 h 30 passées, ne pourrions-nous pas lever la séance afin de permettre aux délégations soit de se consulter, soit de consulter leurs documents, afin de préparer leurs commentaires pour le lendemain? Je pense que ce serait une bonne chose si nous pouvions permettre à ces délégations de disposer d'un peu de temps pour présenter leur déclaration demain.

CHAIRMAN: If it is the desire of the Assembly, we will accept the proposal of Senegal and adjourn the meeting until tomorrow at 9.30 sharp.

The Meeting rose at 17.45 hours

La séance est levée à 17 h 45

Se levanta la sesión a las 17.45 horas

## **conference**

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

## **conférence**

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

## **conferencia**

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION

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C 81/II/PV/4

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Twenty-first Session

Vingt et unième session

21° período de sesiones

COMMISSION II

COMMISSION II

COMMISSION II

FOURTH MEETING  
QUATRIEME SEANCE  
CUARTA SESION  
(12 November 1981)

The Fourth Meeting was opened at 10.00 hours,  
R. Steiner, Chairman of Commission II, presiding

La quatrième séance est ouverte à 10 h 00, sous la présidence de  
R. Steiner, Président de la Commission II

Se abre la cuarta sesión a las 10.00 horas, bajo la presidencia de  
R. Steiner, Presidente de Comisión II

II - ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMES OF THE ORGANIZATION (continued)

II - ACTIVITES ET PROGRAMMES DE L'ORGANISATION (suite)

II - ACTIVIDADES Y PROGRAMAS DE LA ORGANIZACION (continuación)

<u>Items 9 and 10</u>	<u>Programme of Work and Budget, 1982-83, and Medium-term Objectives including Agricultural Research in Developing Countries (continued)</u>
<u>Points 9 et 10</u>	<u>Programme de travail et budget 1982-83 et Objectifs à moyen terme, y compris la recherche agricole dans les pays en développement (suite)</u>
<u>Tema 9 y 10</u>	<u>Programa de Labores y Presupuesto para 1982-83 y objetivos a medio plazo, incluida la investigación agrícola en los países en desarrollo (continuación)</u>

CHAIRMAN: I may remind the delegates that the debate is open on Chapter 1 and 2 of the Programme of Work and Budget as contained in Document C 81/3.

L. FORSELL (Norway): With your permission the Norwegian delegation will make a combined statement on the priorities of the Programme in general and on a few specific issues in Chapter 1. Our position on the budget level will be indicated at a later stage.

The distinguished delegate of Nigeria in his statement yesterday stressed that there is a need for tools to combat the hunger in the world. And he concluded that first and foremost "the tool is money." This is a challenge to the developed countries.

However, there are also challenges to the developing countries. First and foremost, the challenge to these countries is to carry out operational overall development plans of action where national food strategies are prepared as an integral part. Without such integral plans and programmes there can hardly be any balanced development, as stated by the Director-General in his statement to the Conference. FAO has assisted Member Governments in this kind of work, and my delegation will strongly support increased efforts from FAO in the field.

The World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development has pointed out the way to do it, with special attention to the underprivileged, in every sense of the word. Norway supports continued efforts to increase production of food in food-deficit areas. But even if the technical problems of production are very important, lack of political decision and lack of effective and just distribution may be the major constraints for increased food production and consumption.

FAO also has a responsibility for medium- and long-term goals and objectives. In this connexion my delegation looks forward to seeing the revised version of "Towards 2000", and we would like to highlight the importance of this work. Furthermore, I think it is important that FAO's work on long-range studies on agriculture can be continued.

As we all know, the food production in the African countries has fallen by 10 percent in the last decade. According to this I would like to underline the special priority of Africa in the proposals both for 1982-83 and in the medium-term objectives document. We support these proposals strongly.

Another very important issue is the energy problem in agricultural and rural development. My delegation will comment further on these problems late in the Conference. At the moment I will just indicate that we agree that greater emphasis is given to energy questions in FAO programmes.

However, Mr. Chairman, every organization the size of FAO will easily have some kind of - let me call it - "dead wood". Other delegations - both from developed and developing countries - have mentioned these problems.

In the last few years FAO has tried to decentralize the work of the Organization mainly through FAO representatives. The Norwegian delegation is in favour of a balanced programme of decentralization and most important, including decentralization of authority to the FAO representatives.

In this connexion we look forward to getting more available information on the functioning and cost-effectiveness of the FAO representatives.

S.J. KAO (Lesotho): You will recall I made some general remarks the other day. I have one or two more remarks to make.

We note with satisfaction the net reduction of staff at the headquarters of FAO by 36 posts. This is an indication of the move to improve efficiency by reducing overheads and shifting the resources to where the need is greatest. However, this has not produced a net reduction in costs. More reduction should be effected, particularly when the decentralization programme is taken into consideration.

The priorities of this Organization are very difficult to rank because the food issue is delicate. However, the understanding is that assistance is not meant to be everlasting but to provide sufficient initiative and momentum for the local people to be self-reliant in food production.

In the Medium-term Objectives I would propose that small farmer development should receive a higher rating, second to soil and water conservation. This is because it is the support that those farmers can give to the rest of that other progress that determines the lasting success of the programme. For the same reason I further propose a specific programme for increasing the management capabilities of farmers under the livestock sector. This programme is not included but implied. My appeal is that it should be explicit.

Introduction of new technology as a key to improved food production has been stressed, and rightly so. However, full exploitation or application with maximum benefit of such technology calls for the creation of support facilities and institutions. For this reason I suggest that agrarian reform measures and the establishment of new structures should be accorded a higher rating on the priorities of the Medium-term Objectives.

I wish to indicate again, as the leader of my delegation did in Plenary, that most schemes which resulted in substantial food production have strong elements of agrarian reform and establishment of new structures. To this end research in social science disciplines relating to extension and training should be undertaken. Maybe this is where our success will start, the knowledge of what it is that the people will have to do and are capable of doing.

It is crystal clear that a farmer must now produce food for his family and up to ten more other families. It is this surplus food that is prone to food losses. It is this area which calls for additional resources to step up the handling of that food through storage, processing and distribution. Many delegations have referred to trade barriers. I wish to submit that national storage facilities are of equal importance.

With these remarks and the conviction that FAO should help people to implement their own self-reliant programmes I submit that Chapters 1 and 2 be adopted.

A.G. NGONGI NAMANGA (Cameroon): Although I am taking the floor for the first time at a rather late stage in the debate, permit me to congratulate you and the vice-Chairmen on your election. My delegation is confident that under your wise leadership, this Commission will arrive at useful conclusions which take into consideration the views of all delegations while respecting the decision of the majority.

The Cameroon delegation has had the opportunity to read in detail the Director-General's Programme of Work and Budget for the biennium 1982-83. We read and reread his introduction to the document very carefully. We do hope everyone has done so.

In the Seventy-Ninth Session of the Council, Cameroon intervened at length on the summary Programme of Work and Budget and joined the great majority of the Council which directed the Director-General to prepare his final proposals on the basis of the summary Programme of Work and Budget. In reading the final document, we find that the wishes of the Council have been respected. The Programme of Work and Budget is comprehensive and consistent with the priorities and programmes approved by the Conference, Council and various technical Committees. There is not much to disagree on the priorities and programmes proposed.

Some delegations feel that the establishment of new FAOR's should be delayed. How long, may I ask, do we expect the Director-General to wait before implementing the decisions of the Conference? How is it that delegations which do not have FAOR's in their countries seem to doubt the usefulness of these offices? Probably in doing so, they wish to speak for those countries such as mine which have to work with these offices. When we find them not to be useful, we shall not hesitate to ask that they be closed.

On the budget level, my delegation feels that arguments are being made outside the scope of the document placed before us. Let me read out paragraphs 57 and 58 which give the essential considerations used in formulating the Programme of Work and Budget:

“57. FAO cannot, of course, hope to resolve all the agricultural problems of the world, and often our efforts will be marginal to other sources of technical cooperation, in particular from bilateral sources. On the other hand, our efforts must be judged by their qualitative and facultative value, as well as by their relative amount.

“58. I have therefore used my best judgement in eliminating obsolete or marginal activities, in order to concentrate on more essential and effective activities, in support of FAO's four basic roles of providing an international forum for formulation and discussion of strategies and policies, an international data base, a major source with unique characteristics of technical advice and cooperation, and a large executive agent for development projects financed from a variety of sources, including the Regular Programme itself”.

I have not heard any delegation say that the elements contained in paragraph 58 are wrong. On the contrary we heard in Plenary many statements of praise for the ideas contained in para 58.

The proposed budget level is based on the costs of the programmes of the Organization for the biennium. Since we are all in general agreement that the programmes and priorities are correct, we should therefore reach the same general agreement on the budget level without trying to become magicians in guessing what the exchange rates will be on the day the budget will be adopted by the Conference.

On the regional repartition of the budget, my delegation is satisfied that the Director-General, taking into consideration the needs of all Member States, has made a fair and equitable distribution. The serious and alarming problems of one region do not call for an abandonment of other regions. Recently there was held in Paris a conference for the Least Developed Countries. The major developed countries pledged increased assistance to the Least Developed Countries; but this does not mean that countries such as mine which are not among the Least Developed Countries will now be forgotten. It is in this light that we judge the Director-General's repartition of the Budget to be fair and equitable.

We therefore recommend that the Director-General's Programme of Work and Budget be approved by this Commission and reported to Plenary together with the proposed budget level.

Turning to the technical programmes, we have a few comments to make. In Programmes 2.1.1 Natural Resources, 2.1.2 Crops and 2.3.1 Forest Resources and Environment we note that the problems of shifting cultivation are highlighted particularly as relates to Africa. We therefore expected to see on page 252 under Soil Management and Conservation a responsible officer to coordinate the planned activity on shifting cultivation. However, we have not seen such an officer. We do hope a redeployment of resources within AGL will permit the designation of such a person. Should that not be possible, my delegation suggests that such an additional post be created in the 1984-85 biennium. There should also be at the regional level one or more officers responsible for work on shifting cultivation.

In reading sub-programme 2.1.2.2 Crop Improvement and Management, we were happy to note that attention will be directed to Root and Tuber Crops, so we turned to page 254 AGP to see what personnel resources are planned for this important group of crops. To our surprise no such officer exists. We do suggest that such a post be created in the 1984-85 biennium and that for the 1982-83 biennium some in-house reassignments be made to fill the vacuum. I do not need to stress that there are vast areas of Africa, Asia and Latin America where cereal production can be only marginal while crops such as cassava, yams and cocoyams will do very well. There is also need for FAO to start or increase its activity on plantations.

My delegation commends FAO for the work being done under sub-programme 2.1.2.5. We have one such project for the prevention of food losses now in operation in Cameroon and the results are very encouraging. We do hope we shall benefit from the training course envisaged in paragraph 12 so that enough qualified extension staff will be available for the training of farmers in the construction of their own storage structures. My delegation supports very strongly the work on African Animal Trypanosomiasis under sub-programme 2.1.3.2, Animal Health. This Programme is of particular importance to my country. We do hope that funds will be available to assist Member States to develop the lands freed from the scourge of the tse-tse fly. We applaud the strong emphasis given to Research support in sub-programme 2.1.4.1. Inter-country research, with emphasis on shifting cultivation, should yield some fruitful results. This only strengthens the call made earlier to create a post of Technical Officer (shifting cultivation) to coordinate all these efforts on shifting cultivation.



If I speak much longer I will run the risk of exhausting my twenty minutes. Let me therefore make only brief comments on the Fishery and Forestry Programmes. My delegation supports the priorities established for fisheries. We would like to see increased emphasis on inland fisheries, especially for land-locked countries and countries such as mine whose marine resources are poor in fish.

In the Forestry Programmes my delegations supports ongoing work to control desertification, to increase fuelwood and above all to instil community consciousness in the management of forest resources. We would like to see wildlife management for meat production integrated into forestry projects.

I have been very lengthy, Mr Chairman, but this is a very important matter and the Cameroon delegation wished to make a modest contribution. We hope we have done so.

CHAIRMAN: I thank Cameroon for the concrete manner in which his remarks were made. I hope this is a good example of how we can proceed this morning.

M.A.M. IBRAHIM (Sudan) (original language Arabic): We would like to make some comments on Chapter 2 of this Programme of Work and Budget. Programme 2.1.1, Natural Resources, in our eyes is of capital importance, especially that the survey, the evaluation and the planning of land and water resources is essential in order to increase food and agricultural production. Although the cultivable area, whether it be for crops, forestry or pasture, is of about 150 million hectares, only 50 million hectares have actually been surveyed. One tenth has been surveyed through the special department set up for this purpose about 10 years ago. The rest has been surveyed by foreign firms.

With regard to the plant cover, we have a map which goes back to 1958, and here again we need to renew the information available on the vegetative cover of the Sudan and the various components of this cover.

The surface water study has been completed as far as the Nile Valley is concerned, but for seasonal water courses and for permanent water courses we do not have any specific study.

Also as far as ground water is concerned, we have little information available. This also applies to wildlife, which is not completely surveyed in my country. We therefore have the hope that this Programme will be given support and that the unit which was set up with the help of Canada in Sudan will make it possible to carry out the sensing and evaluation of our entire renewable resources and see what changes could affect them so as to control desertification and agricultural pests.

With regard to 2.1.3, Animal Resources, there the resources are very great in my country but the share they have in our economy is a very low one, and this is due to diseases such as foot-and-mouth disease and rinderpest which decimated our livestock. We therefore believe that the control of livestock diseases in Africa can only be carried out through regional projects, especially since we know that the livestock is being held by nomadic livestock men moving from one area to another, which brings with it always the danger of infection. That is why we try to set up regional projects for the control of the various diseases. We have received the support of a number of friendly sister countries in this respect. We give our support to Programme 2.1.3 and in particular 2.1.3.2, which pays particular attention to foot-and-mouth disease, rinderpest and swinepest.

With regard to 2.1.3.5, Meat Development, we would like to give our support to this Programme as well, and on this basis we have set up in my country marketing facilities.

Now with regard to sub-programme 2.1.5.1.2 Development Support Communications, FAO helped the extension service in the Gezira Scheme to make use of the Rural Television Station by providing television sets for viewing the rural agricultural programmes. It also provided training of senior management in development communication. That is why we would like to thank FAO for this special effort. We stressed our support for this sub-programme in order to avail other countries to make use of it.

Y. KUROKOCHI (Japan): My delegation has postponed its request for the floor until this moment, as we wanted to hear the general atmosphere of this august Commission on the matters placed for its consideration. We now feel it appropriate to give some expression to its position on certain of the subjects now in question.

But before that, I should like to offer, on behalf of my delegation, my sincerest congratulations to you, Mr. Chairman and the two Vice-Chairmen, on your election to your respective posts. My delegation has already witnessed that under your guidance and leadership, Mr. Chairman, the deliberations have progressed with significant results and we are confident that this Commission will continue its work with fruitful results.

Now, we are discussing the Programme of Work and Budget for 1982-83. We join quite heartily the distinguished delegations which have already taken the floor in appreciating the work devoted by the Director-General and his staff to its preparation. We have found it quite well prepared and in many respects find ourselves in agreement with the intentions of the Secretariat.

But I should like to state that at both the 79th and 80th Sessions of the Council, my delegation made it clear that, after a most careful and sympathetic study, a high growth rate of 5.8 percent in real terms of the level of the budget for the next biennium does not come within the scope acceptable to circumstances surrounding the severe financial difficulties of my country, about which I must not take too much of this Commission's precious time to explain in detail.

It is my Government's view that all intended activities of FAO should tackle problems of food and agriculture of the world in an integrated and comprehensive manner within the framework of the United Nations. We are of the view, therefore, that international organizations, including FAO should make further efforts to increase their administrative effectiveness in a way similar to that of most individual states. When the world economy is in such a difficult situation as at present, my delegation feels obliged to stress this aspect still more.

My delegation is fully cognizant of the role that FAO has in recent years played and is soon to play in the field of food and agriculture. Still, my delegation is constrained in all candour to urge that FAO should try to reconsider its programme increase as well as its administrative costs. We appreciate FAO's endeavour to reduce its administrative costs to a substantially low level. We also think that its programme increase should be evaluated on a sustainable basis and its operating costs further reduced.

In this connexion, may I point out to you, Mr. Chairman, that in recent FAO biennial budgets, the rapid growth in real terms is especially clear on both the programmes of the TCP and FAO Country Representatives. We have no intention of denying the usefulness of these programmes. However, we are inclined to conclude that the growth of outlays for the TCP and FAO Country Representatives within the total budget could safely be reorganized and reevaluated on the basis of clarification in detail and breakdown on each country concerned where the TCP is introduced and FAO Country Representatives are stationed.

Having said this, more as part of the general debate, may I add that my delegation does not have much to argue about on Chapters 1 and 2 and does find them satisfactory, but wishes to reserve the right to make further comments on the matters of the TCP and FAO Country Representatives when it becomes necessary.

S.G. KAZIM: (United Arab Emirates) (original language: English): The delegation of the United Arab Emirates is glad to be able to give its support to the proposals contained in the Programme of Work and Budget for the years 1982 and 1983. Some delegations have already explained the reasons which justified an increase in the budget, an increase which is partly due to the increase in the number of Member countries. These countries certainly need additional aid in order to improve their food and agricultural situation and in order to find solutions for their problems. We must not forget that the problems which arise with regard to world food security and those of hunger are very serious problems which are acquiring more and more importance. Therefore, the increase in the budget must respond to these criteria and requirements. Since FAO is responsible for the solution of the problem of hunger in the world and has to try and fight against all food emergencies in the world, we feel that the Programme of Work and Budget as presented in document C 81/3 is an excellent programme, and I would like to thank you very much for your attention.

Sra. L. ELIZONDO C. (Nicaragua): Primero que nada, señor Presidente, quisiéramos disculparnos por no haber estado presentes cuando se nos concedió la palabra al comienzo de la sesión, pero problemas no de nuestra voluntad impidieron nuestra presencia a la hora indicada.

Nuestra delegación quisiera felicitar al Presidente y a los vicepresidentes por su elección a la Mesa de esta Comisión, y en este momento si usted lo permite, quisiéramos hacer nuestra intervención general en lo que respecta al Programa de Labores y Presupuesto presentado por el Director General.

La delegación de Nicaragua quisiera expresar su total apoyo y aprobación al incremento propuesto para 1982-83, el que consideramos de por sí sumamente modesto, por lo que se nos hace difícil comprender la posición de algunos países que, contrariamente a lo expresado por la gran mayoría de países aquí presentes, hablan de crecimiento cero o aun de recortes presupuestarios.

Consideramos que el mantener estas posiciones refleja un desconocimiento enorme de las múltiples necesidades que tenemos los países pobres, y de la importancia que tienen los programas de asistencia propiciados por la FAO para nuestros países.

Es indudable que el Programa de Labores y Presupuesto 1982-83 presentado por el Director General ha sido elaborado con sumo cuidado y refleja las prioridades y actividades principales que deben llevarse a cabo para aliviar a los países pobres de su tremenda carga, al brindarles los medios técnicos que permiten superar las restricciones propias del subdesarrollo. No podemos desconocer el hecho de que aun en medio de las dificultades originadas por la crisis mundial que atravesamos, los países ricos son cada vez más ricos y los pobres somos cada vez más pobres.

Estas dificultades deben de ser enfrentadas en su raíz y no hay que confundir las consecuencias con las causas. Es una actitud injusta y egoísta el tratar de resolver la crisis reduciendo los programas de ayuda; reducción que sólo afecta a los países mas necesitados del tercer mundo. Es necesario por tanto, señor Presidente, que se escuche aquí la voz de nuestros países y que se inste a los países que han mostrado reservas en su posición, a reconsiderar ésta, mostrando de esta forma su comprensión a los problemas que en materia alimentaria azotan a nuestros pueblos.

M. ZEIDAN (Liban) (langue originale: arabe): Mon intervention va se limiter pour le moment aux chapitres 1 et 2, donc je vais être très bref. A cet égard je voudrais notamment faire part de quelques observations sur le chapitre 2: les Programmes techniques et économiques sont variés et importants, et, étant donné leur diversité, ils peuvent être profitables à certains pays, à un groupe de pays, ou à des régions entières.

Après avoir étudié ces programmes et ces sous-programmes ainsi que les crédits qui leur sont alloués nous les approuvons tous, et notamment le programme 2.1.2 Cultures. Nous sommes d'accord avec la proposition visant à intensifier les activités dans le domaine des ressources génétiques afin d'améliorer les espèces céréalières, car c'est là une source essentielle pour augmenter la production.

Nous approuvons également le programme 2.1.4 concernant le développement de la recherche. Nous reconnaissons l'importance de la recherche pour l'amélioration de la production agricole, surtout s'il y a une vulgarisation dans ce domaine.

Le manque de personnel qualifié empêche de soutenir les recherches dans les pays en développement. Il faut donc surmonter ces difficultés, soutenir ces recherches, et il faudrait augmenter les crédits qui leur sont alloués.

Par conséquent nous souhaitons que davantage de travaux soient menés dans ces domaines, sur le plan international, régional et national. En effet, l'amélioration des ressources génétiques et l'intensification des recherches biochimiques sont très importantes. Les prévisions montrent qu'on ne peut vaincre la faim dans le monde que par ces moyens. Nous appuyons donc ces programmes.

Ma dernière remarque concerne le Programme de développement rural 2.1.5. Nous approuvons le plan d'action proposé, car les problèmes de développement sont nombreux, et il faudrait leur faire face grâce à des décisions politiques. Nous voudrions à cet égard nous inspirer de la Conférence Mondiale sur la Réforme Agraire et le développement Rural qui nous a tracé la voie à suivre dans ce domaine. Ce que propose la FAO dans ce domaine n'est qu'une série de mesures visant à appliquer les programmes évoqués au cours de cette conférence et les idées qui y ont été exprimées.

J. HERNANDEZ COSSIO (Cuba): Señor Presidente, señores delegados, nos unimos a las delegaciones que precediéndonos en el uso de la palabra le han felicitado a usted y a los dos vicepresidentes por su merecida elección y, al hacerlo, mi delegación manifiesta su propósito de contribuir al mayor éxito de nuestros trabajos.

En el día de ayer usted, Sr. Presidente, nos sugirió y, particularmente permitió a las delegaciones que aún no hemos intervenido en esta Comisión, que a partir de esta novena sesión de trabajo pudiéramos exponer de forma combinada tanto las observaciones generales, como los criterios, acerca de los capítulos I y II del Programa. Así trataremos de hacerlo en esta oportunidad.

En primer lugar, reconocemos los esfuerzos del Sr. Director General y de sus colaboradores al dotarnos del documento C 81/3, el cual consideramos un excelente material de trabajo cuya presentación y contenido están contribuyendo sin duda a facilitar nuestra labor y a avanzar hacia la consecución de los objetivos de la Organización.

La crítica situación económica y alimentaria mundial queda descrita con nítidos trazos en la Introducción del mencionado documento y en el que se consignan cómo el continuo crecimiento demográfico, junto al deterioro progresivo de los precios de los productos agrícolas primarios de los países subdesarrollados, unido al elevado costo de la energía, al aumento de la carga del reembolso de la deuda y a un inmutable régimen de intercambio desigual, hacen por día más aguda la problemática de la alimentación y el desarrollo.

En este contexto, la ayuda de una Organización como la FAO, aunque limitada, es de inapreciable valor para quienes la requieren. En este sentido, deseamos llamar la atención especialmente sobre la Región de América Latina y el Caribe, donde la reducción de los fondos del Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo se reflejaría en términos relativos de una forma desfavorable. El reconocido sentido de solidaridad de Cuba con los pueblos de África nos anima a apoyar la prioridad que en ese sentido le concede la FAO. No obstante ello, manifestamos nuestra preocupación con respecto a que una reducción de los fondos del PNUD entrañaría un significativo retroceso en el status de la situación de América Latina y del Caribe, lo que significaría una aceptación que tardaría largo tiempo en equilibrarse y para entonces los gastos necesarios serían mucho mayores.

Nuestra delegación suscribe el llamamiento que se nos hace, en el sentido de que los propios países en desarrollo adopten medidas más dinámicas para aumentar la producción de alimentos en el sentido, Sr. Presidente, de que ese llamamiento no ha de interpretarse como una excusa para suscribir la ayuda o disminuirla en lugar de incrementarla y contribuir como corresponde y, aunque sea parcialmente, a los requerimientos financieros externos de los países en vías de desarrollo.

Con relación a los Capítulos I y II, nuestra delegación aprecia el esfuerzo de la Organización por armonizar adecuadamente los destinos del presupuesto y confía en que se mantenga ininterrumpidamente la gestión de eliminar o disminuir todos aquellos gastos que no repercuten en incrementos de producción agrícola o alimentaria. Con independencia de cualquier ajuste que pudiera recomendar acertadamente alguna de las distinguidas delegaciones, estimamos que es correcta la distribución del presupuesto de estos Capítulos y nos basamos en el énfasis que se hace en el acápite 2.1: "Agricultura" y, en especial, en los subacápites 2.1.2 Cultivos; 2.1.5 Desarrollo Rural y 2.1.8 Política Alimentaria y Agrícola.

En el documento "La Agricultura hacia el Año 2000" constatamos que las tendencias actuales más negativas en materia de agricultura y alimentación persistirán al tiempo que la población mundial continuará creciendo hasta sobrepasar los 6 000 millones, coincidiendo con un proceso en que la producción de alimentos en muchos países en desarrollo se habrá estancado e incluso podría disminuir en algunos.

El Programa de Labores y Presupuesto que hoy examinamos intenta dotar a la Organización de recursos mínimos que le permitan contribuir a luchar contra tales tendencias.

Hemos escuchado con satisfacción cómo la inmensa mayoría de los países aquí representados han apoyado el incremento del presupuesto para 1982-83. Mi delegación también brinda, Sr. Presidente, su más decidido apoyo y aprobación a ese presupuesto y lo hacemos como muchos países subdesarrollados en momento en que nuestras economías dependientes de la exportación de productos agrícolas cuyos precios se han reducido considerablemente, cual es el caso del azúcar, se ven seriamente afectadas.

Ante la sombría situación de la alimentación y de la agricultura encarada por los países en desarrollo, nos sentimos en la necesidad de exhortar a quienes más tienen y en la mayoría de los casos más han tomado de la explotación colonial y neocolonial, a que contribuyan al incremento que se propone, más aún cuando, Sr. Presidente, esos aportes financieros regresan en medida considerable a esos propios países, pues ellos aportan el 58% de los expertos que utiliza la FAO, reciben el 67% de los ingresos por las becas de estudios y nada menos que el 75% de los pedidos de compra.

No es aceptable que se nos proponga la política del crecimiento cero, menos aún que se nos plantee la disyuntiva de escoger entre no aumentar el presupuesto o disminuir los aportes a otros organismos internacionales o disminuir la ayuda bilateral. Los Estados Unidos de Norteamérica mezquinamente regatean

los limitados recursos que han de aportar a la FAO, no titubean en aprobar fabulosos presupuestos de guerra e instan a otros gobiernos para que los sigan por ese camino absurdo y suicida. Rechazamos señor Presidente, esa política y como la inmensa mayoría de los pueblos del mundo instamos a trabajar por la paz y el desarrollo.

WANG SHOU RU (China) (original language Chinese): I would like to make a few comments on chapter 2 of the Programme of Work and Budget. The presentation is fairly comprehensive, and we agree with its contents.

However, the Chinese delegation would like to stress the following two points on this chapter. First, in the agricultural programme 2.1.1, Natural Resources, we emphasize that support should be given to the activities in soil improvement with rational application of fertilizers to increase the per-unit yield of crops.

The study of Agriculture: Toward 2000 prepared by the Organization shows that only 18 percent of the food requirements in developing countries can be met by expanding cultivated lands, while the other 82 percent has to be met through increasing the per-unit yield of crops.

At present the per unit yield is not high in a fairly large part of the cultivated land in many developing countries, so there is a great potential for an increase of production in this regard.

The factors affecting the per unit yield vary in different conditions. Nevertheless, in many countries and regions improvement of soil conditions in low-yielding land and the increased rational use of fertilizers constitute the basis of raising production. For instance, crop yields will increase substantially when saline, red, yellow loamy and sandy soil is ameliorated. Of course this involves many complex problems. We hope that FAO will strengthen the organization of scientific research as well as exchanges of experience in various forms in the future implementation of programmes in this field.

The second point we would like to stress is the need to strengthen the training of medium-and high-level agricultural scientists and technicians from developing countries. We referred to this point briefly in our last intervention. We believe that in addition to appropriate policies, developing countries depend mainly on the extension of new technologies in developing agricultural production. This is mentioned in both the first paragraph of 2.1.4 of the Programme of Work and Budget and in Document C 81/3, that the two major obstacles hindering developing countries from using new technologies are, first, the absence of effective technical expansion system, and secondly the lack of trained personnel for scientific research. We consider that new agricultural technologies that farmers are ready to use must be economical in cost, quick in effects and easy to learn. To introduce such technologies it is necessary to strengthen the training of medium-high level scientific research personnel and field technicians in the developing countries in various ways, so as to make them acquainted with existing scientific research findings. The necessary equipment must also be provided in order to enable them to carry out applied agricultural research in local conditions and guide farmers in improving their production techniques step by step.

As for the specific forms of such training, we believe that training courses and study tours are two effective ways. In the case of any area of special interest to any country, scientific research workers and technical and management personnel from countries concerned can be organized on a study tour to one or two countries highly successful in that field for detailed study on the subject and also for discussion and exchange of experience within the study group. This will allow them to learn something useful in a short period of time. We hope that the Organization will be able to mobilize any extra-budgetary resources available to strengthen this activity.

I. BARBOSA (Portugal): Je voudrais traiter en particulier du programme sur le crédit. Il s'agit d'un sous-programme du plus haut intérêt, en dépit de sa complexité et des difficultés qui en découlent, surtout quand il est destiné aux petits producteurs.

Ces difficultés, si bien soulignées dans les documents de cette Conférence, pourront être effectivement atténuées grâce aux actions prévues, en particulier de la formation du personnel ainsi que de la préparation professionnelle des vulgarisateurs et des producteurs auxquels doit être donnée l'instruction appropriée pour leur permettre de comprendre et d'accepter les enseignements qui leur sont transmis.

D'autre part, il est indispensable que les services fournis par une institution de crédit soient en étroite liaison avec les activités découlant de la production, de la commercialisation et des programmes relatifs aux coopératives, au rôle de la femme et, d'une manière générale, au développement rural.

Toutefois, c'est le vulgarisateur qui, dans le milieu rural, grâce à sa connaissance directe de l'agriculteur, est en mesure d'évaluer sa capacité de travail, son honnêteté et son intelligence, qualités qui le rendent apte à recevoir le crédit, à l'appliquer rationnellement et à l'amortir dans les délais fixés.

La seule garantie que peut offrir le petit agriculteur, c'est la garantie personnelle, car ses biens meubles sont toujours limités, et la structure agraire, en règle générale défectueuse, ne lui permet pas d'offrir ses biens immeubles, même si cette garantie était apparemment suffisante.

Et ce n'est qu'ainsi que le crédit - mot qui dérive du latin credo, credere, qui signifie croire - pourra jouer son véritable rôle dans le milieu rural. On sait cependant combien il est difficile de mettre en pratique ces méthodes qui, pour cela même, devront être préalablement expérimentées sous la forme de projets-pilotes.

Un autre aspect à considérer est le rôle important qui revient aux banques centrales. Mais qu'il me soit permis de vous rappeler, en me fondant aussi sur mon expérience personnelle, que l'attitude de ces banques à l'égard des institutions de crédit rural, est en général peu satisfaisante, étant donné qu'elles sont orientées principalement dans le sens de la concession du crédit commercial et industriel.

La conjugaison du crédit agricole et du crédit commercial au sein d'une même institution n'est pas à recommander car le crédit commercial exerce sur le crédit agricole une dangereuse "attraction magnétique".

Je voudrais rappeler ici l'opinion d'un groupe de spécialistes, auteurs de la publication de la FAO, sur "le crédit agricole par l'intermédiaire des coopératives et autres institutions" (page 131):

"Néanmoins, ces tentatives de conclure un double mariage conduisent le plus souvent à traiter inégalement les deux épouses..... Considérant ce qui a été dit plus haut des crédits agricole et commercial, nul ne sera surpris d'apprendre que, dans un double mariage de cet ordre, ce sera vraisemblablement le crédit agricole que l'on négligera. Pour recourir à une autre métaphore, nous dirons que le maître bien servi et le maître négligé se dégageront d'eux-mêmes, si l'un d'eux exige moins de travail que l'autre et paie beaucoup mieux les services qu'on lui rend. C'est la raison pour laquelle plusieurs banques agricoles et banques populaires des régions visitées ont tellement concentré leur activité dans le secteur commercial que leur principal objet, c'est-à-dire le développement du crédit agricole, s'est de plus en plus effacé à l'arrière plan".

Les travaux envisagés par la FAO dans ce secteur, parfaitement mis en évidence, sont pour nous un motif de satisfaction, et c'est pourquoi ma délégation forme des vœux pour la poursuite de ses actions, en dépit des difficultés non seulement techniques mais encore financières, auxquelles elles continueront de se heurter dans l'avenir.

En ce qui concerne le budget, il est certain que les fonds extra-budgétaires pour le crédit sont, à mon avis, très peu importants (2,5 millions de dollars). Les fonds pour l'éducation, la vulgarisation, la formation agricole, l'économie familiale et la commercialisation, sont destinés directement ou indirectement au crédit (avec lequel il y aura une étroite liaison) et représentent à peu près 67 % du total des fonds estimés sur le tableau de la page 107 du Document 81/3.

S. SHAMOUT (Jordan) (original language: Arabic): First I would like to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, on your election to the chairmanship of this Commission, and I would also like to congratulate the two Vice-Chairmen, my colleagues from Sudan and Zaire. I hope that your efforts will be crowned with success, especially given the importance of this Commission.

The delegation of Jordan during the last two days has not spoken in this Commission and this is why my comments are going to be of a general nature. During the first meeting we heard a statement by the Director-General and he shed new light on the agenda items for this Commission. During the last two days we have also heard the statements and comments made by various delegations which were mostly concerned with the key problem, that is to say the Programme of Work and Budget for the biennium 1982-83. From the outset we were expecting differences in points of view on this subject and since this question has been discussed in the Finance and Programme Committees and in the Council, it appears that positions on this Programme of Work and Budget can be seen as follows. Some delegations still consider that the

increase in the Budget is in fact a minimal increase and that it does not correspond to the aspirations of developing countries and that the Organization, with these modest increases, cannot carry out all the tasks requested of it. However, this group unfortunately is forced to accept the situation as it stands and to accept the Budget at its present level.

The second category is that of those delegations who have accepted the level of the Budget as suggested because they believe that this increase is a reasonable one and meets the economic situation throughout the world. The third group of delegations has expressed reservations and continues to express reservations. This group of countries does not want to commit itself immediately to accept or reject this increase in programmes. It has put off the final decision to a time when the situation becomes clearer following the debates which will take place in this Commission. We hope that this group will be able to join the majority.

The fourth category of those who reject the Budget increases are those who insist on the principle of zero growth and who refuse any alternative solution. Their arguments on the subject are ones we do not find at all convincing.

It must be pointed out that groups 1 and 2 of this list come from developing countries but categories 3 and 4 belong to the developed or industrialized group of countries.

During previous conferences there have certainly been differences in views among the member countries on the level of the budget. However these differences in views hinged on whether the increase was to be 3 percent, 4 percent or 8 percent. Therefore, discussions in Commission II were based on the level of the increases and in the end a consensus arose and consolidated the cooperation between developed and developing countries in their fight against such scourges such as malnutrition and hunger throughout the world. Unfortunately during this general conference we see that the differences are more acute and we know the reason. Here we do not want to put the blame on one party or another or to hurt anybody, we would like to try to calm people and not to upset things; however we do totally reject the principle of zero growth because it is a principle of incompetence, of incapacity, which puts an end to any efforts toward development in agriculture and food which are, of course, our main concern.

The delegation of Jordan during the various preceding meetings joined the group of moderates in order to achieve a compromise which might be acceptable to all. Unfortunately we cannot reach a compromise with this moderate attitude because those who opt for the principle of zero growth do not want to climb down from that position; therefore mediation during this conference will unfortunately not be able to bear fruit.

Of course, the Secretariat and the Director-General in particular have been, as it were, accused or put in the dock because it has been said that they have taken into account the views of all countries but let us suppose that you or I had been the Director-General, what would the choice have been? I believe that there are two alternatives, either one accepts the majority's point of view, i.e. accepting this increase, albeit a modest one, or the second alternative, i.e. the principle of zero growth. Those who refuse any increases to the Director-General are aware that if he had accepted the second alternative, he would have heard from the majority who were insisting on an increase, though a modest one, for the budget. This is why the Director-General, in any decision he has taken, has been obliged to apply democratic principles, and to respect the majority's view and that is in fact what he has done. Therefore, I wonder whether this democracy as applied by the Director-General, is a mistake for which he should be blamed? No.

Jordan has always adopted a moderate position, and does not wish to criticize anybody, particularly those who have refused the principle of growth or rejected it, particularly as Jordan benefits considerably from bilateral aid provided by those countries. Nevertheless, given our duties as a member country of this Organization, we cannot jeopardize Jordan's interests; we must take into account the interests of all developing countries and this is why we state our support for the level of the budget as presented. We hope that the countries who rejected this increase might change their views and should the worst come to the worst that they will abstain. We still hope that they will join the majority and accept its views.

Another point to be considered is World Food Day. Aid provided by FAO to developing countries particularly to celebrate World Food Day was the reason for the success of this event. This is why it is my pleasure, on behalf of my delegation, to thank all those who have helped us and particularly thank efforts undertaken by FAO to make that World Food Day a successful event, we will support any resolution which might be drawn up on this subject.

These were the general comments I wanted to make and we wish to retain the right to speak again.

T. MIRCEA (Roumanie): Prenant la parole pour la première fois, j'aimerais tout d'abord vous féliciter pour la brillante élection à la présidence de cette importante Commission de la Conférence. Mes félicitations s'adressent aux autres membres du Bureau.

Monsieur le Président, à titre de contribution au débat général, auquel nous n'avons pas pu prendre part jusqu'à présent, j'aimerais répéter ce que ma délégation a déjà dit à la session du Conseil qui a précédé cette Conférence et ce que dira sans doute le Chef de la délégation roumaine en séance plénière aujourd'hui.

Pour ce qui est du Programme de travail et budget, nous avons dit et nous répétons que la position constante de la Roumanie dans les organisations internationales, y compris la FAO, a toujours été de ne pas accepter à la légère des accroissements de dépenses, d'examiner attentivement les propositions, de voir comment les ressources financières des organisations peuvent être utilisées de façon toujours plus rationnelle et plus efficace.

L'examen attentif des propositions du Programme de travail et budget présenté par le Directeur général de la FAO, des conclusions auxquelles sont arrivés les organismes de la FAO, notamment le Comité du programme et le Comité financier, nous permet de voir que ces propositions sont judicieuses et réalistes et de nous prononcer en leur faveur au côté de la grande majorité des pays membres.

Mis à part la pleine confiance que nous faisons au Directeur général, qui a fait preuve de hautes qualités en dirigeant les activités de la FAO dans une période difficile sur le plan international, nous avons en vue notamment les points suivants:

la spécificité du rôle de la FAO, le fait qu'elle est destinée à accorder une assistance aux pays en développement, en particulier par l'entremise des programmes de terrain, le niveau relativement bas des frais d'administration et les efforts constants du Directeur général pour perfectionner encore davantage l'appareil de la FAO, la haute priorité reconnue et accordée sur le plan national et international aux problèmes de l'agriculture et de l'alimentation, la nécessité de stimuler sur le plan national les efforts et de les appuyer vigoureusement par l'entremise des organisations internationales qui font preuve d'efficacité - bien sûr la FAO peut être placée en tête de la liste de ces organisations efficaces.

Monsieur le Président, nous croyons que les propositions du Programme de travail et budget reflètent la préoccupation du développement continu et de la consolidation du rôle de l'Organisation en vue de l'augmentation de la production agro-alimentaire et de l'éradication du sous-développement.

En ce qui concerne les chapitres en discussion ce matin, nous pensons, pour ce qui est de l'agriculture par exemple, que les huit programmes comprennent l'ensemble des problèmes à résoudre dans les pays en développement et nous apprécions que dans l'activité qui concerne une meilleure utilisation des ressources naturelles, on envisage la croissance des surfaces arables par la mise en valeur des terres ayant une basse productivité et en général les terres restées en friche. Nous nous réjouissons du fait que dans un tel programme la surface arable des pays en développement augmentera considérablement mais nous croyons qu'il est nécessaire d'attirer l'attention sur la nécessité de cultiver intégralement toutes les surfaces arables dont disposent ces pays en vue de l'accroissement et de la diversification de la production agricole, et de la création et du développement dans ces pays de capacités de moyens de production nécessaires à l'agriculture, au développement rural en général, à la mise en place de systèmes d'irrigation et de drainage et au développement des agro-industries.

Relativement à la recherche scientifique dans l'agriculture, nous croyons que celle-ci devrait être intensifiée dans la direction de l'amélioration et de la vulgarisation des variétés hybrides des plantes, des races d'animaux les plus productives s'adaptant aux zones de production.

Nous nous prononçons aussi pour accroître l'activité de la FAO pour faciliter le transfert sans restriction des résultats scientifiques dans les pays en voie de développement.

Quant à la politique alimentaire et agricole, nous pensons que l'on devrait appuyer de manière particulière la formation du personnel technique et supérieur tant sur place que dans d'autres pays en développement. En ce sens, la Roumanie peut organiser, avec la contribution de la FAO, des cours de perfectionnement d'une durée de 15 à 30 jours dans les domaines de la réalisation mécanique des travaux dans l'agriculture, de la pédologie, de l'agro-chimie, des irrigations et du drainage, de même que dans le secteur de l'industrie alimentaire. Nous avons déjà fait connaître à la FAO ces possibilités.



Pour ce qui est du domaine des pêches, il résulte du document examiné qu'il y aura un décalage d'environ 15 à 20 millions de tonnes entre la production possible et la consommation de poisson. Tenant compte du fait que le poisson est un aliment précieux et qu'il peut être obtenu dans n'importe quelle zone du monde, nous apprécions que dans le cadre relatif à l'accroissement des ressources on envisage le développement de la pêche, surtout pour la mise en valeur des zones économiques exclusives, par la coopération des pays en voie de développement en particulier.

De manière plus générale, nous croyons que dans la réalisation des programmes de la FAO il faut recourir beaucoup plus à la coopération horizontale, c'est-à-dire entre les pays en développement, aussi bien pour ce qui est des spécialistes que des équipements.

Monsieur le Président, étant donné les difficultés de notre délégation pour assurer sa participation à l'examen de tous les chapitres en discussion, j'aimerais vous indiquer maintenant que nous sommes d'accord avec ce qui nous est proposé par le secrétariat de la FAO, en particulier en ce qui concerne le chapitre V. Ma délégation a pris note avec satisfaction des activités prévues pour les années prochaines dans le point 5.1.: "Information et documentation". Nous réaffirmons notre plein appui au système d'information de la FAO, tout particulièrement AGRIS et CARIS qui permettent aux pays en développement de bénéficier d'un apport pour renforcer leurs propres capacités nationales de documentation agricole.

C. LAMBERT (Canada): Monsieur le Président, la délégation canadienne désire unir sa voix à toutes celles qui vous ont déjà félicité pour votre élection à notre présidence. Nous sommes assurés d'ores et déjà du succès de votre importante mission.

Dans son intervention de ce matin, ma délégation voudrait faire quelques remarques générales sur le Programme de travail et budget.

Monsieur le Président, ma délégation a écouté avec une très grande attention les interventions des deux derniers jours ainsi que les explications données par le secrétariat. Force nous est de constater que deux thèses s'affrontent ici, dans un débat qui prend malheureusement l'allure d'un dialogue de sourds et qui risque en conséquence d'être stérile. Si tel devait être le cas, c'est toute notre Organisation qui en sortirait affaiblie.

Le Canada a déjà eu le privilège d'exprimer sa position sur le Programme de travail et budget lors des réunions du Comité des finances, du COFO, du COFI, du COAG, ainsi qu'au Conseil. Encore hier après-midi, mon ministre a lui-même exposé en séance plénière les motifs qui sous-tendent la démarche canadienne.

Je ne voudrais donc pas répéter ce qui a déjà été dit; mais, Monsieur le Président, ma délégation ne saurait laisser passer sous silence des interprétations de notre position qui, même si elles sont faites de bonne foi, n'en trahissent pas moins les faits, du moins le croyons-nous. Il nous apparaît essentiel de les rétablir, dans l'intérêt même du dialogue véritable que nous recherchons tous.

Avec votre permission, je m'attacherais donc à trois points.

D'abord la croissance zéro. Se prononcer en sa faveur, c'est s'attirer tous les anathèmes. Les interprétations d'intentions les moins charitables lui ont été prêtées. Et pourtant, nous n'y voyons pour notre part que l'expression, par une formule simple, d'un outil de gestion s'appliquant au seul budget administratif.

Un programme de travail aussi complexe que celui de la FAO nécessite d'être quantifié, si nous voulons être capables d'en parler raisonnablement.

La croissance est précisément le moyen, l'outil dont notre Organisation s'est dotée pour faire l'analyse de son programme. Or notre rôle, Monsieur le Président, c'est bien d'exprimer, par les organes directeurs, un niveau de croissance souhaitable. Nous en faciliterons d'autant la tâche du Directeur général, et des directeurs de programmes, en leur donnant une mesure dans laquelle ils devront donner les priorités. C'est là le plus sûr moyen d'arriver à identifier les programmes marginaux, et éventuellement de les supprimer, tout en s'assurant que le maximum des ressources est dirigé vers les programmes qui sont les plus importants.

Si nous acceptons ce qui précède, la question qui se pose est bien: pourquoi une croissance zéro?

Notre explication est simple, et tirée de notre expérience nationale. La croissance rapide des années soixante et du début des années soixante-dix a amené avec elle une croissance tout aussi rapide des appareils gouvernementaux. Invité à réexaminer la situation à la lumière d'une économie plus lente, notre gouvernement a opté pour une

croissance nulle. Cela lui a permis de réaliser des économies substantielles, de retrouver dans certains cas une vigueur nouvelle, et cela sans pour autant priver ses citoyens des services auxquels ils sont en droit de s'attendre.

Or, il nous apparaît souhaitable et nécessaire qu'après une longue période de croissance importante, les organisations internationales ayant un rôle d'agent exécutif consolident les acquis et s'assurent d'un rendement maximum.

Le Canada, pour sa part, croit sincèrement que la FAO a atteint ce niveau qui lui permet de remplir pleinement la mission très importante qui est sienne.

Dans ce contexte, Monsieur le Président, nous nous réjouissons des propos du Secrétaire général des Nations Unies, M. Kurt Waldheim, qui, commentant le budget 1982-83, déclarait que pour la première fois depuis 1954 le budget propose n'avait aucune croissance réelle. Cela était dû à l'adoption d'une politique budgétaire délibérément orientée vers le maintien et le renforcement de la crédibilité financière de l'Organisation.

Nous souhaitons vivement que cette pratique s'étende à toute la famille des Nations Unies, et une organisation aussi importante que l'Organisation mondiale de la santé a presque atteint cet objectif déjà. C'est seulement ainsi que chaque dollar américain investi bénéficiera tant aux pays industrialisés qu'à ceux en voie de développement.

Un autre point, Monsieur le Président, sur lequel je serai beaucoup plus bref. Il s'agit du taux de change et du niveau du budget.

Nous avons dit que le niveau de croissance permettait d'évaluer quantitativement et comparativement le niveau de programme. Mais comment peut-on y arriver, si les bases de comparaison ne tiennent plus?

En effet, contrairement à la pratique courante dans la famille des Nations Unies, le Directeur général a choisi d'utiliser un taux de change différent pour le biennium, soit 1 175 livres pour un dollar américain. Nous regrettons vivement cette précision, car l'utilisation d'une double unité de mesure n'apporte rien à la compréhension du document de travail, tout au contraire. Qui plus est, cette présentation invite à penser que les tenants de la croissance zéro seront plus facilement convaincus. Mais je vous le demande, Monsieur le Président, qu'en sera-t-il si le dollar tombe d'ici la fin du biennium à 600 livres comme cela est déjà arrivé? Je vous le répète, la croissance zéro est une mesure du niveau des programmes et non de celui des contributions. Or, le niveau des programmes augmente bien de 8 pour cent, tel qu'on nous l'indiquait au Conseil de juin dernier, Une croissance aussi importante est inacceptable pour ma délégation et c'est ce qui m'amène à mon troisième et dernier point.

Plusieurs délégations ont avancé la thèse qui veut que s'opposer au Programme de travail et budget de la FAO, c'est vouloir perpétuer la faim et la malnutrition dans le monde.

De tels propos ignorent que de nombreux grands contributeurs ont clairement indiqué en séance plénière, au Conseil du mois de juin et maintenant, une croissance réelle de leur assistance au développement. Je n'ai pas à parler pour eux. Je me contenterai de rappeler que le Canada dépensera l'an prochain 1,3 milliards de dollars en assistance au développement. De cette somme, 30 pour cent vont déjà au développement rural et agricole, selon les souhaits mêmes du Directeur général dans son discours d'ouverture. Enfin, le premier ministre, M. Trudeau, a annoncé que ce pourcentage s'élèvera jusqu'à 45 pour cent d'ici cinq ans.

Voilà, croyons-nous, des chiffres qui soutiennent avantagement les propos tenus à Cancún.

E. L. ITON (Trinidad and Tobago): The delegation of The Republic of Trinidad and Tobago adds its congratulations to you, Mr. Chairman, and the two vice-chairmen on your election to office. We look forward to a fruitful outcome of the deliberations of this Commission.

Our delegation takes this opportunity to express the deep appreciation of our country for the contribution that FAO has made and is making to its agricultural development.

We endorse the Programme of Work for 1982-83 and consider the increase in the level of the budget modest. Consequently we give our support to them.

At this point we would like to make two specific comments included in Chapter 2. The first is with respect to sub-programme 2.1.2.4, Crop Production. We in Trinidad are delighted to express our gratitude for the assistance that is currently being given to us by FAO and we acknowledge the wisdom

of this Organisation in appointing a technical secretary for the Caribbean/Plant Protection Committee. However, this person now resides in Santiago in Chile and is therefore not easily accessible to Caribbean countries. It is felt that if the Caribbean Plant Protection Committee is to be a vibrant organization responsive to the many needs of the Caribbean States, the technical secretary should be re-allocated to a country within the Caribbean.

Alternatively, a new technical secretary should be assigned to the region.

Our second comment is in respect of the sub-programme 2.1.3.1. Grassland Forage and Food Resources. Our delegation is of the opinion that in view of the disastrous decline in revenue from sugar cane cultivation due to competition from beet sugar, countries which rely heavily on sugar cane production for revenue should be given assistance by FAO in the rationalization of their sugar industries in order to overcome the balance of payments difficulties which most of these countries are currently experiencing. One of the alternative uses of sugar cane is the production of ruminant livestock. However, there are many factors involved in the feeding of sugar cane to livestock, of which there is inadequate knowledge. We believe that FAO can make a significant contribution to the accumulation of this vital knowledge and would like to see vigorous efforts being made in this direction by this Organization.

A.H. EL SARKI (Egypt (original language: Arabic): After having reviewed the economic and policy programme of document C 81/3, my delegation would like to talk about renewable sources and the need to supply the financial resources in order to make sure that the Programmes are applied and the need for coordination between the specialized agencies of the United Nations which are involved with energy.

We would also like to mention the importance of support for the seeding programme and particularly crops which do not require a great deal of energy.

We also think that great support should be given to scientific research and in the framework of agrarian reform to give support to the peasant population and particularly women in rural areas.

We should also like to express our support for technical cooperation and express our satisfaction on the Technical Cooperation Programme, particularly in the agricultural sector.

KIM TAE RYONG (Korea, Democratic People's Republic of): This is the first time for the delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to take this floor.

First of all, on behalf of our delegation, I extend our warmest congratulations to you, Mr. Chairman, and to the Vice-Chairmen for your election as the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of Commission II.

I think document C 81/3, the Director-General's Programme of Work and Budget for 1982/83, has correctly reflected the present urgent demand for solving the current agricultural situation, particularly for fighting poverty, hunger and malnutrition. The struggle of the developing countries against poverty and hunger is none other than the struggle to eliminate past colonial remnants and consequences. Therefore, it is the due responsibility of all the developed countries and the international organizations to help and assist these developing and least developed countries financially and materially.

In this connexion, the increase of agricultural investment pointed out in Major Programme 2.1, Agriculture, of Chapter 2 of the document will, I think, greatly contribute to the quick improvement of agriculture and the stabilization of peoples' lives and welfare in the developing countries.

Our delegation recognizes that the Director-General's Programme of Work and Budget for 1982/83 is a reasonable and a very correct one, and our delegation expresses our full support to it.

H. REDL (Austria) (Original language: German): Yesterday I announced I would say something with regard to the various sub-paragraphs of Chapters 1 and 2. On sub-paragraph 2.1.3.3, I would like to refer to what the Director-General said in connexion with the UN Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy. Within the framework of the special role of fertilizers in the fight against hunger, he stressed it was necessary to make all possible efforts in order to save energy, but at the same time we must understand that the share of world agriculture in the total consumption of energy is only 3.5 percent. Austria is in full agreement with the statement contained in the document concerning the use of fertilizers. As long as there are no reasonable alternatives or comparable technologies, fertilizers will have to be used to a greater extent in order to increase the efficiency of food production,

particularly in developing countries. However, all efforts need to be made in order to combine the use of chemical fertilizers with that of biological fertilizers and in this connexion, Austria would like to stress once again the importance of the FAO Fertilizer Programme, and we feel that the International Fertilizer Supply Scheme is of particular importance in this respect.

Now, with regard to sub-programme 2.1.2.3., starting with the Seed Resolution of the World Food Conference in 1974, Austria has been giving its active support to the FAO Seed Programme. We therefore welcome the proposal made by FAO to combine the various activities, and we believe that this is going to improve and simplify management and increase efficiency.

Now I would like to speak about sub-programme 2.1.1.6. We have noted with satisfaction that FAO is dealing more and more with the subject of environment and energy. In the course of this Conference, in Commission I we will have an opportunity of speaking about this subject from the European point of view. The need of increasing agricultural production without increasing energy and other costs for inputs too much and also the general concern with the maintenance of the environment leads us to attempt the mobilization of all the resources available.

Therefore, I would like to refer to what is said under sub-programme 2.1.4.2, that is to say the use of isotope research in agricultural research. Isotopes and radiation techniques have been shown to be a valuable tool as a supplement to traditional research methods and have been proved to do so over two generations. There are methods being used in many European countries on a practical level. The Joint FAO International Division in Vienna and the laboratory in the agency are working toward making these methods available to developing countries and also the integration of these methods in concurrent research. We believe that special importance attaches to these activities.

I would now like to deal with Programme 2.1.6.3., Food Quality and Standards. As far as Austria is concerned, the work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission on a world-wide level and also within the European region is considered to be of particular importance. The importance and usefulness of work within the framework of Codex Alimentarius, both for developed and developing countries, should be given more consideration in the Public Information Programme of FAO.

With regard to special programme 2.3.1.1., this is particularly with regard to the need for maintaining forestry reserves in developing countries, and it appears particularly necessary that more education and training should be made available for the maintenance of forestry resources.

In this connexion I should like to mention that Austria is offering training courses, jointly organized with FAO, in the field of logging in mountainous areas.

F. VANAMSON (Suriname): In this sitting of Commission II, this is the first time the delegation of Suriname intervenes, but I still wish to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, and the Vice-Chairmen, on your appointment.

We are glad that the topic of agricultural research in developing countries is, in a way, highlighted by the presentation of a special document for the agenda item 10.

We also want to stress the fact that in our opinion research must be given the highest priority.

We are living in a dynamic world, and to be able to react in the most suitable way on changes that affect the input-output ratio, research is needed. All the developing countries will gradually improve their living conditions, which will change the agricultural pattern from a more essential towards a more sophisticated one. However, during this change an uncontrollable element from outside can upset it. This was the case with the oil crisis. Therefore, a regular and careful analysis of the whole production column is needed. This analysis will indicate the weak links, and also counteract the protection of the outcome after it becomes possible to introduce a new element.

Consequently we are very much in favour of research coordination on a worldwide scale, but we also want to promote integrated research on a national scale. I would like to enhance my comments by stressing the two-way character of research. Efficient research must obtain its impulses from the farmer, but also research must find its way towards the farmer. This is the only way to help the farmer improve his yields and living conditions.

I would like to suggest we consider the Budget 1982-83 once more in the light of the important topic of agricultural research in developing countries.

H. MAURIA (Finland): Mr. Chairman, first I want to congratulate you and the Vice-Chairmen on your election to office, then I would like to make some general remarks and also some specific technical remarks, particularly on chapter 2, with a short reference also to Medium-term Objectives.

In our view the format of the Programme of Work and Budget document has been continuously improved, as a document of this importance must be. It now gives us a fairly good picture of the nature of the problem, of FAO's objectives, and of the plans of action regarding each programme and sub-programme. I would say that the present division into sub-programmes seems in some single cases to be somewhat conservative, if I may say so, but I am sure these details will be kept under constant review in the technical departments.

We must be aware, of course, that FAO cannot resolve all the agricultural problems of the world, as is rightly pointed out in the document. Accordingly, the thrust of action to achieve concrete and permanent results on national levels will always be depending on the individual countries themselves, but in helping and advising them to find appropriate solutions to their problems FAO has its role to play.

Against this background, I note that the facts that can be read from the table on page 56 showing among other information, also the relative budget changes between chapters and programmes, are of particular interest. I refer here to a specific fact - namely that the relative share of the total budget for chapter 2 (Technical and Economic Programmes) is decreasing from the present biennium to 1982-83. This may be a temporary change, I do not know, but at least I hope so. However, keeping in mind the importance of the impact of the FAO work by the four main technical departments, I am somewhat confused. If this is an indication of the budget policy for the future, say into the medium-term, we feel it should be reconsidered. I want to stress that here I speak about relative changes within the budget frames.

Further, coming now into more specific technical matters, I would like to make a few comments on the major programme of Forestry. In our view the sub-programmes under this heading are of essential importance in the work of FAO. I will point out some problems mentioned in the document.

One is, for instance, that only some two and a half percent of all natural tropical forests are under intensive management at present. This is really an alarming fact. Further, there is a continued depletion of the forest cover of the world affecting the human habitat, despoiling watersheds, increasing the danger of floods and droughts, enhancing desertification, reducing the soil fertility and so on.

There is, indeed, a great need for changing the course in this regard and for making improvements in the forestry resources. Strengthening of institutions and pronounced training in forestry at all levels are measures that can contribute effectively to a positive change in the present situation.

Another field where the impact of forestry is useful is the contribution to rural development through the provision of fuel wood and other essential needs to rural people, and by providing off-farm income and employment to the community. We are satisfied to note that the work in the programme. Forestry for Rural Development will continue in identifying effective systems for forestry at the rural community level.

As regards the Budget level we will come back to this matter at a later stage in the Conference.

G. STREEB (United States of America): My delegation would like to make some comment on the specific paragraphs in the Introduction to chapters 1 and 2 of the document. I have many pages of questions here, but I think it is preferable for us to simply give those to the Secretariat and have them work with our delegation on the answers rather than to take the time of this group.

There are, however, several points that we would like to mention here on which we will raise questions, but again it is probably better if the answers should come to us outside this room so that we do not take up too much of our time, as I think they are mainly technical and not controversial.

Before I comment on the document, I would like to return to the subject of coordination which has been raised here several times, particularly by the Secretariat. I appreciate full well my delegation was amongst those at the summer ECOSOC session where there was quite a bit of concern about this subject, but nevertheless I want to make it clear that we are very much open to looking at the subject again, and to the extent that the Secretariat can document for us the extra costs and difficulties that they have stemming from some emphasis on coordination, we would welcome that, because while we in general think there is a need for greater coordination among various programmes to ensure they are mutually reinforcing, at the same time we do not want to carry this to the point when it imposes unnecessary costs and slows down the system. Therefore we would welcome a further exchange on that at some later date.

With regard to the document, I would like to make some comments on the Introduction. The United States does appreciate the Director-General's straightforward and frank comments which facilitate consideration of his Programme of Work for 1982-83 in the proper perspective. Likewise, in general we support his basic strategies and priorities.

I would, however, like to point out areas where my Government's views differ somewhat. Some of these concerns have already been expressed in the Programme Committee earlier this year.

With regard to programme 5 where the Director-General comments on the situation at the beginning of the decade, the recently-convened Committee on World Food Security did not share the Secretariat's assessment that the world is suffering a crisis in the field of food and nutrition.

The CFS agreed that the world food situation is precarious but stated that the outlook for 1981 crops is encouraging. Record wheat yields are expected in several countries including Canada and the United States. We would also point out that in the list of variables that have "contributed to the negative overall experience of the developing world, particularly in the fields of food and nutrition", the Director-General has not listed inappropriate agricultural policies and lack of price incentives that characterized many developing countries' agricultural sector.

On Paragraph 8 which describes the situation on food production in developing countries, we would like to recall that each country should try to work towards food self-reliance rather than food self-sufficiency. As I recall, this word appears at the end of the paragraph but then later, in paragraph 17, in fact, the word 'self-reliance' is then used, and we feel this is more appropriate because each country must assess and build upon the comparative advantages that may exist in its economy and for some countries it may be less expensive to import rather than to grow food.

On paragraph 10 which refers to the current food situation and makes some references to stocks, there is no international consensus as to the adequate world cereal stock level necessary for world food security. Moreover, the grain stock situation is a highly fluid one and it is extremely difficult to verify the actual levels of such stocks.

On world food security, paragraph 14, the Director-General's estimates of food aid needs for 1985 we believe require additional documentation. In addition, the developing countries should invest in grain storage infrastructure - as well as some of the developed countries - only after evaluating the amount and quality of existing on-farm storage.

To return to a familiar topic which is the study Agriculture Toward 2000, the United States continue to question the use of data and conclusions based upon this study. We have had some experience of our own in producing a study for the year 2000 and we are well aware, even with the best of efforts in statistical and forecasting techniques, how shaky projections this far into the future can be. The Twentieth Session of the FAO Conference did not endorse the Secretariat's study and recommended that further work be done on the report. The study remains a provisional one until it has been reviewed by the Conference and approved by its members. The United States cannot support either references to the first version of Agriculture Toward 2000 or to a second version which is still not approved by the FAO Conference.

Let me now turn to some of the specifics in Chapters 1 and 2; since all of our comments on the first chapter are quite detailed, I will skip those and jump to Chapter 2, and talk first of all on fisheries.

The United States supports the general priorities and thrust of the proposed fisheries programme for 1982-83. In particular, we would mention our support of the greater emphasis on Fisheries Policy in Chapter 2 Section 2.2.3. This programme includes funding for the Conference on Fisheries Management and Development which would be held in conjunction with the 1983 COFI meeting, it being felt that a review of the countries' experience with extended fishery zones would be timely and extremely useful in 1983. Also included under the programme is support for the activities of the Department for short-term and quick assistance to developing countries in both drafting 200-mile fisheries legislation and development of relevant administrative capability. We have observed that this activity has been very practical and appreciated. We note that the economic analysis of the Fisheries Department is carried out under this programme. We feel that this work is extremely important since all fisheries development and management efforts must be cost-effective. Furthermore, we support the continuation of the Country Profile series which provide a unique source of economic and background information about the fisheries sector of individual countries.

Regarding Major Programme 2.3 Forestry, we would commend the Forestry Department for its superior job of presenting a proposed programme of action as an integrated package. We think the priorities are right and approve the balance among the sub-programme areas.

I would like to add to footnote here that we have been very much concerned about a tendency of some other agencies in the United Nations system and specialized agencies, to get into the Forestry business. We have certainly made every attempt in these various bodies to stress that in terms of the basic Forestry problems this should be left to the FAO.

However, we cannot fail to note from the document that Forestry fares proportionately better from extra-budgetary funding than it does from funding of the Regular Programme. From "outside" dollars coming into the Organization for Technical and Economic programmes, the Forestry Department gets \$1 out of every \$8.40. The Organization itself, however, allots to Forestry but \$1 out of every \$10.20 in its Regular Programme budget. Perhaps this is evidence that the Forestry Department has earned the kind of confidence that attracts donor dollars.

The United States does feel, however, the need for enlightenment with regard to figures displayed in the 1982-83 sub-programme estimate tables for the Forestry Programme. These show that although under the Regular Programme Regional Offices will account for 396 out of a total of 580 budgeted man years or 68.2%, the Regular Programme dollar allotments to Regional Offices will add up to only about \$2.4 million out of a total of \$14.7 million for the major programme only about 16.3%. We ask the question: does this simply mean that the Organization gets more for its money at the Regional Offices than at Headquarters? Or what is the explanation?

On one specific aspect of the policy programme which is covered in 2.3.2.1 the development of forest industries, we do have some concern here that FAO may be stepping into the turf of the UNIDO programmes on industry, and we would encourage that this programme be re-evaluated to see if in fact this is the appropriate field for FAO.

I would now like to turn to the question of the Medium-Term Objectives very briefly, since we did not get a chance to cover this matter and it is included under this same agenda item. We would like to commend the Secretariat on the quality of the document. We do feel that it is faithful to the directives of the 1979 Council and that the ranking objectives by priority is a useful tool that will facilitate the evaluation by FAO's governing bodies of the progress and achievement of individual programmes, although clearly we may have to re-order the priorities as the biennium unfolds. While we are generally supportive, there are some items we would like to underline which do concern us. We feel that FAO should emphasize, where appropriate, the importance of policies designed to provide price incentives to farmers and the need for a larger role for the private sector in all aspects of agricultural production, food distribution, storage and processing. The Secretariat's plans in commodity policy should recognize the adequacy of existing mechanisms for the discussion of many food and agricultural development issues, for example the International Wheat Council, the Food Aid Convention and the Committee on Food Aid policies and programmes, and others; and not to duplicate those of the international trade organizations such as UNCTAD. We recognize that FAO provides valuable support to UNCTAD and we urge the Organization to continue this support. In fact, from my own experience, probably the reverse is true, but in any case we hope that FAO will continue to cooperate in this work.

FAO's information and analysis activities do not benefit only one group of member countries exclusively, but should be designed to benefit all members of the Organization. Timely and accurate information, flows do benefit all and FAO's activities in this area must be conducted towards this objective.

I should also like to indicate that objectives should not be based on documents, the conclusions of which have not been endorsed by the member countries or which contain references which have not met with the necessary consensus. I have already mentioned Agriculture Toward 2000 and would indicate such other concepts as the NIEO and so forth, on which some governments here at least have expressed reservations.

Similarly, in the policy area the Secretariat should refrain from presenting certain activities or initiatives as being universally supported when in fact no universal consensus yet exists as to the appropriate approach. Here I would cite the example of preparedness for acute and large-scale food shortages.

Finally, on the question of publication of this document, again we have generally found this to be useful but we are open-minded on this subject and if there are, again, specific examples where the difficulties arise in doing this separate documentation, we are prepared to look at the possibility of integrating it into the other documentation, so long as the presentation does not become too confusing.

V. ISARANKURA (Thailand): My delegation has carefully studied the Programme of Work and Budget of 1982-83. We are pleased to note that the budget has followed the strategies, policies and programmes unanimously agreed to by the last Session of the Conference. It was also agreed that the proposed

budget level and the modest programme increase of 2.9% per year was a most suitable one since it will help the Organization maintain a minimum level of programme activities.

Though we appreciate the need of developed countries to apply their economic policies in a world climate of increasing inflation, unemployment, and cuts in public expenditure, we would be interested to learn about these policies which urge people to produce more when countries are affected by inflation. Then why should we ask the FAO to work less when the world is affected by inflation and recession?

Before commenting on Chapters 1 and 2 of our Programme of Work and Budget, the Thai delegation would like first of all, with your permission, to express its appreciation to the Assistant Director-General for Programme and Budget for the lucid explanation that he offered on the various aspects of the budget level and its components yesterday.

The Thai delegation takes special note of his comments on the usefulness and effectivity of multilateral assistance and wishes to state its full agreement to his comments thereon.

In so doing, my delegation also wishes to take note of the excellent intervention of many delegations who expressed their support for the Programme of Work and Budget, the Technical Cooperation Programme and the effectivity of the services rendered by the Regional Office of FAO in Bangkok for which Thailand currently serves as the host.

On Chapters 1 and 2 of the Programme of Work and Budget, my delegation wishes to express our general agreement with the thrust of programmes proposed by the Director-General, especially its stress on reaching disadvantaged sectors.

The Fifth National Economic Development Plan of the Government of Thailand, which came into effect in October of this year, plans to focus on the problem of equity in view of the persistence of problems of rural poverty as well as the problem of structural adjustment. This policy had the basic focus on people - it is the cornerstone of our whole plan. In fact, my Government has declared a "Rural Development Decade" and we have come up with a list of 200 poverty areas which will be singled out for special attention.

Thailand has divided its rural sectors into three broad areas: the backward poverty areas, the intermediate areas and so-called progressive areas. Our strategy is to focus on the backward poverty areas and the focus is on people.

It is here where FAO's Programme of Work and Budget will be of assistance to us in reinforcing our efforts to help the poorest sectors.

Thailand is a food exporting country and we feel that it is to our interest, as well as to those countries with which we share our food, that we maintain and build up our capacity to produce even more food. For these reasons, we find the proposals on water development and management, especially for our rainfed areas, helpful to my country.

As in so many countries in Asia, Thailand finds the most pressing problems continue to be the need to generate rural employment and increase rural incomes. There is also pressure to satisfy rural energy needs particularly those of the poor. At the same time, we are faced by the spectre of disappearing forests.

Given these concerns, we find the programmes on forestry sector - Development and Management of Forests, Tree Improvement Plantations, Conservation of Wildlife and Development of Forest Industries - have addressed the key issues fully and squarely.

My delegation welcomes the Director-General's proposals for the continuation of FAO's work in the field of prevention of post-harvest losses as well as research development. In the years ahead, we will be needing even greater efforts in applying the results of adaptive research to field-level problems. Thailand therefore wishes to see a greater expansion for adaptive research in farming systems for the dry land areas.

Finally, my delegation also supports the Organization of the World Conference on Fishery Management and Development which is scheduled to be convened in 1983. However, my delegation should like to recommend careful planning and that arrangements be made so that the Conference will yield benefits to member countries.



G. DEBELE (Ethiopia): With regard to Chapters 1 and 2 of the Programme of Work and Budget for the coming biennium, our position is that consistent with our statements yesterday both in the Plenary as well as in the Commission, the cost increases depicted in relation to the forecast activities of the Organization shown in the said chapters should elicit no alarm in any honest supporter of the principles of FAO. The programme changes detailed under the various Major Programme headings too show only marginal escalations. Given the global inflationary trends and other difficulties entailed by growing demands, we find the increases to be nothing but modest.

To expect and urge the developing world to develop and attain self-sufficiency in food and agricultural production as soon as possible on the one hand, and to require at the same time the developing world to accept various theories which are tantamount to anti-development on the other hand, is only another measure as to the true nature of the unfair international relationships that prevail in our world of today. We realize that the sooner the developing world achieves self-sufficiency in food and agricultural production as well as in other fields the better it would be for all. But how could this be achieved in the face of artificial barriers deliberately installed by some across the road to development?

This man-made equation is, in our opinion, one among the greatest impediments that largely contribute towards the perpetuation of underdevelopment, and so on.

The other day, in this same hall, a sermon was preached to us, that is, to the so-called Third World. In particular Africa and the Group of 77 were the targets of the message which ran to the effect that if the Budget proposed for 1982-83 were to be accepted, then the consequence would be that we must be prepared to accept drastic cuts in bilateral aid from the country that the speaker represented. Moreover, the speaker warned that it would be of no avail if wailing and beating of breasts were to ensue from the situation that would inevitably arise as a result of accepting the Budget proposed for 1982-83. That statement came to an end with a story which the speaker claimed it derived from an African proverb to the effect that it is dangerous to try to milk a lion. My Delegation assures you that the story would have been pertinent if we still were in the colonial era. I am certain that the speaker was only referring to illusions of grandeur - past, present or otherwise. On the other hand, it can be dangerous today to try to continue to be predatorial.

The delegate who was telling us the other day about the dangers inherent in attempts at milking a lion ought to understand that we know from the records that his country is deriving benefits from this Organization seven times what it contributes annually. Consequently, we strongly urge that the first axe of the Director-General's measure of cost-reduction would have to start with scaling down the derivative benefits of those countries whose reverse logic urges them to oppose the proposed Budget.

We shall come back to this issue should opposition to the Budget remain obstinate.

M. SALAMEH (Syria): In accordance with the general points I mentioned in the general conclusion of this document C 81/3 I give here more detailed points regarding Chapter 2.

I suggest the following five points regarding this Chapter 2: The first point I suggest, the addition of a fourth major programme in the name of nutrition, in addition to the agriculture, forestry and fisheries. This instead of having nutrition considered as an ordinary programme. The second point, to give more stress to food and nutrition education, namely what is called mass media, preventative medicine, even if dealt with more attention by other organizations. The third point, to give more stress also to wastes and losses of food through the food chain, whether from plenty of food or its scarcity in developing and developed countries. The fourth point, giving more help to developing countries in unification of their food classifications for trade, production, consumption and nutritional requirement purposes. The fifth point, I suggest to give more help to these developing countries in specifying their own food and enabling them to control and to apply their food standards.

Mrs. SAODAH SJAHRUDDIN (Indonesia): My delegation has studied with interest and satisfaction Chapter 1 and 2 of Document C 81/3 and we wish to convey our view that we do not have any problem to endorse the content of both Chapters, including its specified programmes and its proposed budget.

With respect to the technical and economic programmes we would like to make some brief comments on the following items. Regarding fisheries, in half of the developing coastal states, about 70 percent of the domestic supply of fish is provided by inland water fisheries. My delegation is of the opinion that this figure might be biased and misleading in relation to the recently announced recognition of the 200 mile extended fishing zone. In the case of my country, Indonesia, marine fish production in 1978,

1979 and 1980 was 1.2 million tons, 1.3 million tons and 1.4 million tons respectively, with an average domestic consumption of 1.2 million tons as compared to 0.43 million tons of freshwater fish for consumption, and production is 448 000 tons coming out of inland fishery.

Rural areas are always high in priority for agricultural development anywhere on this earth. It is for these reasons that my government has fully endorsed the statement and the Declaration of Principles and Programmes of Action of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development.

There are numerous ways to restructure the informal and informed rules governing access to productive resources and opportunities on the land. Tenancy reform should be aimed at overcoming the disincentives to efficient input use and long-term investment in the land. A decentralised management system and a guaranteed minimum to share croppers should be introduced through a clearly written lease agreement.

With regard to forestry, forest product is becoming a rare commodity nowadays, because forest resources are already under pressure from billions of people striving to lift their standard of living. This situation places on governments and on their forest administration an even greater responsibility than ever before to avoid degradation and to manage every hectare of forest to the best advantage and in the best interest of all people.

In this connexion my delegation calls for better utilisation of forest resources by seeking to practice more efficient harvesting and processing techniques. International organizations as well as developed countries should spare no effort to help developing countries possessing substantial forest resources, with properly designing an inventory system which could be managed on a sustainable basis.

J. PILANE (Botswana): The Botswana delegation supports in general the programmes and sub-programmes outlined in Chapter 2. We have no specific comments on Chapter 1.

On sub-programme 2.1.1.2, Farm Management and Production Economics, the experience of Botswana on the collection of farm management data which has been going on for a number of years has shown that this type of data is very important for agricultural planning. We would therefore support this programme.

On sub-programme 2.1.1.4, Water Development and Management, in Botswana one of the major constraints to food production is lack of water, specially at certain periods of the year. This is constraining on farmers to stay longer and work longer on their fields. At present we have programmes designed to provide water at these farmers' areas to enable farmers to work longer on their fields. As we believe this is a problem which may exist or is existing in other countries, we believe that this programme will be beneficial to many countries.

On sub-paragraph 2.1.2.3 Seeds, availability of improved adaptable disease-resistant seeds is a major constraint in Botswana. We have a small programme in variety screening which has been ongoing but needs to be extended. External expertise in this area will be needed. We believe this programme will also be beneficial.

On sub-programme 2.1.3.1 Grassland, Forage and Feed Resources, Botswana is undergoing limited research in forage crops and it is my belief that we may gain a lot from this sub-programme. We are presently experimenting with a plant called luccena which has shown potential, and we feel this programme might also be complementary.

On programme 2.1.3.2, Animal Health, it is the belief of the delegation of Botswana that caution must be exercised to avoid duplication in the area of animal health. Experience exists in a number of countries, including Botswana, on such diseases as foot and mouth and control of the tse-tse fly. However, we feel that research on the tse-tse fly in particular must be strongly supported and will be beneficial. Here again we have an ongoing programme on tse-tse fly control, from which experience can be beneficial.

On sub-programme 2.1.5.1.1, Agricultural Education, Extension and Training, we feel this is a vital field which deserves even more attention than has been indicated in Chapter 2. For some time now in Botswana agricultural output has been exclusively dependent on both favourable climatic conditions and extensive methods of production. In the livestock sector this has led to overgrazing. As fertile land is limited crop production based on extension methods cannot be self-sustaining over a long period.

Agricultural extension in Botswana dates back to colonial days. Since independence agricultural training has been greatly intensified. This year alone the output of agricultural demonstrators is being doubled. The demand for farmers' courses has greatly increased and in fact these demands are not always met. During the present plan period two more rural training centres will be built, bringing to five

the total number of rural training centres. The centres are used for training farmers and re-training agricultural extension agents. We have all emphasised the seriousness of the present food situation and the need for developing countries to step up their own food production.

Work on seeds agricultural research in general and agricultural education are vital if developing countries are to make any meaningful progress in the area of food production. I am however satisfied with the allocation made to seeds and crop management, as shown on page 86. But on page 102 we would have liked a shift of resources from sub-programme 2.1.5.3 to sub-programme 2.1.1.1.

M.A. AAZANU (Afghanistan): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First, allow me to congratulate you on your election as Chairman of this important Commission. I also wish to extend my congratulations to the two Vice-Chairmen from the Sudan and Zaire. Under your leadership, I am sure this Commission will achieve its set objective.

Mr. Chairman, the delegation of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has carefully studied the Director-General's clear and concrete proposals for the Programme of Work and Budget 1982-83. My delegation fully supports the nature and objectives of the proposed programmes. All of them are of high priority in respect to the needs and aspirations of the developing countries which at present suffer severely from the rampage of hunger, malnutrition and mounting economic difficulties. Now is the time to assist them; tomorrow will may be too late.

In reviewing the proposals of the Director-General a number of its significant features stand out. Let me briefly outline these features. First, FAO's activities, particularly its Special Action Programmes, are closer to the needs and priorities of the developing countries. Secondly, the programmes have validity and relevance with the realities of all the developing nations. Thirdly, the spread of the Programme of Work and Budget is balanced, in the sense that the critical elements of food and agricultural production are all covered. Fourthly, the mechanisms proposed for implementing the various programmes are based on the concepts of the new dimensions as agreed to in various fora by the international community. Fifthly, the proposed programmes have a practical orientation with good follow-up prospects by the governments of the developing countries, donors and financing institutions. Last, but not least, the proposed programmes are within the technical capabilities of the Organization. They are practical and realizable and not abstract and unmanageable.

The proposals of the Programme of Work and Budget are totally consistent with the mandate of FAO and the realities of the world in which we live, with the international development strategy and with the spirit of the resolutions of several recent major international gatherings, especially the North-South Dialogue at Cancun.

We cannot afford to adopt a passive attitude to FAO's Programme of Work and Budget 1982-83. We must remain vigilant and translate hopes into actions and actions into fruitful results. If we do not move forward in promoting the programmes of this vital international Organization, the consequences of our failure will prove catastrophic for the largest part of humanity. Lack of consensus on our part will result in more hunger around the world. There will be a significant increase in social turmoil leading to incalculable political upheavals. None of us wants this to happen. Therefore, this is the time to act with determination and with unity.

The Director-General has not proposed a vast increase in the budget of this Organization for 1982-83. The increase is a very modest one and the minimum by which this Organization can meet its global responsibilities. In fact, if one compares it with the needs and priorities of the developing countries, the size of the budget is well below the level it should be.

The problem of food in the developing countries, especially in the least developed and landlocked countries, is extremely critical. If the international community does come forward with ideas, actions and the minimum of resources, disasters of major proportion are bound to emerge in many parts of our globe. The role of FAO in helping to circumvent such potential disasters is unique. As an international agency it can intervene in the development process in every member country. Let this point not escape our minds.

Many distinguished speakers from the Group of 77 have supported the Director-General's Programme of Work and Budget for 1982-83. The delegation of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan wished to associate itself with the statements made by the speakers from the Group of 77. At the same time, my delegation would like to request our friends and partners from the developed countries to reassess their position on the level of the budget and give full support to the Director-General to carry out the heavy task expected from this Organization.

Mr. Chairman, let every member of this Organization rise to the occasion and do what the millions of small farmers and rural poor expect from them in terms of assistance required to be able to achieve self-reliance and a decent standard of living.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman, for giving me the floor. If necessary, I may ask for the floor again as the debate goes on.

M. HOUYENGAH (Togo): C'est la première fois que la délégation togolaise prend la parole, aussi puis-je me permettre, Monsieur le Président de vous féliciter, vous et les autres membres du Bureau, pour votre brillante élection à la direction des travaux de notre commission.

La délégation togolaise donne son appui sans réserve au Programme de travail et au budget 1982-83 de la FAO que le Directeur général nous a présenté et souhaite que les autres délégations en fassent autant, ceci afin de permettre à notre Directeur général, que nous avons réélu pour un nouveau mandat, de mener à bien la tâche combien difficile et délicate qu'est la direction de notre Organisation.

S'il n'est pas possible à présent de porter quelques amendements dont il devra être tenu compte pour le programme, la délégation togolaise souhaiterait que dans le prochain biennium, ou qu'au cours de l'exécution du présent Programme les points suivants soient pris en considération.

Il s'agit du Programme d'amélioration et du développement des semences: la délégation togolaise approuve les objectifs fixés par le Directeur général, et voudrait que la FAO aide les pays en voie de développement à asseoir des plans nationaux de production de semences en tenant compte des propriétés organoleptiques et des habitudes alimentaires des populations. Par la même occasion la délégation togolaise constate le besoin pressant de préserver les ressources phytogénétiques qui constituent le fondement de l'alimentation pour les générations futures, et d'empêcher que ces ressources ne tombent sous le contrôle d'intérêts privés.

S'agissant du Programme international d'approvisionnement en engrais, la délégation togolaise souhaite que la FAO entreprenne des investigations en vue d'aider certains pays en voie de développement, surtout ceux qui disposent de la matière première, à monter des usines de fabrication d'engrais, et essayer ainsi de diminuer leurs coûts, facteur sine qua non de la généralisation de leur utilisation.

En ce qui concerne le budget, la délégation togolaise considère qu'il est acceptable; que l'augmentation est raisonnable et conforme à la situation économique actuelle. Elle déclare par conséquent qu'elle appuie totalement le présent budget.

J. ALVAREZ GONZALEZ (España): Deseamos aprovechar esta primera intervención haciendo, en primer lugar, una breve referencia de tipo general al Programa de Labores y Presupuesto y Objetivos a Medio y Largo Plazo.

Nuestro país sigue padeciendo los efectos de una prolongada crisis económica a la que se está combatiendo en diversos frentes. Entre estos hay que señalar el de impedir aumentos de los presupuestos de mi país por encima de lo necesario. Esta política de austeridad se está desarrollando en los diferentes sectores económicos.

No obstante, del análisis de los documentos que estamos debatiendo, y de la reflexión sobre la gravedad de algunos problemas mundiales que se pretenden combatir, llegamos a la conclusión de que es preciso abordar los objetivos a medio plazo señalados, y aceptar los presupuestos asignados para su ejecución. Esta ha sido la posición española en el Pleno de la Conferencia y es la que deseamos dejar constancia en esta Comisión II.

Entrando en los aspectos concretos relacionados con los Capítulos I y II que ahora debatimos, deseamos hacer alguna manifestación:

Referente al tema sobre la Extensión y Capacitación, vemos con gran satisfacción la importancia que se le ha dado, tanto como objetivo prioritario como por su asignación presupuestaria.

Estamos convencidos de que para lograr una verdadera solución a los problemas actuales del hambre, es necesario ayudar a construir y poner en marcha, los motores e instrumentos del desarrollo de los países que lo precisen.

Creemos que uno de estos mptpres es disponer de una buena organización de extensión y capacitación. En este punto son diversos los mpdelos válidos hoy existentes y cada país debe desarrollar el más adecuado a sus circunstancias.

Nos atrevemos a señalar, sin embargo, que parece conveniente simultáneamente una amplia gama de programas presididos por un enfoque integral en el tratamiento de los problemas de las familias rurales, pues-to que dichos problemas están interrelacionados.

No es el momento de extenderse más en el tema, únicamente nuestro deseo es enfatizar en el aspecto ex-puesto, en la confianza de que ello esté contemplado en el propio objetivo a medio plazo.

Un segundo aspecto al que deseamos referimos es lo relativo a la conservación y utilización de los recursos genéticos, campo en el cual la FAO puede desarrollar una actividad muy importante y significativa.

Los recursos genéticos deben ser considerados como recursos naturales limitados y percederos que proporcionan los genes cada vez más utilizados por los técnicos en, la mejora vegetal, con el fin de producir finalmente nuevas variedades de plantas o productos de hibridación.

Mi delegación considera que estos recursos genéticos constituyen realmente un patrimonio internacional y por ello sugerimos la creación de un banco internacional de genes dependiente de la FAO, donde todos los países que lo deseen depositen duplicados de su material genético, asegurando su conservación y su libre utilización por cualquier país que lo necesite.

Estas palabras son simplemente repetición de las ideas ya expuestas por el Ministro de Agricultura y Pesca de mis país, en la vigésima Conferencia de la FAO en 1979, así como por el Jefe de mi delegación en su discurso en el Pleno de esta Conferencia. Ideas que esperamos encuentren el eco favorable para su contemplación en los Presupuestos que estamos analizando. Lo consideramos plenamente justificado por su directa relación con la seguridad alimentaria mundial.

The meeting rose at 13.10 hours

La séance est levée à 13 h 10

Se levanta la sesión a las 13.10 horas



## conference

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

## conférence

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

## conferencia

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION

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C 81/II/PV/5

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Twenty-first Session

COMMISSION II

Vingt et unième session

COMMISSION II

21° período de sesiones

COMMISSION II

FIFTH MEETING  
CINQUIÈME SEANCE  
CUARTA SESION

(12 November 1981)

The Fifth Meeting was opened at 14.45 hours  
R. Steiner, Chairman of Commission II, presiding

La quatrième séance est ouverte à 14 h 45, sous la présidence  
de R. Steiner, Président de la Commission II

Se abre la cuarta sesión a las 14.45 horas bajo la presidencia  
de R. Steiner, Presidente de Comisión II

II - ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMES OF THE ORGANIZATION (continued)

II - ACTIVITES ET PROGRAMMES DE L'ORGANISATION (suite)

II - ACTIVIDADES Y PROGRAMAS DE LA ORGANIZACION (continuación)

Items 9 and 10	<u>Programme of Work and Budget, 1982-83, and Medium-term Objectives including Agricultural Research in Developing Countries</u> (continued)
Points 9 et 10	<u>Programme de travail et budget 1982-83 et Objectifs à moyen terme, y compris la recherche agricole dans les pays en développement</u> (suite)
Tema 9 y 10	<u>Programa de Labores y Presupuesto para 1982-83 y objetivos a medio plazo, incluida la investigación agrícola en los países en desarrollo</u> (continuación)

C.O. KELLER SARMIENTO (Argentina): De acuerdo a su sugerencia de considerar el capítulo II, Programas Técnicos y económicos, limitaré mis observaciones a estos dos aspectos. Este punto sin embargo merece destacarse, es la espina dorsal de las actividades de la FAO. Al considerar este capítulo, es importante destacar la necesidad de tener en cuenta que hay que lograr los objetivos previstos en la Estrategia Internacional para el Desarrollo de un aumento del 4 por ciento en la producción agrícola para la década del ochenta. Esto es particularmente válido para orientar esfuerzos que se concentren, en los países en desarrollo, donde las tierras cultivables tendrían que aumentar en una proporción alrededor de 41 millones de hectáreas hasta 1985.

Esto implica efectuar obras de estudio, evaluación, infraestructura, riego, incremento de fertilidad del suelo, utilización racional de abonos minerales y una especial atención a los problemas de la energía y de la protección del suelo.

Dentro de este marco de referencia en que nos movemos a considerar el Capítulo II del Programa de Labores y Presupuesto para 1982-83, nos parece interesante destacar el Programa 2.1.2 relativo a la ganadería y, en particular, queremos destacar la acción de la FAO en el Programa 2.1.2.: Prevención de las enfermedades de los animales y lucha contra ellas. Esto está especificado en el Subprograma 2.3.2.: Sanidad Animal y en este preciso punto celebramos que haya habido un incremento en los recursos disponibles para la lucha contra las enfermedades animales tal como se manifiesta en el párrafo 13 de la página 98 del texto en español.

Otro punto de particular interés, a juicio de nuestra delegación, es el Programa 2.1.4.: Apoyo a la Investigación. La investigación es un elemento esencial para el progreso de los países en desarrollo que esperan una asistencia sustancial por parte de la FAO. Particularmente importante nos parece la mención en el documento del intercambio de información, tecnológica como parte integrada de la Cooperación Técnica eventualmente la capacidad de orientar esfuerzos hacia otros sectores de la producción agropecuaria.

En este sentido, es importante un esfuerzo adicional por parte de la Secretaría para asegurar la rápida difusión adecuada y oportuna de esta información.

En el plano de la política alimentaria y agrícola estimamos que debe destacarse la actividad de la FAO en el acápite 2.1.8.3.: Política y comercio de productos básicos; estimamos que ese rubro debería incrementarse en el futuro por ser una actividad de extraordinaria importancia para los países en desarrollo, especialmente para aquellos productores.

En cuanto a las actividades de la FAO en el sector de la pesca y forestal, éstas responden a una orientación precisa de los Estados Miembros formulada a través de los organismos rectores que orientan su política. Por lo tanto, las propuestas formuladas en los programas 2.2.1. a 2.2.3. y 2.3.1. a 2.3.4. nos parecen adecuadas, sobre todo teniendo en cuenta la experiencia y capacidad demostradas por los Departamentos de Pesca y Montes, inteligentemente dirigidos por los Sres. Lucas y Flores Rodas.

Por último Sr. Presidente, quisiera enfatizar la necesidad de que América Latina cuente en el futuro con una asignación mayor de recursos en cada uno de los programas que pueda efectivamente ser utilizada para afrontar los graves problemas de los Países en Desarrollo, tal como se expresa en los objetivos de la investigación citados en el párrafo 2.1.6 del documento a nuestro análisis.



La Republica de Argentina cuenta desde años con el Instituto Nacional de Tecnología Agrícola, Institución importante de nuestro país que se dedica a la investigación. El INTA coopera ya con otras organizaciones científicas de América Latina y del mundo en general, y sería importante que la FAO tratara de sostener una comunicación con esas instituciones y procurar hacer uso de las mismas, ya sea para diversificar las posibilidades de cooperación con los países de la Región, como al mismo tiempo para ser receptáculo y punto focal de tecnología por la FAO.

De todas maneras, quisiéramos que se refleje en el informe de esta Comisión el apoyo de actividades a cooperación técnica entre países en desarrollo en este Capítulo.

Otro asunto importante tratado en el Programa es el que concierne a la Información y Análisis en Materia de la Alimentación y Agricultura. Este es un acápite de particular relevancia especialmente para aquellos países cuyas economías dependen sustancialmente del sector agrícola. En este campo, la información oportuna sobre tendencias y alternativas de la producción y comercialización de productos básicos es esencial para que los Gobiernos puedan planificar convenientemente las posibilidades de expansión económica y la aceptación o no de un producto, así como también Región, aunque puedan en algunas ocasiones no tener la urgencia que se asigna a otras regiones.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): I am not going to try to elaborate our views but only to indicate some points concerning Chapters 1 and 2. Indeed, I do not think I need say anything on Chapter 1, except perhaps just to reiterate our support for the proposals. We feel that it really demonstrates the Director-General's restraint as far as administration and general affairs are concerned. We feel that small, almost negligible increases here and there are fully justified.

Turning now to Chapter 2, I shall start with natural resources which are, of course, the very foundation of FAO's programmes because in one way or another all of the programmes of the Organization are based on land and water. Here again we agree with the proposed increase as well as the allocations among the various sub-programmes. May I only observe that by far the largest increase is justly placed on sub-programme 1.1.5, Conservation and Reclamation. Shifting cultivation of course has a very high priority in the Organization and we fully support it, but at the same time it is a common element in most of the sub-programmes between natural resources as well as crops. We are aware of the difficulties and we only wish to advise FAO to continue its close cooperation with other international and bilateral organizations and agencies working in this field. We fully support and we clearly see the need for expert consultations in that regard.

On fertilizers, I only wish to stress one point, and that is the proper balance between fertilizer use and other activities within the Programme. We fully share the view expressed by the Director-General on a number of occasions, including in his opening address to the Conference when he specially emphasised that in the foreseeable future, food production increase would unavoidably be based first on fertilizer consumption increase, though we see the full merit of adequate attention being attached also to organic recycling and nitrogen fixation.

With regard to nitrogen fixation I am also aware of fairly sizable projects between the OECD and my delegation would certainly wish to see proper cooperation between FAO and OECD in that respect. Of course, as I said, the overall stress within the natural resources is on land deprivation and we fully support such priority. We even feel that serious consideration could be given to the possibility of establishing a special action programme in the next biennium, of course provided that adequate extra-budgetary support is in sight.

With regard to energy, I would only say that of course we agree with increased priority in the energy field but within the light of what I said already on fertilizers.

In regard to crops, we again support the increase proposed. We feel genetic resources are of considerable importance. We continue to support and to encourage a very close cooperation between FAO and the International Board for Plant and Genetic Resources. We are aware of an initiative of the Mexican delegation which deals with certain substantive issues in this area and we want only to indicate our general support to this initiative.

We share the views of the Director-General that concentration should be on basic cereals, basic crops, first of all cereals and then of course including tubers, roots and with special emphasis on Africa.

We continue to support wholeheartedly the seed programme especially as we are aware of its full efficiency in the light of the last performance report evaluation. I want only to indicate that we also feel that plant protection is of overriding importance.

I would also refer very briefly again to the fact that we support the Programme. We see full import in the continued high priority to animal health. We also want to stress the importance of 2.1.3.3, that is genetic resources, and of course we are all aware of the fact that trypanosomiasis special action programme has already reached an operational level and the basic problem now is how to mobilize budgetary support to it.

On research, since a separate document is prepared for the Conference we will not go into substance, I would confine my remarks to the form basically. This project I think, and it is quite well recognized by the Secretariat, this project structure and the place of 2.1.1 in it has been perhaps not fully adequate for years now. The basic problem here as we see it is that it reveals only the tip of an iceberg with regard to FAO's overall support to research and perhaps leaves an unjustified impression that FAO perhaps has not been doing enough in that area. Of course, the whole of the Research Support Project Programme is composed of two things; one is a small unit that we perhaps too pretentiously call the Research Development Centre. It is only composed of a handful of people. The second very important component is the Joint International FAO Atomic Energy Agency programme which could be then I think more adequately covered in various parts where some components of the programme actually belong. So our suggestion is still only the possibility of reviewing the programme structure. In this respect might be given some thought in the course of the biennium.

I could not go into any detail with regard to 1.2.5, Rural Development; it is a very very complex programme indeed. We support, the overall thrust and the composition of the programme. We are a bit constrained, not very much because we know in a sense there is no disagreement with regard to the training activities, how they should be phased and shaped but we see still a small gap between the concept as agreed and as implemented by FAO actually and the phraseology used here and there. We still see such phraseology speaking in terms of "grass-root level", "direct action", but I think that thanks to the work of the inter-departmental working party on training, conceptually the issue is now soundly resolved.

On nutrition I want only to indicate our support to the Programme which is now we feel adequately shaped and better geared to FAO field activities.

On information analysis 2.7, I want only to reiterate the long-standing view of my delegation that adequate support should be maintained to this programme which is composed basically of information and statistics, including, of course, work on the information outlook. We want to encourage FAO to do what is possible though we are aware of the constraints with regard to the domestic flow of investment to agriculture.

Food and agricultural policy, 2.2.1.8, here again as is quite well known my delegation has always supported the concept that FAO's programme should be given adequate prominence in FAO. The Issue on "Agriculture: Toward 2000", we have heard repeatedly that it was not approved by the Conference. That has never been an ambition, as far as I know. A preliminary version was submitted to the last Conference but just to exchange in a broad term views with the governments of the member countries, but the final version, if I am correct, will appear under the Director-Generals authority and will not be a draft or adopted by Conference; it is technically even impossible. No one could expect more than 150 countries could agree on a future study which stretches to the turn of the century.

On planning assistance, I would say that we fully support the principle agreed a number of years ago that support should be given provided that the maximum possible mobilization of internal capabilities is assured. We do not believe and we will never believe in excessive so-called technical assistance in this area.

We are aware that some provisions are made within the Programme for 1990 on agriculture and we agree that such preparatory work should start in the next biennium so as to make possible submission of the Programme to the Conference in 1985.

On fisheries, I have nothing to say. We fully agree with what the United States delegation stated this morning. We too feel strongly that fisheries is perhaps one of the best well-shaped programmes, very efficient. It has demonstrated enormous capacity to adjust to the very changing fisheries environment. We too support the Conference in 1983 and we especially appreciate the fairly good balance between the regular programme and the extra-budgetary activities.

On forestry, again we want to support the programme. We are aware that the programme has been substantially streamlined in the present biennium especially to reflect socio-economic factors. We see that the same process perhaps to be continued in the next biennium and we fully support the proposed programme.

I failed to mention one thing in my first intervention, the medium-term objectives. We share the view expressed by a number of delegations, as we did last time during the last Conference, but in its present form it does not seem to serve its purpose. We simply want to join those who felt that it should be incorporated into the Programme of Work and Budget for the next biennium.

M.M. MUKOLWE (Kenya): After supporting the Director-General's Programme of Work and Budget as well as the level of budget, which we wish could be a little bit more, we now turn to look at the areas of sub-programmes and as contained in this very important document C 81/3 and we thank the Director-General for this particular performance.

I still hope I will be free but I may have to look at sub-programmes as contained in this document and those which are, of course, of interest to us and looking at Chapter 2 mainly, on Natural Resources, paragraph 2.1.1, talking on all the sub-programmes 1 to 6, I would like to mention here that the heads of delegation, that is the Minister of Agriculture himself did mention in the Plenary that the Kenya government is in full support of the global concern for increased food production and has drawn up a national food policy which touches on most points included in various sub-programmes as it is in the document. FAO country offices also did contribute to this national food policy and it is something that we are really grateful for.

Our aim is to be self-sufficient and if I may borrow from the member of the United States, I would say self-reliant as well and this will be our ultimate aim.

Emphasis on food production now is fully supported by our own people, including the politicians and this means that the over-utilization of the available high potential lands can easily bring in a lot of erosion and cause damage to land and of course with this the country or the government has thought it fit to form a National Commission of Soil and Water Conservation and Afforestation and emphasis is on better land use and soil and water management. This is a programme that we feel we have to give support to fully and also to mention here in passing, and to be very grateful to the FAO. At the moment a programme or a training course for the nationals is being arranged jointly by the Kenya Government as well as FAO and should be starting any time next week.

On crops, Programme 2.1.2, I am very grateful indeed particularly to the emphasis that has been given to various headings, including the Genetic Resource Conservation which we are all concerned with here and which has been mentioned by various delegates. We in Kenya also feel the same.

We have at least put efforts in pasture seeds, fodder shrubs, maize and wheat and we are now turning to indigenous crops like sorghums and millets to diversify our collection. However, the need for quick multiplication using latest methods like tissue culture are areas that will need assistance for some of the economic crops as quickly as possible. Although vegetative bulking is done it can be rather a slow process.

Crop protection is another area that is very important but markets in developing countries being what they are we find chemicals coming into the country. So this has necessitated the formulation of harmonious legislation that will control such irregularities.

We have mentioned something about mechanization and I wish to commend the delegate of Austria for offering some facilities for training, particularly of, say, farmers or the staff from the developing countries in mechanization. In Kenya we have embarked upon a programme that will help the small-scale farmer in the use of improved hand tools as well as structuring where possible, with particular emphasis on small-farm mechanization. These areas will be emphasized and we feel that with increased production it will mean the farmer has also to look at his rural farm structures and this is in conjunction with the crop storage. We feel that the farmers should have an on-farm storage which will ensure family food security in addition to the national food strategy.

On livestock, the forage area is very important and I am glad that this is already emphasized in our document. We have gone a little further with the help of the World Food Programme to bring in other projects together with resource conservation to draw up programmes that will support the increased dairy development as well as meat production, but giving the necessary calories to areas that lack them or areas in which the climatic conditions are very drastic and can reduce production. But in these areas we can support them that way, to be able to go over but with better management to the production and conservation of food and we should be able to come up with an improved livestock programme. We also emphasize training, animal health, breeding and marketing.

Rural development and nutritional programmes are in our hearts and where possible we are planning to carry our smallest planning unit to village level, or catchment area units, whereby we shall have the village people participating so that they can shape their own destiny, but gradually transferring the improved technology to them. This is the beginning of how we want to handle our planning for the rural population.

On research, which is lifelong, and training, which is endless, in our view the training of nationals in these areas is very important. The delegate of Austria mentioned the use of isotopes in the areas of agricultural production. We feel that our young, energetic and aspiring students can undertake the programmes in these areas. Their training is just as important as the farmers' participation, which we are also emphasizing. Therefore we ought to enlighten the people who will give the lead and continue the national programmes.

Finally, we come to fisheries and forestry resources. On forestry, the problem is the production of firewood for the rural poor. This can be very critical and the rural poor may find it very difficult to obtain energy to prepare food. Therefore we believe that emphasis should be laid on community forests or woodlots on farms. Here we have the International Centre for Research in Agro-Forestry with headquarters in Nairobi. They have already consented to undertake research in certain areas particularly in arid areas, to find out what sort of agro-forestry can be carried out. The results from these Centres should be of interest to other developing countries.

Finally, fisheries. We have the inland lakes with fish as well as the oceans. Here we have the small fishermen who are undertaking fishing. But we still lack the organization and the use of improved vessels or equipment using appropriate technology so that they can also utilize such available natural resources. We are ready to cooperate. Therefore I wish to thank you.

A.Y. BUKHARI (Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of) (original language Arabic): I would like to make a few comments on document C 81/3, the Programme of Work and Budget for 1982-83, as introduced by the Director-General.

We listened with great interest and attention to the various points of view which were expressed here in this Commission, points of view and attitudes which generally speaking were all along the same lines - that is to say, giving support to the proposals contained in these documents put forward by the Director-General.

We do not wish to go into the details of the contents of the Programme of Work and Budget here, since we had the honour and opportunity to speak on this in detail in the Finance Committee, as my country is a member of that committee. But we would like to add our voice to the voices of other developing countries to launch an appeal to the international community to express its solidarity, and especially to those countries which have promised to aid developing countries. They should continue to grant this aid to developing countries, victims of natural catastrophes of varying types.

We also wish to express our serious concern about what could become international solidarity and cooperation, especially when we hear what is being said about international food security in various conferences. This is a subject which has obtained the approval of all countries during the World Food Conference in 1974. But seven years after that Conference, during which we have seen an increase in the population of Third World Countries of about 10 percent, even 15 percent - seven years later we can see that the commitments which were entered into at that time have not been kept, without mentioning aid increases which should take account of the population increases in the recipient countries.

It was seen very clearly, at least as far as we are concerned, having studied this Programme of Work and Budget, that the objectives which are set in this Programme are objectives which we might call universal objectives, concerning, for example, the increased amount of arable cultivated land throughout the world and the extension of irrigation and the rational use of water resources. These objectives are also intended to modernize agriculture and to encourage farmers, especially the least favoured, to improve their yields. We know that for some countries and for some financial institutions priorities are given to what we call agricultural extension given the socio-economic aspects of this expansion, whereby the fruits of expansion could be distributed throughout the various sectors but our experience in the past has already shown that unit productivity may fall if water resources for that unit are insufficient and if the modern technology is not used in a properly adapted way. This is why we would like to have a survey made of all available land so that we may know what the requirements are for better land use.

If we take into account the objectives which are sought by our Organization, then we can see that our immediate objective is to increase food production. We have proof, very precise statistics concerning population increases throughout the world. There will be more than 6 000 million of us at the end of the century. Therefore there will be an increased demand for food products, a 50 percent increase in demand. This therefore means that we have to extend present cultivated areas in order to increase the 764 million acres which are cultivated at the moment up to 800 million by the end of 1985, which means we have to increase about 41 million hectares, seven million of which would have to be irrigated and the rest would be cultivated by natural precipitation. We believe that to realize this objective we have to fix the following priorities: to insist on a more rational use of water resources, a more rational use of fertilizers, the use of organic and nitrogenous fertilizer, the promotion and encouragement of small farms, encouraging irrigation and training projects and also the protection of the environment.

Concerning the sub-programme of fishing and development of fisheries in developing countries, my delegation supports the programme put forward by the Director-General in this field, and believes it is necessary to develop fishing whether it be in fresh water or in the sea. But we know that the majority of developing countries do not have coastal waters or large stretches of coastal waters, and in spite of what was said during the Conference on the Law of the Sea, we know that the technological capacities of developing countries do not enable them to increase their fishing production. Given the needs for animal proteins in these countries, means that we believe that expansion of fishing and fish farming is something which is vital for developing countries, most especially for the rural populations of those countries.

We have on other occasions given our support to the Programme of Work and Budget of this Organization, and we have also supported the Programme of Work and Budget for earlier financial years, and we would like to say this: we clearly support the Programme of Work and Budget for the 1982/83 period as put forward by the Director-General, since it is our firm conviction that the notion of zero growth is a concept which in fact can only serve to freeze the activities of this Organization, to put limits on its possibilities, to limit its possibilities for realizing the objectives which have been set for this Organization, which can in fact only be beneficial to developing countries. That is why we believe that the increase proposed which is based on very complete and exhaustive studies is far from representing or covering the rate of inflation or the fluctuations in the exchange rate. My delegation bases this on the principle of international solidarity and, basing itself on the conclusions of the Third Development Decade and the strategies for the Third Development Decade, reaffirms here its support for the Programme of Work and Budget for 1982/83 and calls on all delegations for their reactions to' this Programme of Work and Budget to be a positive one.

A. KADIRI (Maroc): Ma délégation a déjà exprimé son point de vue général sur le projet de Programme de travail et de budget en ce qui concerne en particulier le taux de croissance et le niveau du budget. Elle a donné son appui à ce projet.

Je voudrais ajouter que ma délégation est d'accord pour améliorer l'efficacité de l'activité de la FAO et pour fournir à cet organisme les agents nécessaires et les crédits en vue d'une décentralisation des services, tel que cela est présenté dans le document.

Plus particulièrement, je voudrais insister sur deux questions particulières, le problème forestier et le problème des pêches.

En matière de forêt, nous nous félicitons du Programme, Bien que le niveau nous semble peut-être insuffisant. Tout le monde reconnaît l'importance des forêts et la dégradation qu'elles subissent amenant pratiquement une perte de 7 millions d'hectares portant à la désertification.

Certes, de nouveaux chapitres ont été ouverts pour s'occuper spécialement des populations forestières, qui sont des populations sous-développées des pays en voie de développement et qui méritent un effort spécial; étant donné que nous cherchons une certaine équité dans la distribution des revenus.

Le Programme présenté concernant la foresterie communautaire et le développement agro-silvo-pastoral a notre appui, bien que nous considérons qu'il faudrait faire un petit effort étant donné que sur le plan forestier en général il y a eu non pas l'ouverture de nouveaux crédits, mais transfert de crédits d'une ligne à l'autre. D'autres postes ont supporté le prix de cette innovation.

Par ailleurs, nous voudrions que le problème de la lutte contre l'érosion reçoive un peu plus de considération, étant donné que dans le Programme de la Conférence mondiale de réforme agraire et de développement rural l'une des priorités était le problème de la terre. Nous savons que dans les zones forestières en particulier le problème de l'érosion des terres est assez important. Il mériterait certainement un effort.

En matière de pêche, nous nous félicitons de la manière dont le problème a été étudié car il concerne spécialement la question des zones économiques exclusives qui intéressent en premier lieu les pays en voie de développement et confère à certains pays en développement une responsabilité énorme. Nous remercions le Directeur général d'avoir insisté sur cette question.

Mon pays est particulièrement intéressé à trois chapitres. Tout d'abord, les problèmes de recherche, d'évaluation des ressources halieutiques, et nous demandons qu'un effort soit fait en matière de formation des chercheurs sur ce problème.

La deuxième question qui intéresse ma délégation est le problème de la surveillance des côtes contre l'incursion de bâtiments étrangers qui influe sur une mauvaise gestion de nos ressources halieutiques.

En troisième lieu, nous félicitons le Directeur général pour avoir déjà envisagé le problème de la nutrition. La nutrition protéique est importante dans les pays en développement et nous voudrions qu'un effort supplémentaire soit fait dans ce domaine.

A. ACUÑA (Panamá): Por ser nuestra primera intervención, aprovechamos la oportunidad para felicitarlo a usted, Sr. Presidente, por su elección así como augurarle éxito en sus funciones, las cuales se extenderán de acuerdo con el calendario de reuniones hasta el lunes 23 de noviembre.

La delegación de Panamá desea que le sea permitido a esta altura del debate, hacer algunas consideraciones sobre los temas 9 y 10 que se discuten. El tema del Programa de Labores y Presupuesto para 1982-83 así como los Objetivos a Plazo medio de esta Organización, le han merecido especial atención a esta delegación; y esto se ha debido en parte a nuestra participación, tanto en el Comité de Finanzas como en el Consejo y en los Comités más importantes en donde se han analizado estos temas.

Es por lo que, sobre el particular, esta delegación tiene una clara y firme posición sobre el controvertido aspecto del nivel presupuestario. Nuestra delegación expresó claramente en el 79º y 80º período de sesiones del Consejo su aprobación a este nivel presupuestario por considerarlo el mínimo aceptable para el funcionamiento de esta Organización durante el bienio 1982-83.

A la delegación de Panamá no le han llegado a convencer los argumentos ni generales ni específicos esgrimidos contra la aceptación de este nivel presupuestario. Nos resulta, más que difícil, comprender que por una parte haya unanimidad en torno a las estrategias, a los programas y prioridades en que se basa el Programa de Labores y Presupuesto para 1982-83, y por la otra se niegue el nivel presupuestario que constituye un aumento de unos 22 millones de dólares. Las argumentaciones en contra, son a nuestro juicio, inconsistentes. Por otra parte, Sr. Presidente, las contribuciones tanto de los países en vías de desarrollo como de los países desarrollados son particularmente onerosas de tro de la actual coyuntura económica para ambos grupos de países.

En el debate de ayer, Sr. Presidente, escuchamos planteamientos sumamente significativos en torno a los temas que nos ocupan, e igualmente escuchamos la franca intervención del Sr. West que contribuyó, a nuestro juicio, a arrojar luces sobre este debate del Programa de Labores y Presupuesto para 1982-83. Sinceramente lo exhortamos para que continúe con estas intervenciones en el transcurso de estos debates.

Por otra parte, Señor Presidente, nuestra delegación apoya la existencia de los representantes de la FAO en los países como una respuesta racional y equilibrada a la descentralización de esta Organización. Ni los argumentos relativos a las consideraciones sobre el costo/beneficio, ni las consideraciones tendientes a una prematura evaluación, son argumentos que han sido presentados en contra de forma convincente. Sobre este aspecto, coincidimos con lo que en distintas ocasiones han expresado otras delegaciones, en el sentido de que quien mejor que nadie puede evaluar la existencia de los representantes de la FAO, son los mismos países beneficiarios.

Sobre los objetivos a plazo medio de esta Organización, que está recogido en el documento C 81/9, esta delegación desea señalar que en el mismo Prefacio de este documento, el Director General precisa señalamientos sumamente significativos, especialmente en los puntos 2, 7 y 8. Consideraciones especiales nos merecen los objetivos referentes, y esto sin disminuir la importancia de los otros temas, del Desarrollo Rural, el Programa de Cooperación Técnica y dentro de los temas especiales, el de la energía, la capacitación, el Programa de Cooperación Técnica entre países en desarrollo, así como las perspectivas y prioridades regionales al igual que los objetivos de monte y pesca.

Y para terminar, señor Presidente, y en correspondencia con la declaración formulada en la última Asamblea General de las Naciones Unidas por el Presidente de Panamá, Dr. Aristides Royo, Panamá rechaza todo intento que tienda a convertir la ayuda bilateral en un arma de dominación política.

Por último, haremos alusión a la propuesta hecha por la distinguida delegación de España en torno a la creación de un Banco Fitogenético en FAO. Este tema, señor Presidente, ha sido discutido por el Grupo Latinoamericano a propuesta de la distinguida delegación de México, y queremos expresar que se acogió en forma unánime por este Grupo regional.

A. LEWIN (France): J'aimerais pouvoir commencer mon intervention en trouvant un proverbe français, anglais ou africain, qui me permette de vous féliciter avec des fleurs de rhétorique pour votre élection à la présidence de cette Commission. Je le fais de manière simple et classique, étant convaincu que vous conduirez nos travaux avec efficacité sur les problèmes importants du Programme de travail et budget de notre Organisation.

C'est sur ce thème que je voudrais faire quelques commentaires d'ordre général.

Pour commencer, je voudrais vous dire que dans une semaine, sur la base d'instructions venues de Paris, la délégation française sera en mesure de voter en faveur du budget qui nous est aujourd'hui proposé. Si la France se prononce en faveur de ce projet, c'est essentiellement parce que nous considérons que le langage très positif que la France souhaite parler vis-à-vis du tiers monde, l'attention toute particulière qu'elle veut porter à ces problèmes de développement et tout particulièrement à ceux de l'alimentation, de l'agriculture et des thèmes connexes, tout ceci nous rendait difficile de ne pas nous prononcer en faveur du budget de la plus importante organisation internationale qui tourne son attention vers la solution de ces problèmes cruciaux.

Cela ne veut pas dire pour autant que nous nous désintéressions de l'objectif poursuivi par le Groupe de Genève, cela ne veut pas dire que nous portions une attention moins critique au Programme de travail et budget de cette Organisation, et là je trouve un proverbe français: "Qui aime bien, châtie bien".

Vous comprendrez donc, Monsieur le Président, qu'après ce préambule positif pour les autorités qui, avec beaucoup de soin, ont préparé ce programme et ce budget, nous ayons quand même un certain nombre d'appréciations critiques à formuler aussi bien sur le programme que sur le budget, un certain nombre de propositions, de suggestions à faire, non seulement à leur propos, mais également pour l'avenir.

Les thèmes exposés dans le document "Objectifs à moyen terme" constituent un catalogue complet des tâches à réaliser en matière de développement de l'agriculture et de l'alimentation, au sens le plus large, dans les pays en voie de développement. Ils sont à relier aux programmes par région, tels qu'ils sont définis dans l'Annexe du document qui nous est proposé et qui fournit une approche par région de ces objectifs généraux.

Bien entendu, la mise en oeuvre complète de l'ensemble de ces objectifs dépasserait les possibilités d'une institution spécialisée, même multilatérale, même à vocation universelle dans son essence.

La stratégie internationale du développement adoptée par l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies voici un an accorde une place primordiale à l'alimentation et à l'agriculture, ce qui paraît tout à fait raisonnable dans un monde où ces problèmes joueront un rôle essentiel dans les 20 années à venir. C'est également une des conclusions auxquelles est arrivée la récente réunion de Cancún, qui a jugé bon de mettre un accent particulier sur le rôle des organisations internationales en matière d'alimentation et d'agriculture, sans pour autant d'ailleurs donner un blanc-seing à leur fonctionnement actuel. La stratégie internationale du développement souhaite un objectif général de 4 ½ pour cent du produit national brut dans les pays en voie de développement, ainsi qu'un taux annuel de 4 pour cent de croissance de la production agricole de l'ensemble des pays en voie de développement, les pays les moins avancés, "Least developed countries", dont un grand nombre se trouve en Afrique, qui ont un besoin tout particulier d'assistance dans ce domaine.

Comme le souligne le document qui nous est soumis, pour toutes ces activités la FAO cherche à lier étroitement le Programme ordinaire avec les programmes de terrain, ce qui paraît tout à fait indispensable. Ce document définit de manière judicieuse les concepts et les activités de l'OAA, mais cet énoncé constitue la substance même du développement de la production agricole et alimentaire au sens large des pays concernés.

La définition des objectifs de développement incombe totalement et au premier chef à ces pays eux-mêmes. Les recommandations à caractère international sont précieuses en termes de référence mais ne peuvent s'imposer en dehors du contexte des pays considérés. Par exemple, satisfaire aux recommandations de la Conférence mondiale pour la réforme agraire et le développement rural ne constitue pas une fin en soi; il appartient à chaque pays, sur cette base générale, de définir son propre projet de développement en fonction de ses priorités nationales.

De la même manière, les objectifs très précis fixés pour la production céréalière, objectif central des pays en voie de développement, dépendent de toute une série de facteurs internes et externes. Ces objectifs ne doivent par conséquent être formulés qu'avec précaution, et comme des guides pour l'action d'ici 1985. En ce qui concerne l'an 2000, des réajustements plus substantiels encore risquent de s'avérer nécessaires, avec les moyens dont dispose l'Organisation.

Un certain nombre d'activités apparaissent aux yeux de la délégation française comme les plus réalistes:

- 1) en matière de stratégie alimentaire, conseils et études souhaités par les pays bénéficiaires;
- 2) programmes et projets de formation établis de manière à ce que le pays intéressé puisse les réaliser et les poursuivre ultérieurement;
- 3) renforcement, dans certains cas, de structures et de services nationaux, en évitant la création d'îlots d'hyperprospérité technique dans un contexte tout à fait différent, ce qui n'encourage pas obligatoirement l'éveil technologique;
- 4) amélioration des statistiques agricoles, afin de disposer de données réellement fiables pour une meilleure appréciation des déficits alimentaires et pour une planification plus efficace.

Et il ne sert à rien de programmer sur ordinateur, à grands frais, des statistiques qui ne sont pas même de façon approchée rigoureuses.

- 5.) introduction d'objectifs nutritionnels dans les projets de développement;
- 6) en matière de production forestière, accent mis sur ces projets, notamment dans le contexte de l'étude des problèmes énergétiques dans les pays en voie de développement;
- 7) appui de la part de l'Organisation pour favoriser un flux croissant d'investissements de source tant intérieure qu'extérieure;
- 8) exécution de programmes et de projets de dimension adaptée aux moyens de l'organisation par l'intermédiaire du programme de coopération technique. Par exemple alors que les projets de plus grande dimension devraient être étudiés conjointement avec d'autres sources potentielles de financement: banques de développement mondial, agences internationales pour le développement, Fonds international pour le développement agricole, etc.

En ce qui concerne plus précisément le budget, la délégation française voudrait d'abord mettre l'accent sur la place de choix qui est faite aux mesures propres à favoriser la production agricole et alimentaire. Elle considère en effet que l'efficacité de ce Programme peut être mesurée en fonction des investissements et financements mis en oeuvre à l'occasion d'opérations précises réalisées par les instances nationales des pays concernés avec le concours éventuel d'institutions financières multilatérales, régionales ou nationales.

Je renouvelle ici le souhait que j'ai exprimé à propos du programme de voir, chaque fois que cela est possible, comme certains délégués l'ont déjà mentionné, la possibilité d'introduire une dimension nutritionnelle aux projets de développement.

Le thème des énergies nouvelles et renouvelables mérite également une mention particulière.



La France soutient pour sa part des initiatives dans ce domaine avec l'Organisation latino-américaine pour le développement de l'énergie, l'Asian Institute of Technology of Bangkok, ainsi qu'un Programme étendu de "Recherche, développement et applications" en coopération avec les pays sahéliens et d'autres pays d'Afrique. Elle coopère également avec les Commissions économiques régionales des Nations Unies, CEA (Afrique, CESAP (Asie-Pacifique), CEE (Europe)).

En cette matière, il convient de s'en tenir, dans un but d'efficacité, aux utilisations propres à satisfaire les besoins du monde rural: énergie solaire, éolienne et biomasse, de nature à faciliter l'irrigation, l'hydraulique, la conservation et la transformation des produits agricoles.

La France, pour sa part, est prête à examiner avec les pays intéressés la mise en application de ces technologies suivant les besoins effectifs, compte tenu de leur impact sur les sociétés concernées. C'est pourquoi l'activité de l'OAA en Europe dans ce domaine a retenu l'attention du Gouvernement français, qui a invité, voici quelques semaines, à Paris, une réunion sur ce thème. Le document C 81/25 mentionne les travaux en cours notamment en vue de la constitution d'un réseau coopératif européen pour le développement des énergies rurales. La réunion constitutive dont il est fait état dans ce document est celle qui a eu lieu à la fin du mois d'octobre à Paris à l'invitation du Gouvernement français.

Il nous a semblé en effet que le concept de réseau, outil efficace et relativement peu coûteux pour certaines formes de recherches internationales, pouvait s'appliquer particulièrement bien à la recherche-développement sur les énergies agricoles et rurales.

Les conclusions de la Consultation de Paris ont, semble-t-il, confirmé cette analyse. Les résultats en apparaissent positifs. Nous sommes heureux d'avoir pu ainsi apporter notre contribution à la mise en place d'un programme qui, nous l'espérons, pourra se développer favorablement à l'avenir et nous sommes reconnaissants aux pays membres qui, dans les déclarations jusqu'ici effectuées de leurs ministres, ont bien voulu exprimer la même opinion.

Au cours des semaines passées, notamment au mois de juin dernier, la délégation française avait présenté quelques suggestions relatives à l'aménagement et au réajustement du Programme et du budget. Il nous apparaît tout à fait fondamental que la plus grande partie des ressources disponibles puisse être consacrée à des interventions à caractère opérationnel, ou permettant de déboucher rapidement et concrètement sur des activités de terrain. A ce propos, si la part attribuée à l'Afrique connaît quelques progrès, elle n'apparaît pas encore suffisante pour ce qui concerne les pays les plus défavorisés.

La Conférence de Paris sur les pays les moins avancés, du mois de septembre de cette année, a mis en évidence les besoins de ces pays et la communauté internationale, dans un consensus remarqué, a paru prête à leur accorder une attention particulière. Le Gouvernement français, et notamment le Président de la République, a fait part à cette occasion de son intention de consacrer une part accrue à l'aide publique au développement en faveur d'actions directes sur le terrain.

Sans doute faudrait-il distraire quelques ressources aux dépenses globales envisagées pour en faire bénéficier des pays moins avancés d'Afrique, d'Asie, du Pacifique ou des Caraïbes. Peut-être parmi les dépenses globales de cette nature qui pourraient être réduites pour bénéficier davantage à des programmes sur le terrain dans les pays les moins avancés, pourrait-on songer à celles qui sont consacrées aux activités des bureaux régionaux dont nous avons noté et apprécié la diminution du personnel tout en nous étonnant de l'accroissement des dépenses de fonctionnement aux études économiques sur le protectionnisme, à la multiplicité des conférences, groupes ou réunions qui, malgré les coupes déjà réalisées, n'apparaissent pas forcément toutes indispensables.

Il y a lieu de constater qu'une part variable, mais faible en général, du budget régulier des organisations Internationales figure dans les statistiques de l'aide publique au développement. Pour aider à les intégrer à ces statistiques internationales, l'un des moyens les plus convaincants serait sans doute que les budgets de ces organisations, et notamment le nôtre, comportent une part plus importante de dépenses opérationnelles, et à l'inverse, une limitation des dépenses de fonctionnement, personnel, locaux, voyages. A ce propos, nous connaissons l'opinion que le personnel dirigeant de cette Organisation nourrit à l'égard de la coordination dont à maintes reprises le coût excessif et l'efficacité contestable a fait l'objet de déclarations publiques devant nous.

Ceci dit, en cherchant avec soin dans le document qui est soumis à notre appréciation, il est pratiquement impossible de découvrir quelles sont effectivement les dépenses de l'Organisation encourues pour les activités de coordination, et si ces dépenses sont véritablement aussi importantes qu'il nous a

été dit. Nous aurions aimé qu'elles s'individualisent à un moment ou à un autre dans le projet qui nous est soumis pour que nous puissions faire part de notre appréciation à ce sujet.

J'en viendrai pour terminer à l'avenir des programmes de terrain financés par le PNUD. Il convient là aussi de garder présent à l'esprit que chaque pays bénéficiaire fixe lui-même les priorités sectorielles de son chiffre indicatif de planification. Il détermine lui-même l'ampleur des demandes présentées à l'assistance technique internationale dans le domaine du développement rural et c'est la convergence de ces programmes par pays qui définit la place que le PNUD réserve globalement au développement rural dans son programme mondial.

D'autre part, 1982 est l'année de lancement du nouveau cycle, alors que 1981 voit le cycle précédent s'achever. Cette période de transition peut présenter quelques anomalies et peut-être en partie expliquer la faiblesse relative du secteur rural dans les actions du PNUD, ceci sans même parler de la réserve obligatoire de 20 pour cent qui est prévue dans les chiffres indicatifs de planification par pays. Aussi n'y a-t-il peut-être pas lieu, au moins l'espérons-nous, de tirer de cet état de choses des conclusions trop pessimistes pour la période actuelle.

Je voudrais pour terminer, et en revenant aux discussions budgétaires, non pas pour le biennium qui nous est soumis, mais pour l'avenir, lancer un appel à la fois aux pays du Groupe de Genève, du Groupe des 77, aux pays qui ne font partie ni de l'un ni de l'autre et enfin au Secrétariat, et notamment au Directeur général, pour que, dans la période qui s'ouvre, nous essayions tous ensemble, songeant à l'objectif tellement important qui est devant nous, de "désantagoniser" les relations entre le domaine du Programme et du budget qui se sont faits jour au cours des derniers mois, et qui sont peut-être dus en partie non pas tellement à une analyse différente de l'importance du secteur agricole dans le développement du monde, mais à une trop grande raideur de part et d'autre dans les attitudes que nous avons adoptées, et je souhaite que dans les mois qui viennent et notamment pour la préparation du budget de la nouvelle période budgétaire 1984-85, nous puissions, plus que par le passé, dès les premières approches de la procédure budgétaire, savoir quels sont les objectifs qui nous guident et y travailler ensemble la main dans la main.

Le PRESIDENT: Je remercie le délégué de la France pour cet appel qu'il a adressé aux délégués et je le remercie aussi pour cette déclaration intégrale.

E.M. WEST (Assistant Director-General, Office of Programme, Budget and Evaluation): I think it would be appropriate if I intervene at this point on one important issue which has been raised just now, and also by other delegations, and that is the cost of coordination. I have not wanted to heat up the debate on this, so I refrained from replying before; but now I have been asked a direct question.

We made a calculation based on our direct contributions to various bodies, the cost of our staff employed in Rome, New York and Geneva dealing directly with those bodies, and the costs of time, i.e. manhours, spent by substantive and support staff on coordination exercises, including participation in the ACC machinery, studies requested by the General Assembly and by various United Nations Conferences. The total in 1980-81, we estimate, was more than \$6.5 million. If we add \$250 000 for programme increases in 1982-83, plus cost increases, our provisional estimate is that we will be spending over \$9 million in all on coordination activities during the next biennium.

Not all of that, of course, is considered by us to be unnecessary or wasteful. On the contrary, a great deal of it is considered to be essential and desirable and we participate freely. Some of it is of doubtful cost-benefit to the Organization.

I shall give one example. We are now involved annually in a tremendous exercise of reporting to the General Assembly on operational activities. The concept behind that, we were told when this was introduced, was that it would lead to increased aid to be provided in an annual pledging conference held in the United Nations. The results of the Conference held in the last few days showed quite clearly that the aid is going down. I think therefore that there is little cost-benefit in this exercise to us, although of course, there is not one simple reason for that.

I am sorry to have interrupted you, Mr. Chairman, but since I have the microphone, may I thank the delegation of France for the most constructive, most interesting, most important statement that they have made, and of course for their statement on the budget level.

J.P. WARNIMONT (Belgique): Qu'il me soit tout d'abord permis de vous féliciter pour votre élection, Monsieur le Président. Ma délégation est convaincue que, sous votre brillante présidence, nos travaux pourront être menés à bien.

J'adresse également mes félicitations aux vice-présidents.

Je voudrais limiter l'objet de mon intervention aux aspects budgétaires évoqués dans le document dont nous sommes saisis. A cet égard, ma délégation souhaite préciser, pour les besoins du rapport que la Commission adresse à la Conférence, que tant pour les chapitres qui nous occupent en ce moment que pour l'ensemble du document C 81/3, la Belgique n'est pas en mesure, au stade actuel, d'appuyer les propositions budgétaires qui nous sont soumises par le Directeur Général, et à propos desquelles nous regrettons qu'il n'ait pas été davantage tenu compte des appels lancés par certains pays.

Ma délégation définira sa position finale au moment du vote, en séance plénière.

C. MATTHEWS (St. Lucia): With regard to Chapters 1 and 2, I would first like to make a general statement on Annex 1 for Latin America, which I assume is complementary to Chapter 2. Latin America, the group to which St. Lucia belongs is a large area of great variation. It is not unexpected, therefore, that the problems of priority to which I alluded yesterday in my general remarks will arise. The project plans of action are defined in a manner which in some instances may suggest that the recipient countries have already been chosen, in others it is not clear. St. Lucia has identified areas of interest in the Latin American project plans. My question then is how do we know who are to be the beneficiaries of the plan. If the selection process is yet to be finalized what is the procedure for our participation in the plan of action and what time limits are applied to the application in respect to the 1982-1983 action plans? We would appreciate some clarification on this.

More specifically we are interested in, firstly, the development of food production systems for roots and tubers in tropical areas. Reference is made at page 226, paragraph 33. Secondly, inclusion of assistance in the coconut palm alongside the oil palm. Reference to this is made at page 226, paragraph 35. Coconuts are a major income source of our small farmers who together occupy 90 percent of the acreage of coconuts in St. Lucia. In that regard research/new technology in this crop is one of the Cinderellas of the agriculture in my country.

Thirdly, we would like the strengthening of peasants' organizations, if this bears specific regard to the development of cooperatives and credit unions. This is referred to at page 227, paragraph 44.

Fourthly at page 228, paragraph 61, reference is made to the work of WECAF and the special regional body for the Lesser Antilles. Great hope was generated as a result of decisions taken at Conferences in the Caribbean on fisheries and at the Committee on Fisheries. Our hopes appear to have been dashed on the rocks of our shores by a telegram which we received recently stating that the operations of WECAF are to be terminated by December 31, 1981. This has been a great shock to us who have during this year tried to organize our fishing department and the fishing section in order to make the best of the opportunities presented by the sub-division of WECAF. We would like to request this Conference's support, and that of FAO, for the continuation of the WECAF project and particularly for the implementation of the plan of this sub-division which is intended to service the Lesser Antilles to which St. Lucia belongs.

Finally, we are of the opinion that a socio-economic survey of the persons employed in the fisheries industry in St. Lucia is necessary. At the present time we are preparing a project outline for this small but immensely significant study in the organization of our fishing efforts. We feel strongly that as in agriculture, the fisheries extension services must be properly understood and knowledge of the people who are to be served, be clearly made aware to the extension officers who assist and who are to serve them.

J. DOORENBOS (Netherlands): Since my delegation makes its first contribution to the discussion in Commission II allow me to present our general observations.

The Programme of Work and Budget for the next biennium is the document in which in a concrete form the policies for the coming two years are laid down. In this document FAO plays its own role in the world food supply. It rightly does so. Reference is being made to the outcome of the study of the document "Agriculture Towards 2000", while it is being stated that much wider and more determined effort is needed in the field of follow-up to WCARRD in all sub-sectors. It emphasizes FAO's role in providing technical

advice and assistance and we support the highest priority which has been given to production. It is only a logical consequence of the international consensus which has clearly emerged over the past two years on the absolute necessity to improve food production first.

Many programmes and activities are reported upon. Clearly reflected are the efforts undertaken by the various departments and units within FAO to put forward their active contribution toward programme implementation and the final financial resources required for these separate activities. What is insufficiently clear is the coherence, the mutual interdependence of the separate activities. Allow me to illustrate this point by two examples; one example in the Regular Programme and one on the extra-budgetary activities.

Reviewing the programme on rural development, programme 2.1.5, a score of separate activities is mentioned under the plan of action, each of them having their own merits. What is lacking is, first, of all, the relation with and integration into the overall context of agricultural development programmes and secondly the spin-off of the separate activities into other FAO programmes, be it on crop, land and water use, fertilizers, nutrition, on the one hand and the feedback of the latter regular programme activities on the presented programme under 2.1.5.

My second example is the Food Security Assistance Scheme, a programme to which my country attaches greatest importance. This spearhead programme to be successful must be placed within the context of an overall structural framework and must form part of area and commodity development programmes. We realize that this is partly the result of the way FAO is organizationally put together. Inter-action, inter-relation, back-coupling and feedback between the separate organizational units are some of the key words which do apply here.

The budget document before us is a substantial piece of work. It takes a good many hours to digest all the data provided in those 307 pages. Especially, so, when one wants to get a first impression of the changes with respect to the last biennium. It would add to clarity if the presentation of future budget document would include such a general overview.

In the past days we have listened to many delegations commenting on this fact. Some delegations estimate the budget level too low, others think they are too high. In judging on the level of the proposal, my delegation has primarily been guided by the question of how these funds will be used. This has led us to the conclusion that we agree with the priorities indicated, but at the same time we regret the fact that this has not led to a notable shift in the overall activities of the FAO.

In many governments and organizations, including my country, the organizational framework and personnel structure were based on a growth model. New activities can be easily added and programmes expanded. It is much more difficult now, in time of austerity, to adjust programmes and to shape new priorities.

A few months ago all departments within our government were forced to review their budgets in the light of a possible 10 percent or even 20 percent cut in their resources. This has proved to be a very difficult and sometimes painful exercise. Nevertheless it has been useful, not only because of the clear need to reduce governments' spending but also because of the imperative need to really define the priorities.

In many instances it has resulted in new, promising and refreshing approaches. We feel that such an exercise might be useful in the context of the international organizations as well.

In conclusion let me say that we support FAO's work, not only here for the record but also very extensively through other channels of funding. This shows the importance we attach to the improvement of the world food supply. We have given our support to the re-election of the Director-General because he rightly makes FAO into an increasingly important organization of action.

We do regret however, how little we sometimes find back the suggestions made by governments with respect to FAO's activity. We realise how hard it is to listen to so many different voices but we do expect that FAO will always lend a ready ear to the Member States which together constitute the democratic basis of the Organization.

O. VALDES ORNELAS (México); La delegación de México ya ha tenido la oportunidad de expresar en la Plenaria de esta Conferencia, y en el seno del Consejo su apoyo al Programa de Labores y Presupuesto para el bienio 1982-83, y no queremos abundar en las razones que nos motivaron. Comparto la preocupación del distinguido delegado de Canadá de que este debate se pueda convertir en un diálogo de sordos. Por ello, debemos hacer un esfuerzo de acercamiento en el sentido de que el enfrentamiento y el cuestionar las motivaciones de unos y otros, no nos conducirán a una atmósfera propicia para la renegociación.

El constante aumento de las relaciones internacionales, producto de un mundo más intercomunicado e interrelacionado requiere que los países busquen en el exterior medidas que contribuyan a solucionar problemas internos que, casi siempre, son comunes para muchos de éstos. Esta realidad demanda una mayor dinámica en las acciones multilaterales y la necesidad de cambios constantes en los procedimientos y métodos que permitan poder responder eficientemente al reto en que vivimos.

En materia de seguridad alimentaria mundial, México ha reiterado en diversos foros, la necesidad de promover medidas orientadas a lograr los niveles mínimos aceptables de cooperación internacional que hagan posible este propósito. Nuestro país ha definido los derechos de la alimentación a los que todo ser humano debe tener acceso, negando reiteradamente que se utilicen los alimentos como instrumento de presión política.

En este orden de ideas, el jefe de la delegación de México, en su discurso en la Plenaria, teniendo en cuenta que los recursos genéticos son recursos naturales limitados y perecederos, que sin estos recursos la mejora de variedades no sería posible, y de que de éstos depende la alimentación mundial en el futuro, propuso un proyecto de resolución para esta Conferencia, donde se crea un Banco Internacional de Fitogermoplasma de interés agrícola dependiente de la FAO.

Este proyecto que ya había sido presentado por España y apoyado por el grupo Latinoamericano, tiene la idea de establecer este Banco de Fitogermoplasma en la forma en que ha sido expuesto por diversas delegaciones de países miembros durante la pasada Conferencia y durante el 79º período de sesiones del Consejo de FAO. Los países Miembros del Sur-Asiático, Afganistán, Irán, Iraq, Turquía, Pakistán, Siria y los países latinoamericanos han insistido sobre el particular en diferentes reuniones técnicas. La Constitución de la FAO establece en su Preámbulo, entre otras cosas, su propósito de mejorar el rendimiento de la producción y contribuir a liberar del hambre a la humanidad.

La creación de un Banco de Fitogermoplasma en FAO estaría de acuerdo con estos objetivos. Además ese Banco requiere que, duplicados de los recursos fitogenéticos de interés agrícola, sean conservados en terrenos bajo custodia de FAO. Este Banco debe ser complementado pero no sustituido con acuerdos vinculadores internacionales que reconozcan estos recursos como patrimonio de la humanidad, que aseguren legalmente su libre accesibilidad, uso y disfrute indiscriminado, impidiendo la especulación económica, el uso de acciones monopólicas y de presiones políticas con tan preciados recursos.

La FAO, en colaboración con otros organismos internacionales se ha ocupado de estos recursos y ha promovido su recolección. También esta Organización cuenta con unos servicios de intercambio de semillas que se encarga fundamentalmente de variedades mejoradas, y que realiza anualmente un número de transacciones entre los países, por cerca de 7 500 muestras.

Pensamos que el establecimiento del Banco contribuiría a cubrir una laguna importante de nuestra Organización, y sería fundamental para la seguridad alimentaria mundial. La delegación de México enviará el proyecto de resolución, si así lo indica el Sr. Presidente.

H. OGUT (Turkey): As my delegation is taking the floor for the first time, I would like to begin with congratulating you and the two Vice-Chairmen for your well-deserved election.

My delegation is of the opinion that world food and agricultural problems are still disturbing although much greater emphasis and attention has been directed to the solution of these problems since the beginning of the last decade.

However, it is a fact that worldwide agricultural production has been realized in the recent past at much lower levels than foreseen in the targets established by the World Food Conference. Increase in agriculture production showed a higher rate in the developing countries but some countries facing the serious food problems have not produced food at the desired levels. Countries which realized production of primary products at relatively higher level, on the other hand, received inadequate export earnings due to falls in the prices of these products in the international markets. In contrast to the decline in prices of primary products, a considerable increase in the prices of main foodstuffs in the world market has been observed. This recent surge in food prices further added to the difficulties caused by the decline in the export earnings from the primary products. Finally, rapid increases in the population of some developing countries have put those countries into a more serious situation.

We believe that prevalence of the cases described above is closely linked to the under-utilization and under-realization of the ideas, regulations and programmes foreseen at the international level by the previous Conferences, mainly FAO Conferences, and even the World Food Conference and WCARRD. This under-utilization and under-realization is displayed in the resource transfer from developed countries to the developing countries as well as with respect to the promises on provision of favourable conditions to the export of the primary products in the world market.

Recognising the important role and duties assigned to FAO by the previous Conferences in implementing, catalysing, coordinating and guiding the international actions identified, we believe that FAO should maintain its strength in future years. Therefore the proposed increases in its budget parallel to the increased demand for its services is duly supported by the Turkish delegation.

Regarding programmes outlined in the Chapters 1 and 2, my Government would like to make a few remarks with a view to strengthening some of the ideas which have already been laid out in the Programme of Work and Budget document.

Mr. Lester Brown, the winner of the Boerma Award, says in one of his articles that "we produce enough food" and adds "what are the environmental consequences of attempting to do so?" We agree that environmental protective measures should be taken into consideration during planning and implementing the activities aiming to increase agricultural production. Therefore we support the foreseen programmes, including the coordination of the follow-up activities to the United Nations Conference on Desertification.

In addition the difficulties caused by the low level of agricultural production, by rapid increases in population, especially in countries with food deficits, further increased the number of malnourished and under-nourished people in the world. This result forces FAO to emphasize its programmes not only in the field of food production but also in the improvement of the nutritional conditions of this population. Since the bulk of the malnourished population lives in some specific regions of the world FAO's programmes on nutrition as in the past are obliged to be centred on these regions. It is evident that these ideas are duly considered by FAO when one reviews the 1982-83 Programme of Work and Budget, Under this Programme we would like to emphasize that FAO's programmes should give higher priority to the most vulnerable groups, mainly children and pregnant women. Also we would like to point out that the activities foreseen under Rural Development should be closely linked to this Programme in such a way as to include nutrition components in the rural development projects.

F. D'ALMEIDA (Bénin): Comme c'est la première fois que ma délégation s'exprime au sein de la Commission II, je voudrais associer ma voix à celle de mes prédécesseurs qui vous ont adressé des félicitations à l'occasion de votre élection. Ces félicitations s'adressent également aux deux vice-présidents. Au regard de la manière dont vous dirigez les débats, je peux affirmer que votre choix a été un choix judicieux.

Mon intervention ne sera pas d'ordre général, étant donné que nous ne sommes pas encore intervenus en séance plénière. J'interviendrai uniquement à propos des termes techniques concernant le chapitre II.

Nous voulons rappeler ici que depuis déjà un certain nombre de Conférences, nous avons vu que l'agriculture et l'alimentation sont liées. Il doit en conséquence être fait une part égale à l'alimentation et à la nutrition, lorsqu'on aborde les questions relatives à l'agriculture, dans la mesure où notre objectif est de satisfaire aux besoins fondamentaux de l'homme, son premier besoin étant par excellence l'alimentation.

Nous précisons bien que nous luttons pour vaincre la faim, la sous-alimentation, la malnutrition. Il faut donc associer les populations à l'utilisation correcte et rationnelle des aliments mis à leur disposition à travers les cultures vivrières.

Nous appuyons fortement l'idée de porter le taux de la production agricole à 4 pour cent ou plus, mais nous pensons qu'auparavant il faudrait consolider un certain nombre d'actions dans le cadre de la conservation des produits agricoles, de leur transformation, et aussi dans le cadre de la lutte contre les pertes post-récoltes. Il est reconnu que dans nos pays en développement 40 ou 50 pour cent de notre production est inutilisable ou non consommée à cause des prédateurs. Force nous est de voir maîtrisé ce fléau. Notre but n'est pas de produire des aliments pour mieux nourrir les prédateurs. J'insiste donc pour qu'en même temps que l'on oeuvre à l'augmentation de la production, une action soit menée pour la lutte contre les pertes après récoltes.

Dans le même ordre d'idée, il convient de mettre un accent particulier sur la protection des végétaux. Il faudrait aider les pays en voie de développement à mettre en place les structures adéquates pour la défense des cultures et la protection des végétaux. La création de centres de quarantaine s'avère nécessaire pour juguler la propagation des maladies et contrôler l'importation des matériels végétaux. Ceci est aussi primordial et prioritaire dans notre pays.

Il faudrait par la même occasion lier les problèmes de stockage pour assurer une meilleure politique de sécurité alimentaire. En fait, la modernisation de l'agriculture de nos pays est la véritable solution à nos maux, mais les problèmes sont tellement nombreux et nécessitent des interventions simultanées qui ont pour frein les moyens financiers, les moyens matériels et les moyens humains.

Il faudrait mettre l'accent sur la faiblesse de nos terres, faiblesse due à leur pauvreté, faiblesse due au manque d'épaisseur de leur couche fertile. Cela met en cause non pas seulement les éléments de fertilisation, mais aussi les moyens aratoires adéquats pour mieux travailler la terre pour permettre éventuellement l'enfouissement possible des engrais.

Comme vous voyez, les problèmes de développement de l'agriculture sont nombreux et multiformes. Ce sont donc des domaines qu'il ne faut pas négliger, sinon on perdrait tous les efforts que nous faisons pour augmenter la productivité.

L'information et la vulgarisation requièrent aussi notre attention. Cette activité doit être reprise par la FAO. Il faut y ajouter la formation continue des cadres et des paysans dans un temps un peu plus lointain. La Campagne mondiale contre la faim a déjà fait appel à cette mobilisation.

Quant au problème de la femme dans le développement rural, nous en parlerons plus amplement dans le cadre du suivi de la réforme agraire pour le développement rural. A cette occasion aussi, nous aurons l'occasion d'aborder de façon plus précise le problème de l'accès à la terre, de l'accès à l'eau, aux crédits et aux semences.

S'agissant des problèmes de forêt, je voudrais pouvoir dire que ce problème nous tient à coeur à plus d'un titre, parce que nous sommes un pays voisin du Sahel et que nous en ressentons un certain nombre d'effets. Il nous faut faire du reboisement et reconstituer les forêts, d'abord pour maintenir un écosystème, en second lieu pour la protection des sols, puis pour fournir des bois de chauffe, enfin pour la fabrication du charbon qui constitue l'un des seuls moyens d'énergie abordable par la plus grande partie de la population.

En ce qui concerne les pêches, le problème aussi est important. Nous avons 100 km de côtes sur la mer et avons plusieurs lagunes; cependant, nous manquons de poisson, nous manquons de protéines, et il n'est pas possible pour nous de pratiquer une stratégie alimentaire convenable si nous manquons de protéines.

Il y a donc lieu de se pencher sur ces problèmes au niveau de ces pays d'Afrique, notamment par la formation des cadres, de techniciens, la modernisation des moyens de pêche et aussi peut-être dans le cas des lagunes la possibilité d'en tirer un parti plus intéressant.

Nous sommes conscients du fait qu'il est très difficile de mettre en place des structures nationales et nous souhaiterions que l'organisation étudie les possibilités de réunir ou d'associer un groupe de pays pour des recherches communes.

Mme F. LARBI (Tunisie) (langue originale arabe). Je voudrais rappeler ici l'unanimité qui se dégage au sujet de la situation alimentaire mondiale qui se détériore de plus en plus et qui est due à différentes causes. Il serait d'ailleurs vain de passer en revue toutes ces causes, et si tout le monde est d'accord là-dessus, on se demande pourquoi l'ensemble des membres ici présents ne retrouve pas la même unanimité pour appuyer le Programme de travail et budget pour l'exercice 1982-83.

A ce sujet ma délégation pense qu'il est nécessaire de donner à cette Organisation les moyens qui lui permettront de réaliser les objectifs sur lesquels tout le monde s'est mis d'accord. D'ailleurs le Programme de travail et budget ne peut, pour nous, que trouver l'appui total.

Pour ce qui est du document C 81/3, les deux chapitres 1 et 2 appellent quelques remarques, et nous voudrions surtout nous arrêter au chapitre 2.

Nous voudrions à ce sujet rappeler qu'il faudrait améliorer l'exploitation des ressources naturelles, que ce soit le sol ou les ressources en eau, et nous pensons que cette Organisation fournira l'effort nécessaire pour aider les pays qui voudront mieux exploiter leurs ressources.

Pour ce qui est du point 2.1.2.1, à savoir les ressources génétiques, et le point 2.1.2.5, en ce qui concerne les pertes après récolte, ce sont là deux points très importants sur lesquels il convient d'insister.

Par ailleurs, le point 2.1.4, relatif aux recherches devrait trouver plus d'attention, même si les possibilités de recherche au niveau des pays en développement souffrent encore du manque de structures, du manque de techniciens et de cadres, et nous pensons que l'Organisation pourra aider beaucoup dans ce domaine.

Ma délégation voudrait également appuyer ce qui est dit sur le sous-programme 2.1.5 relatif au développement rural et également le sous-programme 2.1.5.1.1 relatif à la vulgarisation et la formation, car il est nécessaire que les habitants des zones rurales soient préparés pour participer à la réalisation des objectifs fixés pour leur bien-être.

Par ailleurs, en ce qui concerne les pêches, l'orientation du gouvernement de mon pays est parallèle à celle que donne le Directeur général dans le sous-programme 2.2.2. relatif aux pêches, et nous essayerons de tirer le maximum de profit de ce que fait l'Organisation dans ce domaine en matière d'assistance technique.

En ce qui concerne les forêts, programme 2.3.4, nous leur accordons une grande attention, étant donné qu'elles constituent l'une des ressources naturelles les plus importantes qui permettent de sauvegarder le sol par le reboisement et permettent également aux habitants de ces régions de vivre dans un environnement équilibré ce qui permet une meilleure exploitation des ressources naturelles ainsi qu'une protection de l'environnement.

O.A. JUMA (Tanzania): Since this is my first time to take the floor, I would like to associate myself with the previous speakers in congratulating you and your two Vice-Chairmen on your election to lead the affairs of this Commission.

The Tanzanian delegation gives great importance to the subject of our discussion. As a member of FAO's Finance Committee, my country has been in a fortunate position in the earlier scrutiny of the budget and so had an access to study the Director-General's Programme of Work and Budget for the biennium 1982-83. In the process, my delegation became and is satisfied that the proposed Programme of Work and Budget meets the objectives of most lower-income and food-deficit developing countries, and so we are in favour of the programme and budget, including the level of the budget suggested in the Council. The Tanzanian delegation feels that much has already been said by previous speakers and there is no point in repeating the importance of supporting and endorsing the development strategies and priorities which have been so clearly articulated and spelled out in the Director-General's introduction to the programme of Work and Budget in the biennium 1982-83.

We would like briefly to comment on Chapter 2, sub-programme 2.1.3.6 Livestock Production. Tanzania noted with much interest that FAO will involve itself in the development of small animals, sheep and goats and poultry, as opposed to past practice when concentration was on large animals only. We feel that there is a considerable potential in many countries for increasing the contribution of goats and sheep to the livestock economy at smallholders' level.

So we support fully the proposed resource increase for small animals development. Commercial poultry production using exotic birds has become a very expensive venture because of the competition of human beings for cereals. We feel, therefore, that improvement of indigenous low-production scavenger birds available in Tanzania and many other countries might be the solution if coupled with the introduction of new methods of assistance at small-holders' level. We suggest, therefore, in sub-programme 2.1.3.3, Livestock Genetic Resources, where it has been indicated that support to national institutions will be provided on improvement of indigenous ruminants in Africa, improvement of indigenous poultry should also be included.



V. E. DLAMINI (Swaziland): I would like to confine my comments to Chapter 2, commencing especially with sub-programme 2.1.1.2 dealing with Farm Management and Production Economics. This sub-programme will provide valuable basic data on inputs and outputs which are very critical in the production process. Moreover, farm management is very important because it is the management process where farm smallholders are able to indicate where resources are wasted, and it is through the management indicators that resources can be reallocated from marginal enterprises to more productive and profitable concerns from marginal enterprises. I feel, therefore, that managerial skills are very significant to small farmers.

Sub-programme 2.1.1.3 touches the most important aspect of Soil Management and Fertilizers. It is an axiomatic fact that correct fertilizer rates according to research recommendations will yield desirable results when coupled with all other necessary inputs and taking into account all weather conditions.

It is also encouraging to note that this section also advocates the use of organic fertilizers, which is in line with the recommendations of the Conference on renewable resources. Organic fertilizers, I believe, are less expensive than inorganic ones and could also be obtainable within the reach of the farming communities. Their use would significantly reduce the farmers' budget.

Sub-paragraph 2.1.1.4 touches another important variable. That is Water Development and Management. Some of us come from countries whose river sources emanate from other countries, and the problem of getting water for irrigation therefore becomes a crucial point, and there is an urgent need for equitable redistribution of water.

It is pleasing that this programme addresses itself to water development and management. Perhaps one could suggest that consultations on international law to ensure sufficient use of water should have been seriously considered.

I also welcome sub-programme 2.1.1.5. dealing with Conservation and Reclamation. It is of vital importance if we want our soil to feed us and the next generation. Conservation and Reclamation should be the name of the game.

Sub-programme 2.1.1.2, Crops. This section has been well documented. Of more interest is the sub-section on crop losses, because in some regions losses ranging from 15 percent to 20 percent have been recorded, and this indicates a huge volume of grains loss which could have saved many lives.

Programme 2.1.4, Research Support - on this aspect I need not go into too much detail, as I indicated in my opening remarks that research is of significant importance. I only wish to reaffirm my stand in supporting this statement.

Sub-programme 2.1.3.1, Grasslands, Forage and Feed Resources - some of our areas are confronted with desertification, erosion, depletion of desirable species and bush encroachment. We highly welcome this plan of action because it is in pursuance of our efforts for increasing the grass productivity so that our farmers will be able to market well-nourished animals and simultaneously maintain a high-quality standard of beef. Grassland and forage productions in concert with animal health will help lift the trade barriers usually placed by developed countries on our beef exports.

I also welcome the sections on livestock productions and I consider these to be in line with efforts made to combat malnutrition through the provision of balanced diets, especially the provision of protein which are of significant necessity to every human being, but particularly important to children.

I wish to suggest that development of poultry products should also be considered seriously, as these have short cycles and yield higher returns, both in the form of eggs and meat.

With regard to forestry, Swaziland attaches a high importance to this as we have the largest man-made forests in Africa. Forestry provides soil conservation measures, fuel in the form of charcoal, employment as well as international trade. Swaziland therefore supports this section strongly.

With respect to Fisheries, I should like to support the comments made earlier by my brother from the Cameroons when he stressed the development of fish ponds. Fish ponds are very important for Swaziland as we are a land-locked country. We do attach significant priority to fisheries development, as this is a source of protein which is cholesterol-free. Thus through a high intake of fish products vascular and cardiac diseases may be minimized.

With these remarks, Mr. Chairman, I thank you and I do reserve my right to speak at a later stage.

A. H. EL SARKI (Egypt): It is evident from the paper on Medium-term Objectives, C 81/9, that it is vitally important to increase food production, and this obviously will have to be done by certain very precise objectives in the agricultural sector and through allocating to certain projects a special priority to certain programs to help the different countries to implement development strategies. That is why my delegation must support the objectives set for the Programme of Work and Budget for 1982-83.

Paper C 81/9 contains a chapter concerning support programmes for Development on Field Programme planning. We support the contents of this paragraph, and also support all the efforts made by the Organization to train the people in developing countries and to provide support for national institutions and bodies whose task it will be to train these youngsters.

In paragraphs 177-180 we have new interesting information on technical collaboration and the role played by the Ordinary Programme in providing financial support. We support all it contains, and we think that missions can go to developing countries in order to assess the problems and find the solutions to them.

My country was one of the first to support the concept of decentralization by the Organization, and we were also amongst the first to request the appointment of an FAO representative for our country.

In paragraph 194 we also speak of the Technical Cooperation Programme, and because of the interest of my country in this programme we would like to see it continue and given more funds.

Paragraphs 181-192 cover all the activities concerning investments, and I would like to say that the Investment Centre and its policy has helped quite a number of countries, including Egypt, and helped them draw up their studies for projects and to implement the projects. That is why my delegation fully approves the Medium-term Objectives set out in document C 81/9, in particular in paragraph 193.

My delegation would also like to thank all those countries that have enabled the Organization to play such a role by different means, in particular taking account of the objectives of developing countries laid down in the Lagos Plan of Action and indicates the role played by FAO to the African continent in general as appears in paragraph 214.

We would like the Director-General to make every effort to implement all those projects of interest to the Near East, which is our region where food deficits prevail. In so doing the Organization should base its medium term plans on the contents of paragraphs 215 to 220. Thank you.

Mlle Z. PAPADOPOULOU (Grèce): Monsieur le Président, c'est la première fois que la délégation hellénique prend la parole dans cette Commission. Nous vous adressons nos félicitations pour l'excellente direction donnée à nos travaux.

Nous reconnaissons que la conjoncture économique internationale a des répercussions sur le développement économique de chacun de nos pays et a comme résultat la restriction des ressources disponibles pour l'amélioration de la contribution financière aux organismes internationaux. Tenant compte toutefois des besoins urgents et impératifs des pays en voie de développement, notre délégation juge nécessaire d'approuver le programme de travail et budget proposé par le Directeur général pour 1982-83. Notre Ministre vient d'ailleurs de prononcer son discours en séance plénière et il a donné son appui au budget et au programme de travail.

Nous voudrions exprimer ici nos soucis du fait que l'augmentation du budget que nous considérons nécessaire indique que nos programmes de développement et les efforts qui y sont consacrés ne se sont pas montrés aussi efficaces qu'on l'aurait souhaité, parce qu'ils se sont heurtés aux obstacles d'ordre structurel du sous-développement.

S.P. MUKHERJEE (India): Since I am speaking for the first time as I arrived from India only this morning, may I on behalf of my delegation extend our heartiest congratulations on your well-deserved election to the office of Chairman of this august body.

India has a special relationship with FAO. India has been a member of the FAO Council right from the beginning, continuously, and one of her distinguished sons, Mr. B.R. Sen, has held the office of Director-General of this Organization for a number of years and gave birth to this concept of freedom from hunger. We have therefore an emotional relationship with FAO.

During this Conference our Prime Minister delivered the McDougall Lecture, and in that lecture she referred to self-reliance and collective efforts and international cooperation in the matter of meeting the challenge of conservation and food scarcity which is facing mankind in a very alarming fashion.

We feel that FAO is the lone voice of mankind articulated for saving the starving millions from impending death. In this Conference and in this Meeting especially, while we are discussing the FAO Work Programme and Budget by our concerted sympathy we should give strength and tone to this voice of mankind to save millions of its brethren from starvation.

In one of the papers it has been estimated that by the year 2000 A.D. there will be a food deficit of about 130 million tons. It means that about 130 million hectares of additional land will have to be brought under cultivation to give this additional output, which also means that about 130 million farm families will have to be informed, motivated and assisted in producing this additional 130 million tons. But since so much of the land is not available, we will have to make an intensive effort to increase the yield per every hectare of land, per every drop of water that is used for irrigation, per every grain of food that we use for seed, and this means a tremendous effort and tremendous investment through the instrumentality of FAO. I have roughly calculated that this additional 130 million tons of food grains in monetary terms costs about \$26 million per year and in that context of an astronomically high figure the proposed budget of FAO for the biennium of \$368 million appears to be a very insignificant figure. We should therefore not be very much disturbed by this figure or by the additionality of \$22 million that has been indicated as a result of the Programme change and only \$66 or \$67 million as a result of cost increase. I have also calculated that on a per caput basis the proposed budget of FAO comes to about 10 cents per head in two years, that is 5 cents per head. This is such an insignificant figure that one is rather amused that we should worry about such a small increase when such a large challenge is facing mankind.

I have also calculated in my own way that the \$370 million of the FAO budget for two years is comparable to the cost of producing about 37 modern fighter aircraft, and the increase of \$22 million will hardly be equivalent to the price of two modern fighter aircraft of a sophisticated type today. So if we do not produce two fighter aircraft and divert the cost of these aircraft for FAO's food production programme, on agriculture and rural development programme, we will be able to meet this excess or surplus or additionality that we are proposing.

Therefore my feeling is that in the perspective of the universal challenge that mankind faces, and of the expenditures that we are prone to spend on our arsenals, this additional \$22 million will be very insignificant and should not disturb us at all. I therefore, on behalf of my country, fully support the budget increase that has been proposed. If I have a grievance, it is that it is not more than what has been proposed because of the vast work that has to be done.

Insofar as the content of the Programme is concerned, I have a feeling that Forestry in the FAO Programme should have received more attention because it is connected with not only soil conservation but water fuel and energy planning also. I would also suggest that in FAO's programme, agricultural extension be given a pride of place because there are millions of people in Africa and Asia, and even in India, who are thousands of years behind the modern technology so far as agriculture is concerned. Those people will have to be brought up to date and enabled to catch up with modern technology of agriculture and farm management, through an intensive extension programme which is very necessary. Also the programmes of seeds, not only in the matter of having seed banks and a seed security system, but also in the matter of evolution of new varieties of seeds which will be drought resistant in some cases, and flood resistant in others, is very necessary. To that effect intensive research on crops will be required and will need to be promoted. In that regard I would suggest that FAO devote special attention to evolution and improvement of seeds of such crops as millet, lentils, oil seeds which are rainfed, because in most of the Afro-Asian regions about 60 to 70 percent of crops is grown on rainfed areas and not irrigated areas.

In India we have made a breakthrough insofar as cross-breeding is concerned. Nondescript cattle has been improved in regard to milk yield and draught power by cross-breeding programmes and I suggest that this programme should receive attention through FAO.

I fully endorse FAO's emphasis on Fisheries, especially in the context of the exclusive economic zone because both in respect of the marine fisheries as well as inland fisheries there is much scope for improving the yield and also thereby supplying nutritious food containing protein to the millions of people in these areas. I would like to leave just a thought with all of you: I feel that though FAO is doing a considerable lot in the matter of transfer of technology to the developing countries and backward areas through transfer of staff and experts from one country to another, it will be very necessary in the near future for FAO to develop an international agriculture service whereunder the FAO

will have a cadre of staff who are experts and skilled in the different facets of agriculture and rural development and who will be continuously available to FAO for serving the developing countries. My feeling is that the present system of drawing on such staff from different countries and on temporary basis will not be conducive to a more enduring result insofar as transfer of technology and agricultural improvements in the African and Asian countries are concerned.

CM. LINVAMA (Zambia): I shall try to be brief because most of what we were expecting to say has already been said. We consider the rational use of natural resources of paramount importance, Developing countries, and particularly so in Africa - and we have heard so many people refer to that here - have little else apart from land, water, air and sunshine. Agricultural practices in the rural areas depend on tilling of the land, planting the seed and waiting for nature to do the rest. In the last two seasons up to 1980, Africa and many parts of the world were hit by drought and the production of crops fell to an unprecedented low level. The situation became so critical around the world, and particularly, again, in Africa, to such an extent that the Director-General was forced in September last year to call a meeting of donors to point out the precarious situation many African countries were facing.

With this in view, we would like to support those programmes which have an immediate impact on the food situation in developing countries. The situation is critical in that, as I say, many developing countries depend on their natural resources in their virgin form.

In terms of water management, there is very little irrigation that has developed in many developing countries and therefore, when there is no rain there is no production. It is as straightforward as that, and therefore research and activities of FAO should aim at assisting developing countries to do that which may bring immediate results to increasing food production. But when we say this, it does not mean we close our eyes to long-term activities or research. We think that in terms of research we should aim at putting in the hands of the farmers or fishermen or even foresters, skills which they can put to immediate use. We know that we have projects such as reforestation; we have projects such as improving the quality of fish, improving the quality of seed. All these are important but some of these programmes and projects take a long time. We are looking more to the future rather than to the present, but while we do that, it is important, as I say, that we look at the immediate effect on food production, since it is on that that we can build the future.

We therefore urge that in arranging the priorities of programmes, while we accept all the programmes - and I say we accept all the programmes because I have not heard any delegation so far here say that a particular programme is undesirable; I see that to varying degrees people are picking on either one or two or several of the sub-programmes and emphasising those, but not one particular sub-programme has been set aside as undesirable - so I say, while we accept the programmes, we think that in the priority order FAO should look at those particular programmes that will have an immediate effect to improve the situation in developing countries.

Now I would like to make a brief comment on what the delegate of France said this afternoon. First I wish to thank him for the statement that he made. We think it was a positive statement but then he suggested that the developed countries and the developing countries, he said in fact that the Geneva Group and the Group of 77 and the others possibly not in those groups should meet to discuss, possibly informally, what we should do in future. He specifically wanted these discussions concentrated around the preparation of the next budget for the next biennium, We appreciate this, we accept this. In fact last summer we tried to do just that. We realize that when we met during Council we came as two opposing teams rather than as people coming to discuss issues that were affecting us all to a greater or a lesser degree. But we were discussing common problems. So we made an effort to meet the representatives of other groups, such as the Europeans, North Americans, Southwest Pacific representatives, so that we tried to come to some understanding. They understand our thinking. We understand their thinking and see where we have common grounds. We wanted them to see why we support the Programme of Work and Budget. I think it would not be proper that I should go through all the arguments where difference occurs. It was in those discussions anyway that we were told because of the serious economic situation the developing countries were facing they were not able to support the programme in its present state as proposed. Some of the things developed countries have cited, they are cutting down on social services in their countries because of this economic situation and I think that even in this Commission some of these things have been repeated, we have heard them. But we also said, "Well, we appreciate that. In developing countries we do not even have a social service to cut down, they do not even exist. We are still struggling just to provide enough food for people to survive." In developed countries they are looking in terms of social services, that they should maintain these. We have said, "Well, we, understand that according to your levels of development, according to the situation in your countries it is necessary to have these social services but we ourselves are struggling merely to survive,

to exist, to have enough food to live from day to day” and so we support any project, any programme that is going to assist us whether it is going to have a great impact in assistance or is it just going to put us a little further along the road to development, we are going to support that and we have appealed, while we realize you are cutting down on social services, please do come along with us and assist us to have enough food to eat and so, not to bore the Committee with the discussions we have had. I only wish to say our delegation supports the proposed Programme of Work and Budget as put before us, and as I say, we have heard no delegation which has said a particular programme or sub-programme is undesirable. We have merely emphasized as we see fit which particular programmes or sub-programmes should have a priority but we have not said a particular programme was bad and should be scrapped.

So we wish to put on record we support the budget as it stands.

I. MAAZOU (Niger): La délégation du Niger vous félicite, Monsieur le Président, pour votre nomination à la tête de notre Commission, ainsi que vos deux vice-présidents.

La délégation du Niger se joint aux nombreuses délégations qui m’ont précédé pour apporter son soutien au Programme de travail et budget 1982-83 élaboré par le Directeur général et son équipe. Nous les en félicitons.

Pour le Niger, la FAO est un facteur qui contribue efficacement à la lutte contre la faim dans le monde et c’est en conséquence un important facteur de paix et d’humanité.

Plus que toute autre organisation, la FAO est aujourd’hui tout à fait opérationnelle. Il est vrai qu’il y a encore des insuffisances, et il y en aura toujours, mais l’essentiel est de progresser et de se perfectionner avec réalisme et conviction. C’est ce que le Directeur général et son équipe nous proposent aujourd’hui.

En effet, les documents qui nous sont soumis ont le mérite d’intégrer des préoccupations aussi diverses d’Etats aussi nombreux, à travers un monde secoué par la crise que nous connaissons.

Ces documents offrent de multiples aspects politiques, mais en vue d’être bref et pour ne pas répéter ce qu’a dit la majorité des délégués qui nous ont précédés nous dirons simplement que face au grave problème de la faim dans le monde, nous avons une Organisation opérationnelle avec une direction clairvoyante, pragmatique et objective, un Programme de travail et un budget 1982-83 cohérent et réaliste.

Dans ces conditions, toute hésitation, toute attitude équivoque quant au soutien qu’il est nécessaire d’apporter à la FAO, à son Directeur général et à son équipe, au Programme de travail et budget 1982-83 est à bannir.

J’en appelle à tous ceux qui ont faim, j’allais dire au “tam-tam des ventres creux” pour les dénoncer à travers le monde.

H. K. CHHETR (Bhutan): In view of the items before us my delegation wishes to express its views on the Programme of Work and Budget as proposed by the Director-General and in light of the comments of the Chairman of the Programme and Finance Committee. Before proceeding with the day’s debate we wish to dwell briefly, if you permit, on the budget level. Considering the serious world food situation, Bhutan joins the voice of many who supported the biennium budget proposed by the Director-General and feels that the increase is only modest and the minimum required in view of our needy.

We, as a landlocked country, also wish to put on record our firm support for the continuation of the Technical Cooperation Programme of the FAO. We fully support the Director-General’s decentralization programme as this would enable the member countries to obtain quick and cost-effective services.

To end the general remarks we appreciate the precise and clear remark made by Mr. West on the budget level yesterday.

With regard to Chapters 1 and 2, there is not anything which my delegation does not find satisfactory. We are basically an agricultural country where 95 percent of the population depends on agriculture and rearing of livestock. The programmes and priorities proposed in Chapter 2 give adequate attention to insure the increase of agricultural production, including food security and improving animal production and health. The document also duly endorses the importance of agricultural education, extension and

training which are of priority importance to establish a sound base for development. We are already receiving FAO's assistance in this regard and we desire continuity of the programme through TCP and other institutions of FAO.

We also especially welcome the stress on social forestry which is designed to benefit the rural community. Seventy percent of our country's area is under forest with great potential for future growth. Scientific exploitation and establishment of forest-based industries are vital to ensure continued contribution from this sector towards future national development. We are pleased to note that this fact has been duly recognized in document C 81/3. It is also our desire to initiate some projects in prevention of post-harvest losses and, therefore, support the Director-General's initiations under the programme of work.

A. TRAORE (Guinée): Mon pays a déjà été entendu hier quant à sa position sur le Programme de travail et budget 1982-83.

Il n'est nullement besoin d'insister sur l'importance de notre Organisme dans la solution des problèmes qui se posent aux pays en voie de développement en matière d'alimentation que nous considérons la prémice de tout développement harmonieux.

C'est pour nous l'occasion d'inviter les partisans de la croissance zéro à revoir leur position à la lumière du noble sens de solidarité Internationale dont la présence ici de délégués aussi divers que nombreux est un témoignage éloquent.

Dans beaucoup de pays comme le nôtre, la croissance démographique et le manque de maîtrise suffisante des sciences et tâches agricoles par la plus grande partie de la population qui se consacre à l'agri-culture extensive, les calamités naturelles conduisent à l'appauvrissement des terres et à leur dégradation.

C'est pourquoi notre approbation va au sous-programme 2.1.1.3. portant sur l'aménagement des sols et engrais. Il en est de même du sous-programme 2.1.1.4., car si notre pays recèle de nombreux cours d'eau la fourniture de moyens simples mais appropriés d'utilisation de cette eau est d'une importance capitale.

La poursuite et l'intensification des programmes d'amélioration des races a également notre faveur. Notre race bovine peut être un moyen sûr de valoriser d'importantes zones couvertes de mouches tsé-tsé dans beaucoup de régions d'Afrique.

Je voudrais faire une remarque cependant au sous-programme 2.1.3.2. qui concerne la santé animale. Nous souhaiterions qu'à la liste des maladies citées et pour lesquelles ce Programme devra concentrer ses efforts, on ajoute les parasitoses gastro-intestinales. En effet, les parasitoses gastro-intestinales sont la plus grande cause de mortalité de nos veaux, ce qui naturellement empêche l'accroissement de notre cheptel.

Mon pays apprécie hautement l'amélioration portant sur la traction animale, car dans mon pays les demandes sont de très loin supérieures à l'offre et l'accroissement du nombre de boeufs de labour est d'une grande importance pour la production vivrière.

En matière de pêche, nous voudrions rappeler que le faible niveau de consommation de poisson dans mon pays contraste malheureusement avec la richesse de nos eaux en ressources halieutiques. Cette situation, qui résulte de l'insuffisance des moyens logistiques, de pêche, de cadres formés dans ce sens, provoque par conséquent notre appui au Programme d'activités qui nous est ici proposé.

CHAIRMAN: I will invite Dr Bommer, the Assistant Director-General, Agriculture Department, to comment on a few points.

D.F.R. BOMMER (Assistant Director-General Agriculture Department): I think I can be very brief. First I would like to say that we appreciate very much the comments made on chapter 2. I am partly responsible for chapter 2 together with Dr Islam, who is sitting in Commission I on the other side. So I express appreciation on behalf of both of us.

A number of valuable comments have been made on possible changes in direction in the order of priorities and offering various forms of collaboration from industrialised as well as developing countries in pursuing these programmes. For these we are very grateful and we hope to make use of them.

I would like now briefly to comment on a few specific questions, specifically one which was highlighted here again in the June Council meeting. This is an international convention or agreement on plant genetic resources and allied to it possibly the establishment of an international gene bank under the auspices of FAO. It is certainly a matter which needs close study in its possibilities, close study in its feasibility, and we are looking forward to any further debate in the matter during the course of this Conference. We can only stress that the delegates certainly know and have noted the considerable programme which is being pursued at present in conservation and exchange of genetic resources in collaboration with the International Board of Plant Genetic Resources, which includes more or less all the countries who have spoken and more on their situations on exchange of genetic resource material in organising the collection of exhibitions and in rescuing material and making it available to modern plant breeding. It even includes exchange of material between countries not members of this Organisation, as for example, the USSR, which is a very important holder of genetic resources. But, as I say, this matter hopefully will be further discussed so that we know the final opinion of our member countries on this matter.

The second point, there were specific questions from St. Lucia on how to make use of the regional programme. There was one point specifically on participation in roots and tubers production programmes. This is a specific programme which is being pursued through the Regional Office in collaboration with the Plant Production and Plant Protection Division. Your Government will be approached for your participation in it. As for all other activities which are intended and the ongoing activities, certainly with your announcement of interest and participation I will be only too happy to include your country in other activities, including coconut, which you mentioned.

A question was raised by Trinidad and Tobago in the services we provide to the Caribbean Plant Protection Convention. It is right that our present Secretary is located in our Regional Office. He is Regional Officer for Plant Protection there. We will certainly look into the matter of what are the prospects of stationing him in the Caribbean. But we are in the difficult situation that this Regional Office is not so splendid as to be able to provide an additional staff member in the Caribbean and one in the rest of Latin America. So we must look into this matter to see how we can deal with the problem. This certainly relates to the comments of the delegate of Cameroon. He rightly pointed out that there is no roots and tubers officer in the Plant Division. These officers usually have to deal with many crops and we are trying with the existing staff to deal with the respective problems.

I should refer to the very important question raised by the delegate of the Netherlands on how do we integrate necessary programmes within FAO. He himself has served for a number of years in FAO, so he will probably have some understanding how we do it. But I am very glad to reply here specifically in the field of rural development and the follow-up to WCARRD that we have a house-wide integrating mechanism in which all the respective ADG's participate and we have related task forces dealing with the development of this programme to see how the various components have to be interlinked. The other level of integration is certainly on the concrete approach level, where task forces for any given project in rural development in the respective operations division are leading and integrating the various technical units in such projects in a given country. These are roughly the main mechanisms and in other areas they are handled in a different set-up. I think he asked too for the relation of the Prevention of Food Loss programmes to the Food Security Assistance Schemes. This is a long standing working group consisting of three or four people meeting weekly and orienting these programmes. These are closely integrated on the other side and show two distinct features, one related to overall food security in the country and the other to the low type on-farm village type of storage in the activities related to various countries.

It was important that the delegate from France mentioned the just recently held meeting on the creation of the European Research Network on Energy and Agriculture. We are very grateful to the Government of France for this initiative and certainly grateful to those nations who have indicated a wish to join this network. It is still open at about the same number of nations to join and certainly to support it and we very much hope that soon it will become a fully fledged European programme, which certainly can be carried on only if the European countries are ready to provide the small but necessary funds to run this programme; otherwise it becomes an empty hole or hand to develop further. It is closely related to the rest of the energy programme which we are pursuing under the new Programme of Work and Budget, and the development of this programme might just be an indication of the example given by the delegate of the Netherlands how shifts and reorientation in programmes are taking place in FAO and, as he has described it, for the department of the Dutch Government it is exactly the same way as we have implemented

it in FAO, which means we are using the current budget and then seeking through shifts and new orders of priority to introduce the necessary reorientation from which the energy programme question has been developed.

I think those are the major questions raised. I will be glad to come back if some delegation feels I have missed some important point.

M. A. FORES RODAS (Director General Adjunto, Departamento de Montes): En primer lugar, Sr. Presidente, quisiera agradecer a los distinguidos delegados por su apoyo al Programa del Director General en lo que respecta al sector forestal, específicamente la variación y la participación del sector forestal en el desarrollo rural con los énfasis apropiados sobre energía rural, energía doméstica y desarrollo rural en general.

Quisiera, Sr. Presidente, hacer un pequeño comentario sobre la pregunta hecha por el señor delegado de Estados Unidos referente a nuestras relaciones industriales con ONUDI.

Desde el principio, en la creación de la FAO y que se incorporó al mismo tiempo el Programa de Montes, se creó la División de Industrias Forestales o el Programa de Industrias Forestales, haciendo especial énfasis en las industrias primarias; es decir, aquellas industrias que afectan directamente el recurso forestal. Después de la creación de ONUDI, alia por 1969, se llegó al primer acuerdo mutuo de coordinación de trabajos con tal Organización. Este acuerdo entre FAO y ONUDI reconoce la completa interdependencia de las industrias forestales primarias con la ordenación y el manejo del recurso forestal. Prácticamente, cada una de las decisiones de manejo, tales como qué especies, cómo crecen, dónde crecer y plantar especies, de qué tamaño, a qué edad cortar, a qué edad aclarear, y cómo tales especies responden a los sistemas silvícolas de ordenación y tienen relación directa en qué van a ser convertidas y para qué van a ser utilizadas desde el punto de vista industrial primario. Es así que la ordenación del recurso es absolutamente inseparable del procesamiento primario del producto primario mismo. Así es que la FAO de acuerdo con ONUDI tiene que ver con todas las industrias forestales primarias, tales como aserrío, ply wood, tablero de partículas, pulpa y papel, mientras que ONUDI maneja las siguientes etapas de la conversión del papel, por ejemplo, la fabricación y manufactura de muebles, la conversión de madera aserrada en componentes de construcción, etc.

Existe ya Sr. Presidente, un mecanismo por medio del cual representantes de nuestras dos organizaciones se reúnen periódica y sistemáticamente a intercambiar información e ideas y a planificar acciones específicas de cooperación mutua a nivel de proyecto. De tal manera que ambas organizaciones se mantienen operando muy de cerca en muchos proyectos específicos.

Otro de los peligros que se podría correr, Sr. Presidente, en la separación de la ordenación del recurso con la influencia de las industrias primarias forestales, es que las instituciones de financiamiento nacional o internacional no mirarían con buenos ojos el proveer préstamos o financiamientos a inversiones a la industria, salvo que la garantía de la existencia del recurso sea dada. Similarmente los préstamos a plantaciones serían probablemente no aprobados, si no se tiene la garantía también del producto básico que es el recurso en pie.

Un siguiente factor, Sr. Presidente, es que la contribución forestal al empleo rural, al desarrollo rural y a la aplicación verdadera y real que el Director General ha dado a los pasos siguientes posteriores a WCARRD serían puestos en peligro si tal dicotomía dentro de la ordenación total del recurso existiera.

Debido nuevamente a los factores que ya he enumerado, es decir que el principio del desarrollo rural basado en la participación del recurso forestal a tal desarrollo, implica una indivisibilidad entre el recurso, las instituciones rurales y la participación popular y la industria apropiada forestal, en este caso específico la industria primaria.

Por supuesto, estoy a la disposición de los señores representantes para cualquier pregunta posterior.

A. LABON (Officer-in-Charge, Department of Fisheries): I hope I can be very brief and would like to say that we have noted with appreciation the general support the Commission expressed for the Fisheries part of the Director-General's Programme of Work for the forthcoming biennium. We have also carefully noted all the proposals and suggestions for future inclusion in future programmes of work of the Fisheries Department expressed by various delegations.



I should also say that we have noted the support the Commission has expressed for the World Management Conference on Fisheries to be held in 1983 and have noted suggestions that this Management Conference should be preceded by careful study, consultations and other preparation so as to ensure a comprehensive coverage of problems faced by countries in the management and exploitation of fisheries within, their Exclusive Economic Zones.

As a third point, I should refer to a specific item raised by St. Lucia connected with the determination of fisheries evaluation and development project for the Western Central Atlantic Region. The present phase of this project, as has been pointed out, is coming to an end on 31 December 1981, and despite long-lasting negotiations with UNDP, we are not in a position to secure funds even for a modest operation for the period 1982-83, which seems to be a critical period for UNDP funding. For this reason, in consultation with UNDP, we have notified countries of this situation, and the countries of the region who are members of the project may wish to reiterate their support to UNDP through the regular channels with emphasis on the important role the project plays for that region.

I should also add that very strong support and appreciation for the project activities was expressed at the recent session of the Western Central Atlantic Commission which took place earlier this year in Havana.

In addition to this, I should add that we have in a final stage of preparation another project which is not a substitute for the terminated project for the Lesser Antilles area, of which St. Lucia may become a member if the government expresses that wish. The project is to be funded from OPEC funds, not from direct UNDP sources.

CHAIRMAN: Out of seven chapters we have completed two. We are supposed to have completed seven by now.

The meeting rose at 18.15 hours.

La séance est levée à 18 h 15.

Se levanta la sesión a las 18.15 horas.



## **conference**

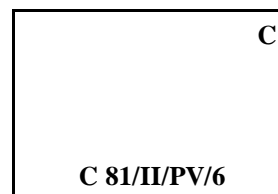
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

## **conférence**

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

## **conferencia**

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION



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Twenty-first Session

COMMISSION II

Vingt et unième session

COMMISSION II

21° período de sesiones

COMMISSION II

SIXTH MEETING  
SIXIEME SEANCE  
SEXTA SESION

(12 November 1981)

The Sixth Meeting was opened at 9.30 hours,  
R. Steiner, Chairman of Commission II, presiding

La quatrième séance est ouverte à 9 h 30, sous la présidence  
de R. Steiner, Président de la Commission II

Se abre la cuarta sesión a las 9.30 horas bajo la presidencia  
de R. Steiner, Presidente de Comisión II

II - ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMES OF THE ORGANIZATION (continued)

II - ACTIVITES ET PROGRAMMES DE L'ORGANISATION (suite)

II - ACTIVIDADES Y PROGRAMAS DE LA ORGANIZACION (continuación)

Items 9 and 10        Programme of Work and Budget, 1982-83, and Medium-term Objectives including Agricultural Research in Developing Countries (continued)

Points 9 et 10      Programme de travail et budget 1982-83 et Objectifs à moyen terme, y compris la recherche agricole dans les pays en développement (suite)

Tema 9 y 10        Programa de Labores y Presupuesto para 1982-83 y objetivos a medio plazo, incluida la investigación agrícola en los países en desarrollo (continuación)

CHAIRMAN: The Sixth Meeting of Commission II is open. This morning we are debating Chapters 3 to 7 of the Programme of Work and Budget.

V. KRENTOS (Cyprus): I would like specifically to touch upon the Programme of Work and Budget in general and less specifically to come to some points which I hope are pertinent to most national programmes in agricultural development.

It is our strong belief that this document provides a comprehensive coverage of the real global issues which beset many countries, including my own country. I think it provides a complete kit which in turn supplies the tools for the solution of many of the problems which we in agriculture are faced with.

As always, we have looked upon FAO as providing not just a forum for perorations but rather the thrust for action in implementing our agricultural development programmes.

It is most gratifying that this document provides food for thought for each one of us and in detail provides the means of augmenting our efforts, in developing agriculture. In that sense we fully support the programme of Work and Budget.

I would like to touch briefly on two general points. The first is the question of coordination on the FAO level, which I think is the most crucial aspect for implementing the various and varied agricultural programmes in various countries. I think it is absolutely essential that FAO should look in the most practical and the most effective way to strengthen the national efforts, the national institutions, in achieving what they are set to do. On the question of energy we are somewhat concerned about the proliferation of interests from many directions. At this point I regret to say that they have not seen to that coordinating spirit and that sense of direction which would be an essential part in making a project of this kind a success. I think that in the last few years, a number of organizations, both international and national, have been very much interested in getting into the field of energy and particularly the field of solar energy or the alternative sources of energy without, I think any concrete plan and sense of direction.

I am glad that recently there has been a meeting in Paris which is trying to coordinate these activities, but we would rather like to see the practical products of these efforts, and we shall look forward in the future toward cooperating in the area of solar energy and utilization for improving agricultural production and also other sources of energy which are likely to help us in combatting the energy crisis.

Now I turn to the international agricultural institutions which have in some countries, including my own, played a very important role in the development of the agricultural sector. However, we would like to approach agricultural research from a very practical aspect. In other words, it is essential that we should endeavour to carry out applied agricultural research and not just carrying out research for the sake of research. We cannot afford the luxury of carrying basic agricultural research. We can leave that to the countries that can afford to do that, and in that sense, I think, we on the national level have to be very careful so that we coordinate our research activities with the extension activities as well so that the information and the results arrived at in the fields on the experimental level should reach the farmer in the fastest possible time.

With these remarks I would like in closing to reserve my right to come back again on other points which are likely to come up on these two specific aspects, energy in agriculture and also on the structure of agricultural research in helping the effort, whether it is national, regional or global, in developing our agricultural resources.

However, before closing, Mr. Chairman, I think you have been doing an excellent job and I am sure that today we can wrap up the work of this meeting very quickly by 11 o'clock so that we can be given the opportunity to come back afresh early in the afternoon.

H. REDL (Austria) (Original language German): Chapters 3 to 7 now before us call for the following two brief comments from the Austrian delegation. First of all, I would like to stress the need for capital investment in the agriculture of developing countries, and the conclusions which have been arrived at under 3.2 we believe to be correct.

The Technical Cooperation Programme, Chapter 4, plays a very important part, especially for short-term aid, in particular in cases of emergencies. The Programme has proved its usefulness in the past. In this connexion, we welcome the introduction of continued monitoring of this programme and this is going to cover all of the projects which were approved in 1978-79. The trend to use TCP projects more and more in connexion with the investment programmes of governments could be strengthened further.

I would like to say that Austria agrees just as much with the proposals in Chapters 3 to 7 as it did in Chapters 1 and 2.

R. SCHIFFNER (Germany, Federal Republic of) (Original language German): This morning, I would like to speak quite briefly on Chapter 4, that is to say, the Technical Cooperation Programme. In the Council we have already voiced certain doubts concerning growth rates of this programme, and I would like to avail myself of this opportunity to state quite clearly that in my government's view UNDP is the central institution for financing and coordination of technical cooperation within the UN System. We do not think that FAO should neglect in general the tasks, which is clearly described in Chapters 2 and 3. The increase proposed for TCP has as a consequence that the share of this programme in the total budget has increased from 11.7 to nearly 13 percent, and we are of the opinion that this increase in the long run is really going to shift the balance between various programmes in a way which is not in line with our thinking. We should not forget in this connexion that in addition to the expenditure for technical assistance we have to add to the expenditure from the regular budget the overhead costs which arise for technical assistance projects which amounted to \$10.5 million in the last biennium.

The Director-General in explaining his proposal pointed out inter alia that UNDP funds are given on a retroactive basis and that they are dwindling. I do not know whether this is a proper justification to give, because the fact that other organizations find themselves in financial difficulties does not necessarily have as a consequence that FAO has to go into this breach. It may be perfectly true that the rate of growth of UNDP will not be as great as in the past, but there will still be a certain growth.

As far as the third UNDP planning cycle is concerned from 1982 to 1986, an annual growth rate of 8 percent is being expected, that is to say, about \$5.1 billion, while in the preceding planning cycle the increase was somewhat higher.

In 1980 FAO received more than double the funds from UNDP than the next executing agency receiving extra-budgetary funds from the UNDP.

The second remark I would like to make refers to the problem of evaluation, which I would like to mention in connection with TCP, but which has also a more general aspect and which we will have to deal with again under Item 11 of the Agenda. But I would like to point out right now that according to our view, Resolution No 1 which the Council adopted at its Seventy-fourth Session provided for an overall assessment of the TCP after a five-year period. The information which we have in document C 81/8, C 81/4 and C1 80/4, is a step in that direction and we appreciate this, but we also believe that this information is not adequate, it is not permitting a true assessment, and we therefore express the hope that the Secretariat will take the necessary measures to undertake further effort in that direction, and we would like to hear from the Secretariat at what time we can expect results.

The problem of evaluation by external bodies is something we have mentioned several times, and we did state that we are in favour of FAO taking measures in this direction. In particular, we are thinking of the participation of organisations such as the Joint Inspection Unit.

A comment made by the Director-General in the Introduction to document C 81/8 induces us to say we are not fully in agreement with what is stated there. He points out that the Joint Inspection Unit when assessing the internal evaluation system of FAO gave a positive judgement of this system, and that it seemed to give its support to the consensus to the last Conference Session - that is to say, that evaluation of the FAO Programme by external bodies did not appear necessary. Quite frankly, in the documents available to us from the Joint Inspection Unit we do not find anything which permits this conclusion. We would be glad if some clarification on this point could be given.

These are all the comments I would like to make now since we are a bit short of time.

K. CHOUBRI (Liban) (langue originale arabe): Je voudrais tout d'abord appuyer d'une façon générale la récapitulation des prévisions du budget par programme tel que cela figure dans le document en discussion (p. 182 du texte arabe, 159 du texte français), et afin de ne pas perdre beaucoup de temps je voudrais m'arrêter notamment aux deux programmes suivants, à savoir:

- e programme 3.4 concernant les représentants de la FAO,

- et le chapitre 4 concernant la coopération technique.

Pour ce qui est du programme 3.4 concernant les représentants de la FAO, la délégation de mon pays voudrait appuyer le contenu de ce programme. En effet, nous avons étudié les justifications qui le sous-tendent, nous avons compris la nature même du problème exposé dans ce document et les objectifs visés par la FAO qui a par ailleurs très bien défini les responsabilités assumées par les représentants régionaux.

Nous avons également étudié le plan d'action qui se rapporte à ce problème. Nous considérons à cet égard que, parmi les réalisations les plus importantes de la FAO figure la création de postes de représentants au niveau national. En effet, l'efficacité de ces représentations a été prouvée. Elles correspondent aux besoins et aux désirs des pays en développement. Elles ont renforcé l'autorité de la FAO de façon équilibrée et progressive, et ont permis de résoudre sur place les nombreux problèmes que rencontre le secteur agricole dans les pays concernés. Ceci s'applique très bien à la représentation de la FAO dans mon pays, qui nous a rendu des services considérables dans le secteur agricole aussi bien public que privé. A cet égard nous voudrions dire que la meilleure évaluation que nous pouvons effectuer du travail de ces représentants devrait provenir tout d'abord des gouvernements eux-mêmes. A cette étape nous ne pouvons pas faire autrement. Par la suite, les choses peuvent en arriver au niveau de l'Organisation.

Par conséquent, nous approuvons la création de nouvelles représentations ainsi que les crédits qui leur sont nécessaires. Il faudrait également dire que nous approuvons la création de représentations à double accréditation dans plusieurs pays, en raison des économies appréciables qui pourraient en découler.

A cet égard, nous rendons hommage à la réduction qu'a effectuée le Directeur général dans les dépenses au siège en contrepartie d'une augmentation des dépenses du personnel de terrain.

Nous voulons également souligner que nous n'avons remarqué aucun double emploi entre les activités entreprises par les bureaux régionaux de la FAO et les représentants de la FAO dans les pays. Nous considérons au contraire que leurs activités se complètent.

Je passe enfin au chapitre 4 intitulé "Programme de Coopération Technique" pour lequel les crédits budgétaires ont été augmentés. La raison en est la pression découlant des demandes de plus en plus nombreuses provenant des pays membres qui veulent bénéficier des projets spécifiques entrant dans le cadre du projet de coopération technique, et la nécessité de répondre rapidement à ces demandes.

Ce programme demeure à nos yeux l'une des meilleures réalisations que le Directeur général ait pu enregistrer depuis le début de son mandat. A notre avis, ce programme a rendu des services appréciables car il permet de déployer de véritables activités sur le terrain et les justifications présentées dans le document C 81/3 nous confirment dans cet avis.

Le plan d'action proposé dans ce cadre pour la période biennale 1982-83 bénéficie donc de notre appui entier et sans réserve.

Ceci dit, j'aimerais que vous me permettiez de reprendre la parole ultérieurement au cours des débats.

Y. KUROKOCHI (Japan): I should like to make just a few brief comments on certain points. My delegation finds itself in broad agreement with the delegate of the Federal Republic of Germany, so I should like to avoid going into too much detail on the points that have already been presented.

I should simply like to say that the points of interest that have been presented by the worthy delegate from the Federal Republic of Germany are very close to ours.

I should like to take up the Technical Cooperation Programme. It has quite a few merits that recommend it, but my delegation is amazed at the considerably rapid growth of the budget for this Programme. We are somewhat fearful that there may in future arise cases of duplication with programme that the United Nations Development Programme might implement. Therefore, my delegation would like its views placed on record that the budget for the Technical Cooperation Programme should be increased with much caution, and that in implementing the budget as much care should be taken as our good sense permits.

As for the FAO Country Representatives, my delegation is inclined also to cherish some fears that in future there may be created effects of duplication with the United Nations Development Programme Resident Representatives and/or Regional Office of FAO.

From the point of view of guaranteeing effective use of financial resources throughout the United Nations family organizations, the objective of decentralisation - which is in itself commendable - should be put into practice as FAO steadily promotes close-ties of cooperation with UNDP representatives.

May I recall that yesterday when my delegation was given the floor I made a certain remark, and in line with the points that I have just given I should like to repeat one sentence which I presented yesterday: "We are inclined to conclude that the growth of outlays for the Technical Cooperation Programme and FAO Country Representatives within the total budget could safely be reorganized and re-evaluated on the basis of clarification in detail and breakdown on each country concerned where the technical cooperation programme is introduced and the FAO Country Representatives is stationed".

P.S. McLEAN (United Kingdom): Since the United Kingdom delegation did not intervene in the debate yesterday on Chapter 2, I would like to make it clear that we support the general thrust of the programmes for agriculture, fisheries and forestry, even though we share many of the concerns expressed by a number of delegations on some aspects of these programmes. In view of the time constraint, I shall severely limit my observations on Chapters 3 to 7, particularly since I share many of the views expressed already by the delegates of the Federal Republic of Germany and Japan.

On Chapter 3, Development Support Programmes, my delegation notes that the increase in the programme as a whole at over 13 percent is very high and we particularly note the increase in the investment support programme of about 22.8 percent which I understand is foreseen for costs for the training of staff in developing countries, for temporary recruitment, for consultant travel and contractual and other services. We see this as a very large increase indeed and we would have welcomed further clarification as to how this is divided, and particularly on such matters as the number of additional consultants to be engaged and their travel expenses.

We note also that there is a large increase to cover the cost of additional representation overseas. We accept this as a policy agreed in the past by Conference and it is to be welcomed as part of the decentralization which we from the United Kingdom have always supported. But we are more than a little concerned about the relationship between this policy and the continuing work of the Regional Offices of FAO to which the delegate of Japan referred, and we question what activities in the Regional Offices could not now be covered by Country Representatives if necessary, with some supplementary assistance from Headquarters or through double accreditation, as the delegate of Lebanon has suggested. We believe that the role of the Regional Office vis-à-vis the role of the Country Representative requires further review and constant attention by the Organization.

As I have said, the Federal Republic of Germany has made a very interesting intervention on TCP and I will not do more than simply underline one particular aspect of this. We too find the increase of over 16 percent very high, even accepting that it reflects the priorities of the Organization and we also accept that those activities do not appear to conflict in any way with the general responsibility placed on the UNDP for technical cooperation within the United Nations system. However, we would have welcomed rather more information on the level of demand and the nature of demand for TCP justifying this very large increase in activity since, as others have said, it suggests some effective switching of demand from UNDP funded activities, thus in turn affecting the use made of FAO and its services by UNDP.

One final point, if I may. We note a very large programme of meetings over the coming biennium, reflecting FAO's wide-ranging interests and we note also that these are on the whole of a very specialized nature. We believe it is important to ensure that the number of meetings and consequently their expense is kept to an absolute minimum consistent with the criteria that meetings should be convened where the results are likely to have real and lasting values. We suggest that each Head of Department should continue to undertake a searching review of its programme and examine the need for each meeting in the light of such criteria.

A.R. SIAFFA (Sierra Leone): I would like to touch briefly on Chapters 3, 4 and 5. The Sierra Leone delegation is in full agreement with FAO's field programme planning and liaison activities in the agricultural, forestry and fisheries sectors. The assistance this programme provides governments in planning and preparing programmes and formulating technical assistance projects, administering the Technical Assistance Programmes, cooperation in the mobilization of resources for development assistance to the agricultural sectors - all these are positive contributions to the development efforts of member governments.

Then, coming to Programme 3.2, Investment Programmes, the Sierra Leone delegation commends the efforts of FAO for the support it provides through its Investment Centre in strengthening the capacities of member governments in identifying and preparing investment projects in agriculture, fisheries, and agro-industries for presentation to possible funding institutions and agencies.

Coming to Programme 3.4, FAO Representatives, we endorse the need for FAO Representatives at the country level to coordinate at the national level the various field activities within the country, and by providing guidance in project identification and formulation. We in Sierra Leone have enjoyed a very fruitful experience by the establishment of the FAO Representative's Office in our country.

Coming to Chapter 4, Technical Cooperation, during the initial contribution under general statements on the Programme of Work and Budget, my delegation recognized the importance of TCP and the unique role it plays to alleviate urgent and short-term problems. My delegation wishes to express its profound thanks to FAO for the assistance received in the past and present under this programme. We believe very strongly that TCP is one of the most important programmes of this Organization and deserves to be fully supported in terms of financial inputs, etc.

Coming to Information and Documentation, Programme 5.1, my delegation appreciates the services provided under Programme 5.1.1, Public Information. The plan of action proposed under News Media, Information Materials Production and Ceres is welcome and has our full support.

D.H.J. ABEYACONASEKERA (Sri Lanka): I should like to comment very briefly on three items in the Programme of Work and Budget first, the role of the Investment Centre; second, The Technical Cooperation Programmes; third, Field Representatives of FAO. Speakers before me from developing countries have touched on these aspects and what I propose to say now is to stress their importance, as far as my country is concerned and what the proposals made for improving the programmes would mean to the developing countries in general.

What we have heard at various fora, during the last 10 or 15 years, has been that while there has been financial assistance available from bilateral and multilateral sources, many developing countries lacked the expertise to prepare projects suitable for presentation to obtain assistance. In fact, this is a common comment (one of the blatant remarks) by many missions that visited countries, saying that if you have a pipeline of projects, there is no end to the assistance one could give; but this is the shortcoming and I think the FAO's Investment Centre, which has qualified experts in various fields, performs a very useful function in assisting developing countries to formulate suitable projects for implementation.

Furthermore, the record of work done by the Investment Centre during the last 15 years has also been remarkable. Nearly 400 projects have been formulated and a total of nearly \$17.5 billion has been lent towards agricultural and rural development. Besides lending through multilateral sources, it has also established links with regional banks such as the African Development Bank, the Inter-American Bank and enlarged its role to such an extent that it continues to play an effective role in the lending policies of various agencies. In fact, what we are distressed to see is that at a time when we are trying to build up an Investment Centre with the necessary expertise, a reduction in the amount of financial assistance that should be given to developing countries would mean that we would have a vast source of untapped, unutilized resources within FAO. This is something that most developing countries would not like to see happen, so the increases proposed for the next biennium, to my mind are very moderate, and will enable many developing countries besides my own to formulate projects and get



whatever assistance they can from either the regional banks, or the World Bank so that no one could say that assistance could not be given due to lack of projects.

As regards the country representatives of FAO, my country was a beneficiary under this scheme. During the last three years, the progress that this office has made has been quite satisfactory; I would not say remarkable because to be remarkable one would have to have more funds by ways of assistance from various sources, for implementation and evaluation. But in a climate of restricted financial assistance and with a pipeline of projects which do not have the necessary funds to support, as we witnessed during the last one and one-half years, the role the FAO can play particularly in a country would be limited. However, linking on with the other item that I wish to touch on, the Technical Cooperation Programme, I find that the Regional Officers play a very important part in assisting national governments to implement the Technical Cooperation Programmes which are pursued under the FAO's Regular Programme.

I have to raise one question however. The opening of a country representative office, besides satisfying the main objectives which have been listed in this document, like establishing a liaison point between FAO and the client country, unless there are important development programmes or projects in that country, and if a vast number of small projects, as those under the TCP Programme, are to be implemented, I feel that there will be a heavy load of work for the FAORs. I mentioned this earlier at the Finance Committee meeting too. Sometimes they could be overloaded with work and complaints of inadequate staff could be often heard. It is true that CRs should rely to a great extent on the national governments, offices in the various departments and I feel the further strengthening of the offices would be necessary if there is to be an increase in the amount of work.

About the TCP programme itself, my country has been a beneficiary on many occasions. As rightly pointed out by my colleagues from the developing countries, this is one programme which in times of need comes to the assistance of countries and in its rapid implementation we have had good results. To cite one example. In 1979 (Sri Lanka) reeled under severe cyclone and much damage was done to our teak and coconut plantations. Vast areas of paddy lands were destroyed, including government seed farms. On a request we made to the Director-General we received prompt assistance to put up stores for seed paddy. Even seed paddy was offered from a neighbouring country, since the seed farms nor destroyed. Similarly, on other occasions too the response from the FAO to a request that we made under this programme had been very willingly accepted and executed. So I think a programme like this to an Organization is necessary. While these are very small projects I think the impact they have on a country, particularly in those particular areas where the damage due to sudden disaster like floods and prolonged droughts, these programmes and assistance are always valued and appreciated.

Besides these comments I do not want to take much of your time. I think in the agenda before us, these are three items on which many countries, particularly developing countries in my region, have been benefited and I would therefore strongly support whatever financial resources are being allocated for the programmes under reference, should be endorsed, since they are beneficial to most of us.

K. TANOUCHEV (Bulgarie): Prenant pour la première fois la parole devant cette Commission, je voudrais me joindre aux délégations qui sont déjà intervenues pour vous féliciter de votre élection, Monsieur le Président, à la présidence de cette Commission et pour la manière dynamique et compétente dont vous dirigez les débats.

Ne pouvant précéder l'allocation du Chef de la délégation bulgare à la séance plénière, je ne ferai qu'un bref commentaire: notre délégation estime que le programme de travail présenté est bien équilibré, qu'il tient compte des activités prioritaires de l'Organisation. Nous appuyons ce programme dans son ensemble, ainsi que les sous-programmes énumérés dans les différents chapitres.

En conséquence, nous acceptons le niveau du budget et nous pensons que ce niveau produira les ressources nécessaires pour l'accomplissement du programme de travail de l'Organisation, pour la période 1982-83.

P. GUERIN (France): Je voudrais exprimer la position de la délégation française sur le Programme de coopération technique.

Aux yeux de la délégation française, l'utilité du Programme de coopération technique est indéniable, puisqu'il est le seul programme permettant à la FAO de répondre rapidement à des requêtes non prévisibles - j'insiste bien: non prévisibles - des gouvernements. A ce titre, l'accroissement de son budget proposé pour le prochain biennium se justifie pleinement.

Mais il nous apparaît nécessaire de veiller au maintien d'une certaine rigueur dans la sélection des requêtes à financer, et surtout de maintenir les caractéristiques qui donnent à ce programme toute sa justification.

Faire face aux situations d'urgence, accélérer la mise en oeuvre des investissements en jouant un rôle de catalyseur et de mobilisateur des financements internes et externes, bilatéraux ou multilatéraux, sont à nos yeux les deux missions essentielles du Programme de coopération technique. A cet égard, nous considérons que la répartition des fonds entre les différentes catégories de projets mérite un commentaire.

A propos de la formation notamment, il a été constaté un certain recul de la part consacrée à la formation jusqu'en 1980 et il semble qu'un redressement s'amorce en 1981. Nous souhaitons vivement que ce redressement se confirme, qu'il soit poursuivi pendant le second biennium. Il nous semble en effet que la formation est un des moyens les plus efficaces de faire en sorte que la mise en oeuvre des investissements dans les pays se réalise le plus rapidement possible. Il faut toujours essayer de faire en sorte que la capacité d'accueil des financements soit la plus forte possible.

Les urgences. Bien évidemment, c'est un des domaines importants de l'action du Programme de coopération technique. Nous considérons que la part qui lui est réservée est correcte.

Les investissements. Bien sûr c'est l'objet essentiel de ce Programme.

Les divers. J'avoue que je me pose quelques questions. Je sais certes que ce poste des divers est consacré essentiellement aux missions d'experts. Je sais qu'en principe les missions d'experts, financées au titre de ce Programme, sont limitées dans leur durée à 12 mois. Je me demande si cette durée ne pourrait pas être raccourcie, car lorsque l'on s'aperçoit que certaines missions sont demandées pour l'élaboration de politiques de développement en général et non pas pour des projets précis, on comprend que les missions soient de longue durée, mais cela ne me paraît pas entrer dans les fonctions de ce Programme de coopération et cela ne me paraît pas non plus entrer dans le champ des requêtes non prévisibles des gouvernements. Cela me paraît rentrer dans les activités plus normales de l'Organisation et des pays concernés.

Quant à la répartition entre zones, la délégation française se réjouit de voir l'Afrique en bonne position dans cette répartition. Je ne vais pas m'étendre là-dessus, tout le monde connaît la situation difficile de ce continent. Nous nous félicitons de la part importante prise par l'Afrique dans ce Programme.

D. BETI (Suisse): Dans ma déclaration introductive aux travaux de la Commission II, je veux vous assurer de notre collaboration pour que vous puissiez mener à bien les travaux de cette Commission. Malheureusement, le fait que notre délégation soit très restreinte m'oblige de temps à autre à aller ailleurs, ce qui peut causer des contre-temps, et je m'en excuse auprès de vous et de tous mes collègues.

Je voudrais prendre une position sur deux points concernant les chapitres III et IV du Programme de travail et budget pour 1982-83.

Ma délégation appuie de façon générale les efforts de décentralisation entrepris par la FAO ces dernières années. C'est, nous semble-t-il, un moyen important pour donner plus d'impact aux activités de terrain de l'Organisation. Le système des représentants par pays peut, dans ce sens, apporter les avantages souhaités, notamment en ce qui concerne l'amélioration de la qualité des projets, et une plus grande efficacité dans leur exécution.

Pour que ces avantages soient atteints et que la décentralisation soit effective, il est évident que l'appui fourni par les représentants doit être avant tout opérationnel, technique et administratif. Il est évident aussi que la délégation de compétence, de pouvoir de décision et de responsabilité du Siège au bureau des représentants doit être réelle et appropriée. Il est évident en outre que le lien entre les représentants de la FAO et les représentants résidents du PNUD doit rester étroit. Il va de soi que le choix des candidats pour les postes de représentants de la FAO est également essentiel et déterminant.

Or, la lecture des documents de la Conférence ne nous éclaire pas beaucoup, et sûrement pas suffisamment sur ces différents points.

Nous pensons dès lors que le Secrétariat devrait nous aider à mieux saisir et comprendre ce programme des représentants de la FAO dans tous ses éléments essentiels. Aussi nous lui demandons de bien vouloir communiquer aux participants de la Conférence:

1 - la liste des pays qui jouissent déjà de la présence d'un représentant et si possible des pays auxquels sont attribués les 12 représentants supplémentaires à installer dans le prochain biennium.

2 - la composition en personnel des bureaux existants, le coût de chaque bureau, sur quel budget sont payés ces frais, et ceci en rapport avec le coût total des projets exécutés par la FAO dans les pays concernés.

3 - des indications précises sur les compétences, le pouvoir de décision et les responsabilités qui sont délégués par le Siège aux représentants de la FAO dans les pays.

En ce qui concerne l'extension prévue de ce Programme, ma délégation la considère pour le moins comme trop rapide. Nous aurions souhaité que le Directeur général prenne plus de temps pour établir l'ensemble du réseau des représentants. Ceci lui aurait permis d'être complètement certain que l'extension se fasse dans les meilleures conditions possibles, et c'est précisément sur ce point que nous ne sommes pas, quant à nous, entièrement rassurés pour l'instant.

Mais en nous fournissant les éléments d'information que nous avons mentionnés ci-dessus, et en le faisant dans toute la mesure du possible pendant cette session de la Conférence, le Secrétariat pour-rail nous apporter une aide précieuse dans la compréhension de ce Programme des représentants de la FAO et par là nous aider à "avalier", si je puis dire, moins douloureusement, l'amère pilule de l'augmentation et de l'extension rapide du Programme.

En ce qui concerne le Programme de coopération technique, lorsqu'il a été institué par la Conférence de la FAO il y a quelques années, mon pays avait exprimé des critiques à l'égard de cette décision, estimant que les programmes et projets de terrain devraient continuer à être financés sur des ressources extra-budgétaires, qu'elles viennent du PNUD ou de fonds fiduciaires bi-multilatéraux. Notre point de vue concernant les objectifs au financement desquels doivent servir les budgets ordinaires des organisations internationales n'a pas changé entre temps fondamentalement et je tiens à le souligner ici.

Cependant, le Programme de coopération a fait son chemin depuis sa création. Nous l'avons observé attentivement pendant ces dernières années, notamment par l'intermédiaire de nos représentants bilatéraux. Nous ne cachons pas aujourd'hui que nous y avons découvert quelques aspects positifs.

Ainsi le Programme de coopération technique peut intervenir opportunément dans des situations d'urgence. Ainsi le Programme de coopération technique peut suppléer temporairement à des retards qui peuvent se produire dans la mise à disposition du financement pour des projets bi-multilatéraux, avantages dont ont pu profiter de temps en temps certains projets de programmes spéciaux de la FAO que nous finançons sur fonds fiduciaires.

En outre, le Programme de coopération technique peut combler des lacunes rencontrées dans des projets en cours d'exécution. Et finalement, le Programme de coopération technique peut effectivement favoriser les investissements dont beaucoup de pays en développement ont un énorme besoin.

Les quelques constatations favorables nous permettent dès lors de vivre plus paisiblement avec le Programme de coopération technique, sans que notre position de principe à son égard ait changé pour autant.

Notre attitude nous est aussi facilitée par la constatation que de toute évidence nos partenaires des pays en développement sont pleins d'éloge pour l'appui que leur apporte le Programme de coopération technique.

Par conséquent, nous ne sommes pas opposés au maintien du Programme de coopération technique au niveau actuel. Nous nous demandons toutefois s'il est vraiment justifié de l'étendre aux proportions proposées. Nous nous demandons également si le moment est bien choisi pour accroître le Programme de coopération technique de plus de 16 pour cent, alors que l'augmentation de 8 pour cent de l'ensemble du budget ordinaire se trouve être fortement contestée.

En outre, nous avons quelque peu l'impression que les critères de sélection fixes pour le Programme de coopération technique sont, comme l'ont fait remarquer plusieurs orateurs avant moi, depuis quelque temps interprétés de façon plutôt extensive. Si tel ne devait pas être le cas, nous aimerions que le Directeur général puisse nous rassurer à ce sujet, qu'il puisse nous aider à corriger cette impression, bref qu'il nous offre une plus grande transparence de ce Programme de coopération technique.

Nous nous permettons de lui suggérer deux moyens par lesquels il peut facilement, nous semble-t-il, permettre à tous les membres ici présents une compréhension suffisante du Programme de coopération technique.

D'une part, il serait utile de connaître les critères de sélection sur la base desquels la FAO approuve ou refuse aujourd'hui - et je précise bien aujourd'hui - le financement de projets dans le cadre du Programme de coopération technique.

D'autre part, il serait en outre utile de disposer de la liste des projets approuvés en 1981 dans le cadre de ce Programme, en nous indiquant, projet par projet, le critère qui a présidé à son approbation.

Nous remercions à l'avance le Directeur général pour les efforts qu'il voudra bien déployer pour nous procurer ces informations, si possible durant la présente session.

CHAIRMAN: I would like to make an announcement regarding the Drafting Committee for Commission II. This will work under the chairmanship of Mr. T. Ahmad from Pakistan. The members of the Drafting Committee have been selected taking due respect of their regional groupings. They will be Senegal, Cameroon, Bangladesh, France, Sweden, United States of America, New Zealand, Lebanon and Cuba. The Drafting Committee consists of these nine members. A written draft Report will be available by the beginning of next week. The arrangements for the Drafting Committee will be communicated later.

H.A. LAM (Mauritanie): Etant donné que c'est la première fois que ma délégation prend la parole, permettez-moi, Monsieur le Président, de vous féliciter pour votre élection à la présidence de notre commission.

La délégation de mon pays félicite le Directeur général pour cet important rapport Budget et programme, et nous l'appuyons solidement.

Ma délégation voudrait intervenir plus précisément sur les chapitres 3 et 4 c'est-à-dire l'action dans les pays en développement, la représentation de la FAO dans les pays membres, et le Programme de coopération technique.

L'efficacité, la rapidité et la souplesse de procédure avec lesquelles les ONG interviennent dans mon pays ne peuvent que nous obliger à appuyer la proposition tendant à créer un fonds fiduciaire spécial pour financer rapidement des projets de développement rural intéressant les populations pauvres.

Si les pays en développement ont, dans leur ensemble, soutenu le Programme de coopération technique et reconnu son efficacité, il est tout à fait logique de voir sur le budget une consolidation de ce programme.

Le Programme de coopération technique, par son caractère d'urgence et son aspect pratique, a permis d'aider mon pays à résoudre des problèmes pressants.

Le Directeur général, dans sa déclaration, nous a informé que le budget du troisième cycle du PNUD est en diminution pour la période 1981-82.

Mon pays appuie fortement le Programme de coopération technique, et recommanderait d'ailleurs que le plafond d'allocations soit relevé.

S'agissant des représentations de la FAO dans les pays membres, ma délégation ne peut que souscrire aux positions du Liban et de Chypre et nous pensons que cette représentation joue un rôle très important d'abord de conseil ensuite de coordination dans les rapports FAO-pays membres. Je saisis cette occasion pour rappeler que la représentation de la FAO en Mauritanie a constamment assisté avec efficacité et diligence les services techniques, et assuré une coordination entre le siège et notre pays.

Au stade actuel de nos débats, voilà les remarques de ma délégation.

LE PRESIDENT: Je passe maintenant la parole au représentant du Maroc et je voudrais ajouter que j'ai été fortement impressionné lors de sa première intervention par la brièveté de sa déclaration; néanmoins je voudrais le prier de bien tenir compte du fait que à 11 h nous serons obligés de lever la séance.

A. BOUZOUBAA (Maroc): Je limiterai mon intervention en disant que j'approuve les déclarations de la délégation du Liban et des autres délégations qui ont appuyé le Programme de coopération technique ainsi que la représentation de la FAO. Je m'étendrai ultérieurement sur les raisons de cette approbation.

T. AHMAD (Pakistan): Since there is a question of time constraint, I would only speak on two important issues under discussion, that is the TCP and the Field Representative Offices.

To begin with, Mr. Chairman, with your permission, may I briefly quote from the speech of the leader of my delegation which was delivered in the Plenary the other day. He said: "It has been repeatedly stressed at various international fora and summit conferences that the problem of hunger cannot be resolved unless developing countries themselves increase their food production, adopt and implement policy measures to achieve this objective. We fully subscribe to this view. The challenge to hunger and malnutrition can best be met by substantial advances in agriculture in developing countries where there is a tremendous gap between actual achievements and potential. That some countries have the will, the natural resources and the capability of doing so has been demonstrated by their actual performance". That was the part I wanted to quote from the leader of my delegation to bring home the point that any agricultural development and development in the field of food in developing countries needs help, not only financial help but also help in terms of expertise. The technical knowledge and the reservoir of knowledge which the FAO has and the other donor countries have has to be transferred to the developing countries if they are to achieve something.

My delegation thinks that in this context the TCP has been and is doing a tremendous amount of work. There is a universal recognition of the fact that TCP has proved to be a very efficient programme and has responded very, very quickly to the needs of developing countries, has provided them with the requisite technical support, has mobilized investments, and as Switzerland pointed out, has generally acted as a catalytic agent and has received appreciation from all the recipient countries. Under these circumstances, we fully support the TCP and feel that the 16 percent programme increase is justified if the really needed field programme is to be continued. We recognize that not only the developing countries but even most developed countries are appreciative of this programme, and consequently we are a little surprised that when the quality of the programme, when the thrust of the programme is appreciated and supported from all corners why there is hesitancy to support the increase, a very viable, very limited increase in the programme.

Under the circumstances, we feel that it is too premature to presume that there will be any duplication in the TCP Programme and the UNDP Programme because we feel that there is a tremendous gap between what has been achieved in the developing countries and what is their potential, and to bridge this gap between the actual achievement and the potential, we need to mobilize resources, we need to divert technologies, we need to train people, we need to have as many catalytic agents as possible working in this area, and we feel that it is too premature to think that there can be any duplication; Japan was concerned about this aspect. We think it is too premature because there is still a wide gap there, there is a huge cleavage between the potential and the achievement, and we think it should be filled by more aid, more support to the TCP programme.

Similarly, talking of the Field Country Representatives and Regional Offices, it was mentioned that there should be evaluation of the programme. What better evaluation can there be than the fact that all the recipient countries, all the developing countries wholeheartedly support the programme? They not only support the Country Representatives but they want more. The countries that do not have want more, and a country like my own, which is fortunate in having a FAO Country Representative, appreciates the work this Office is doing, the way it is coordinating the activities between the FAO and my country, the way the Office is providing a bridge between Headquarters and the authorities to implement the projects within the country, the way the Field Office acts as a catalyst in all activities of food and agriculture within the country. We really appreciate all the work that has been done there, and we are also aware that all other developing countries that have these Country Representatives are very happy with them and want more of them.

We support the general viewpoint that there should be decentralization and the field activities and the Field Offices should be strengthened, but we are surprised that there is on one side a demand for decentralization and on the other side, the very institutions which can help in this decentralization are being constrained, are being reduced in size and in numbers. We subscribe to the point of view that there should be decentralization; we feel that the Country Offices should be strengthened and that the Regional Offices should have the requisite authority.

But a note of warning here: when we say “decentralization”, we do not mean that the inherent constitutional or institutional powers with the Director-General or with the Council or with the Programme or Finance Committees or with the Conference should be delegated to the Regional and Country Offices. We mean that the normal work which can be done at Headquarters over and above the constitutional authority inherent in these governing bodies can be very easily delegated to the Country and Regional Offices so that they can respond more quickly and more speedily to the needs of the developing countries, can advise them, can be more flexible and can respond much more quickly.

Under these circumstances, we feel that the requisite expansion proposed in the programme funds for the Country Offices is justified, and we think that since it has been receiving universal acceptance from all the developing countries who are the recipients, who are the ones affected by them, who are the ones benefitted by them, we feel this programme should be expanded in the Programme of Work and Budget.

CHAIRMAN: Before adjourning, I would like to make two last announcements. The buses leaving for Vatican City will depart at 11.15 hours in front of Building A, and immediately after the audience the buses will return to FAO.

The second announcement concerns the work load for this afternoon. I still have the following countries on my speakers' list: Turkey, Yugoslavia, Tunisia, Ethiopia, Nigeria, El Salvador, Peoples Democratic Republic of Yemen, Botswana, Kuwait, Peru, Congo, Zambia. That brings us to a list for this afternoon of 12 countries, and I think there have been a number of questions that might be answered subsequently by the respective Assistant Director-Generals. It may take us towards the latter part of this afternoon, but I would like to make a cautious warning now that if we have a long list of speakers, we will be obliged to extend our session so that we definitely conclude our debate on the Programme of Work and Budget today, even at the risk of an evening session, however long and late it may last.

The Meeting is adjourned until 2.30 this afternoon.

The meeting rose at 11.00 hours

La séance est levée à 11 heures

Se levanta la sesión a las 11.00 horas

## **conference**

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

## **conférence**

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

## **conferencia**

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION

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Twenty-first Session

COMMISSION II

Vingt et unième session

COMMISSION II

21° período de sesiones

COMMISSION II

SEVENTH MEETING  
SEPIEME SEANCE  
SEPTIMA SESION

(13 November 1981)

The Seventh Meeting was opened at 15.30 hours  
R. Steiner, Chairman of Commission II, presiding

La quatrième séance est ouverte à 15 heures, sous la présidence de  
R. Steiner, Président de la Commission II

Se abre la séptima sesión a las 15.00 horas bajo la presidencia de  
R. Steiner, Presidente de Comisión II

II - ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMES OF THE ORGANIZATION (continued)

II - ACTIVITES ET PROGRAMMES DE L'ORGANISATION (suite)

II - ACTIVIDADES Y PROGRAMAS DE LA ORGANIZACION (continuación)

Items 9 and 10        Programme of Work and Budget, 1982-83, and Medium-term Objectives including Agricultural Research in Developing Countries (continued)

Points 9 et 10       Programme de travail et budget 1982-83 et Objectifs à moyen terme, y compris la recherche agricole dans les pays en développement (suite)

Tema 9 y 10         Programa de Labores y Presupuesto para 1982-83 y objetivos a medio plazo, incluida la investigación agrícola en los países en desarrollo (continuación)

- World Soil Charter

- Charte mondiale des sols

- Carta Mundial de los Suelos

H. OGUT (Turkey): The study undertaken by FAO entitled "Agriculture: Toward 2000" indicates that a total of 57.1 billion dollars needs to be invested in agriculture by the year 1990 in order to reach an annual growth rate of 4 percent in overall world food production. Considering the fact that developing countries have a substantial growth potential in agriculture, these countries require large investments to develop this potential. In implementing the investment programmes and projects the developing countries need to be supported internationally, not only to obtain financial resources, but also to develop a capacity for a rational use of the investment made, which requires acquiring appropriate technical knowledge. FAO's continuing support will be essential in meeting countries' requirements for such additional resources and assistance. With the addition of the supplementary activities aiming at providing these services the programme of investment will be further strengthened. In this respect my Government would like to convey its appreciation of the activities of the FAO Investment Centre in assisting governments in preparing investment projects.

At this juncture I would like to point out that the lack of institutional set-up at times affects adversely investments made. Our experience has taught us that any investment should be backed up by an institutional system which takes into account technical and economical potential of the country as well as the national strategies followed by the government. If such a condition is made yields from a given investment will be far more and be realized quicker than otherwise.

In the field of investment support Technical Cooperation Programme has also been very instrumental. TCP is one of the initiatives of the Director-General that we fully support since its inception. Technical Cooperation Programme is a unique one since it fulfills a very important function in providing a quick and effective response to the requests for not only investments but also urgent small-scale assistance. With its successful operation in the past TCP has taken a very crucial place in overall FAO programmes.

In parallel to the increasing demand for these services, while the proposed increase in the allocations to these programmes is welcome, we would appreciate if the amount allocated to the European region is increased considering the very high agricultural potential of the developing members of the European region, such as Turkey.

We would also like briefly to mention our support to FAO's decentralization programme. Later today we shall in effect sign an agreement with the Director-General for the establishment of an FAO office in Turkey.

Could I also reiterate my government's support for the budget increase for the biennium 1982-83, which in our view is very relevant to the resolution approved by the European Parliament on 30th September 1981 concerning the appeal of Nobel Prize winners as presented in document CL 79/INF/10.

M. TRKULYA (Yugoslavia): My delegation was a bit reluctant to take part in this debate on Chapter 3-7, not necessarily because of Friday the 13th, but essentially because we felt that our views were fairly widely known and indeed, we had a brief opportunity to voice our full support for Chapters 3-7 and especially Chapters 3 and 4, so on 3 and 4 I will be very brief indeed.



While we fully support the increase proposed for the Field Programme Planning on this one and we are even afraid that the increase proposed would not be adequate to meet the increased work load for the seed for the next biennium. We are aware, first of all, of an increasing number of institutions that should be served in the planning work by the DDF but also by the increased demand on FAO coming from various parts of the UN system.

I could not exaggerate enough the importance of investment and no question but that we fully support the investment programme, including all three sub-programmes and especially cooperative programmes and support services.

Especially after a thorough review of investment activities of FAO, not necessarily under Chapter 3, but all investment activities two years ago by the Programme Committee, and after we have really become fully aware of the high standard of efficiency in investment work of FAO we simply want to reiterate our full support.

On representatives, a number of times we have stated our own misgivings when a scheme was initiated but after a while we have become aware that it was really an essential avenue of the whole decentralization process, so we feel that the scheme should be stabilized with the increase proposed now at the end of the next biennium, and we do not think that any delay would be justified.

The TCP, I would only again reiterate our support, as well as our support with regard to all other programmes in Chapters 3-7.

Many very interesting questions have emerged in our debate and especially one question has again been resurrected, one that we thought was resolved two years ago in this very room at least for some time. You certainly recall that we discussed thoroughly in this same Commission the evaluation structure of FAO. We recognize fully, not necessarily only my delegation but I think it was a prevailing overwhelming feeling in this Commission that internally, as well as governmental structure, all the overall evaluation was fully adequate. We realize on the governmental side, first of all standing committees of the Council, Financial Committee, COAG, COFI, the Fertilizer Commission and many other bodies, then the Council itself and the Conference, on the basis of so many bases, but basically on the performance reports that are always reported to the Conference. Then there is, of course, an input from the UN/JIU reports, sometimes very frequent, sometimes we are not happy with the bulky document, many, many generalities, which are customary to JIU reports as we still feel that reports of Joint Inspection Units are essential. They provide studies, reviews, or even evaluations of many common activities in the UN system and especially those activities that cut across the board. So we then compare FAO with the rest of the UN system. And I cannot remember, in the last 5-6 years, any JIU report which has not shown quite clearly that the FAO is comparing quite favourably in many essential respects. Then a small evaluation unit, it is very small but staffed with really able people, then we realize evaluation overall and the central key element in the whole process. We realize again that two thirds of all resources on experts in Headquarters were spent on experts that are invited individually or as a panel to advise FAO or various units of FAO on the Programme of Work and which inevitably, of course, include evaluation of the present programme as well as the work done in the past, and the last branch, if I may say so, is independent outside evaluation. Perhaps it came wrongly to me through the channel but I heard that somebody spoke about external authorities that should evaluate. I am not aware of any outside authority that would be welcome to evaluate FAO but we speak simply I think in terms of external evaluators, and we recognized last time I think that such reports, such evaluations should be purely internal and if necessary only that the excess should be given to the members of some of the standing committees of the Council because otherwise such reports would be purely useless.

One issue was also raised, the TCP evaluation, and I think reference was made to the decision of the Council that TCP should be evaluated in the first five years of operation. To my knowledge TCP was already evaluated in the way it was suggested from the floor this morning, even before the first two years of operations. The famous Lenner Report, which was also studied in the Programme Committee of FAO, and it was 100 percent positive, I would say. Of course, TCP was a matter of all governmental bodies of FAO and especially it was a matter that was studied in the Programme Committee on almost every occasion. May I also inform this body that the Programme Committee for example reviewed investment needs 2 years ago and, as I have indicated, found the work of FAO in that field highly-efficient.

A year ago the Programme Committee again reviewed training activities in FAO. Then we have reviewed the TCP on many occasions. A year ago at our last session we specially reviewed the FAO Representative Scheme and anyone who is interested can find references in our report of the last session on page 12. The Programme Committee decided -- and I think the Director-General was in full accord -- to review research support of FAO in 1982.

What I have said is simply to indicate again our position, that we feel that the evaluation scheme as it has evolved over years now is adequate and we really do not see any necessity for a separate, especially outside, evaluation of the basic issues that we have considered under Chapters 3 to 7.

A. KAMOUN (Tunisie) (langue originale arabe): Je voudrais, dans la présente intervention, faire quelques observations et commentaires sur le programme 3.2, 3.4.

Je commence par le premier point. En effet, les difficultés qu'il y a à se procurer les moyens financiers nécessaires, dans la situation économique actuelle, préoccupe la délégation de mon pays. Cette situation revêt d'autant plus de gravité que les besoins en investissements des pays en développement, notamment dans le domaine agricole, augmentent de jour en jour. Ceci n'est un secret pour personne. Dans ce domaine nous approuvons le programme proposé et nous espérons que le centre d'investissement accélérera et augmentera ses travaux pour renforcer la capacité des pays à recevoir les investissements et à former des cadres pour contrôler et exécuter ces investissements, et les gérer efficacement.

Je voudrais ici rendre hommage aux relations très étroites qui existent entre le centre des investissements et le Fonds international de développement agricole et nous espérons que ces relations continueront à se renforcer au service des objectifs poursuivis. Ceci en ce qui concerne le point 3.2.

En ce qui concerne le programme 3.4, celui-ci a soulevé certaines réserves. Mais je voudrais faire remarquer que la FAO a atteint une certaine importance sur le plan international, et nous avons pu voir que ses programmes se sont variés pour couvrir toutes les régions du monde. Il serait donc raisonnable qu'elle ait des représentants dans les pays membres qui bénéficient de ses services. Ces représentants pourront ainsi suivre, et contrôler l'exécution des programmes mis au point, ce qui renforcera les relations de l'Organisation avec les pays membres. Le nombre des représentants dans les pays s'est d'ailleurs développé conformément aux principes dégagés et à la méthode mise au point depuis quelques années. Quant à la nécessité de procéder à un travail d'évaluation, nous estimons qu'il s'agit là d'une opération tout à fait naturelle, étant donné le nombre des pays membres désireux de recevoir un représentant de la FAO. L'importance qu'accordent ces pays à ce sujet, et les aides qu'ils fournissent pour que ceci se concrétise reflètent les espoirs qu'ils attachent à l'aide qu'ils voudraient recevoir de l'Organisation, et également au renforcement de leurs relations avec l'Organisation, en vue d'une plus grande cohésion et d'une plus grande coordination.

Je voudrais dire quelques mots sur le Programme de coopération technique. Il s'agit d'un élément essentiel de l'activité de notre organisation. En effet, depuis 1974, la nécessité de diversifier les sources de revenu a été reconnue et de là est né le FIDA. Malgré cela, l'Organisation a estimé qu'il était essentiel qu'il y ait un programme de coopération technique. Mais, depuis que ce programme est lancé, a-t-il fait double emploi avec le programme du FIDA? On peut se poser la question. Ce programme a-t-il donné des réactions négatives de la part des pays membres qui en bénéficient? Je crois que la réponse à ces deux questions détermine la position de mon pays vis-à-vis de ce sujet.

En vérité le Programme de coopération technique ne contredit nullement les autres programmes entrepris par la famille des Nations Unies, car les projets qui sont prévus dans ce cadre ont trois caractéristiques essentielles: d'abord ce sont des projets sûrs, ils sont pratiques, et ils sont limités et spécifiques. Par conséquent ces programmes répondent aux besoins des pays qui en bénéficient, et sont conformes à leur vision et à leurs plans.

Malgré l'importante augmentation du budget proposé, un simple calcul montrerait que la part qui revient à chaque pays de ce budget serait en fait très limitée.

Je voudrais enfin ne pas manquer de dire que les pays du continent africain ont largement profité du Programme de coopération technique. Par conséquent mon pays, en tant que pays du continent africain jeune, estime que ce programme est l'un des programmes essentiels et nous appelons à ce qu'il soit renforcé.

S.A. ADETUNJI (Nigeria): As a follow-up to the expression of the leader of my delegation I would like to state that we suppose the programmes on Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, as well as the programmes on the support services, e.g. the FAO Representative Programme, the Technical Cooperation Programmes, Training, etc. We have found the role of the Country and Regional Representatives very useful as they are easily contacted. The Field and liaison Programmes have been found very useful in preparing programmes for development assistance. For example, the

Nigerian delegation called on the FAO to assess the importance of the diseases of caesaur that has reduced the yield of the crop by about 40 percent in Nigeria and is doing a lot of damage in other countries in the tropics, and probably come up with such programmes that will combat this disease. The field offices have been found very useful in identifying, programming, monitoring and reviewing programmes under the Technical Assistance Programmes. Based on the useful experience of the field programmes we feel that support should be given to these support services.

One cannot but just make some remarks on Programme 3.3.1, Freedom from Hunger Campaign/Action for Development. We feel that this programme should be well developed to make the impact that is required. This programme has created awareness in the use of agricultural imports in the past.

Programme 3.4, FAO Representatives - we support this programme because of the important role of liaison, collaboration and the assistance that these Representatives provide in implementing, monitoring and report on FAO projects financed from various sources.

My delegation supports the Technical Cooperation Programme and we feel that the level of funding should be improved.

On Information and Documentation, we are in the AGRIS system. We have found this useful and we feel that this programme should be improved and that FAO should assist developing countries in the development of their documentation and information dissemination facilities which are important for technical transfer.

One is tempted to make some remarks on the need to increase assistance towards the development and strengthening of National Agricultural Research System in the developing countries. Without adequate research backing some of the proposals to develop agricultural production will be meaningless. We would like to see improvement in the collaborative activities of the International and National Research Institutions and the strengthening of the activities of these National Agricultural Research Institutions to improve their effectiveness. One is delighted to see such programmes, like Research Management, Workshops (in the earlier Chapters) in 1982-1983. Other areas of need will be production of a soil map for the different countries. Such programmes as these can be termed supportive, and such supportive services we hope will be developed. As long as there is a need for programmes to meet the development needs of the developing countries to meet their food requirements, the programmes of the Director-General may even have to be expanded to achieve a meaningful result. It is in this light that my delegation give full support to all the programmes in Chapters 3 to 7.

G. IJIGU (Ethiopia): With regard to TCP and FAO Representative Offices, the position of Socialist Ethiopia for the record is as follows.

It is through the services of the TCP that we envisage achieving what is listed by the Director-General in Document C 81/3, page 163, paragraph 4, sub-paragraphs (a) to (d), with paramount emphasis on sub-paragraphs (a) and (b). Training is one of those critical areas in which a developing country, including my own, will have to make a breakthrough with perseverance.

As to FAO Representative Offices, we hold the view that FAO Country Representatives are there to deal with national problems on the spot, helping to bridge the gap that used to exist between problems at the national level and the efforts made at both FAO Regional Offices and Headquarters levels to help in solving those problems.

Similarly, FAO Regional Officers have the vital function of dealing with problems that cannot be dealt with at the country level and consequently must be dealt with at the regional level and even that at Headquarters. Thus, we see clearly the division of labour and dissimilarity of functions that exist between the said offices.

Since we are pressed for time I shall wind up by adding a few points about statements that my delegation had to listen to this morning with much concern. The central idea contained in those statements ran to the effect that what FAO Representative Officers are doing may be regarded as duplication of efforts in relation to the activities of UNDP. We strongly recommend to this august Commission that FAO and its sub-agencies and UNDP must be left alone to discharge their respective responsibilities as basic organs of the UN, and that to try to dislodge vital components of FAO cannot be healthy. In any case, consistent with what my Minister stated in the Plenary earlier on, we support fully the Director-General's Programme of Work and Budget including his provisions in favour of TCP and the FAO Representatives.

On the other hand, we categorically reject all attempts, covert or overt, at destabilizing FAO's various efforts which favour technical cooperation which alone can help developing countries, especially Africa, realize those elements which cater for development.

J. PILANE (Botswana): First I would like to correct the statement I made yesterday, and that concerns Sub-programme 5.1.5.3. I was talking about shifting of resources from rural support services and employment, 5.1.5.3 to 5.1.5.1.1. I think there was a mistake there.

On this particular issue I do not have anything new to add to what many delegates have said here. In particular, my delegation supports the statement made in paragraph 5, page 155, namely that more emphasis in terms of available staff resources will be placed on those activities which support the Organization's policy priorities such as TCP, decentralization to the country level, mobilization of extra-budgetary resources for agricultural development and food production, promotion of TCDC and use of national institutions and other local capacities and inputs, increased attention to LDC and MSA countries and the development needs of the African region.

My delegation feels that the TCP fills a necessary need. The short-term urgent needs and emergencies that are in most cases unforeseen are filled by this programme. I would therefore lend my support to the Programme, the FAO Representatives who have been referred to above. Many delegations that do benefit from the presence of these Representatives have a day or so ago expressed their support in favour, because they do benefit from their services. By so saying, I am not saying that delegates that have no direct experience with those Representatives should not give an opinion, but in the opinion of this delegation, it seems most of their concerns that have been raised against the FAO Representatives have been a bit on the theoretical side. We do not have evidence so far of any inadequacies or any duplications that the FAO Representatives are causing. This is not to say there may not be in future duplication. I think that is something that can be revealed by evaluations in future, and we may indeed have a valid case, or at least those who are against the Representatives might have an opportunity in future when evaluation missions have been carried on. For the present, my delegation cannot but support the decentralization at the country level.

Botswana's support also goes to the work carried on by the Investment Centre. We think the Centre is doing a good job. We have ourselves benefited from the services of this Centre in the evaluation or appraisal of one of our programmes which might be financed by IFAD. Still on that, under the Investment Programme, Support Programme, there is a section - I think it is paragraph 15 - that talks in support of national banking institutions. My delegation supports that idea. We ourselves feel a need for strengthening our national banking institution. In particular, we have a bank for cooperatives that has been established, and it is in need of qualified staff, it is in need of funds, and I feel not necessarily that we might benefit directly from this programme, but that if we do not do so, other countries will be in a position to do so.

The non-governmental organizations in Botswana play a very vital role in the economic development of our country. Women's organizations and other organizations have undertaken projects that are in the forefront of our economic development. My delegation, therefore, approves the support given to the Freedom From Hunger Campaign, Action for Development.

CHAIRMAN: I hope I am not losing my impartiality as Chairman of the Commission. I thank the delegate of Botswana particularly for the very deserved praise of the Investment Centre.

B.E. PHIRI (Zambia): We have heard various views on these remaining chapters, particularly the Investment Centre, the Information Section, the Regional Offices, and we wish to start by saying we support the Programme as put before us, but we wish to make one or two comments in announcing our support.

What surprises us is that we often talk in terms of the budget being too high, the programme being too big, but we do not say why the budget is high or why the programme is expanding. We are being told that the increase of say, 8 percent or 10 percent or 15 percent is too big an increase in the budget, but so far we have not heard anybody who has questioned why there has been this increase, why it has become necessary that the programme should expand, so we feel that those who wish the programme to remain small and therefore the budget to remain small should go to the root of the problem instead of just clipping the top of the problem, and the root is the developing countries.

It is wrong in our opinion that we should be quarrelling with the Secretariat about the size of the Programme and the size of the budget, because these things are drawn up in accordance with the requests which come from developing countries, and we from the developing countries think that the Secretariat is doing a good job because it is responding to our requests. But for those who feel this should not be so, they should then go to developing countries like Zambia, Zimbabwe, and say, "Look, you can't put this request to FAO. We think this is not the sort of thing you should put to FAO, because either you can do it yourself or it is not the type of project that FAO should be engaged in." That way, FAO would not put such an activity in the Programme and therefore would not be asking for funds to carry out that particular function, but as long as developing countries put requests to FAO, to the Secretariat, and the Secretariat responds to those requests, then it means the Programme will either expand or dwindle, retract in response to those requests, and that is why my delegation feels that at this point in time, it is not opportune that we quarrel with the Secretariat as to why they put in this, why they put in that.

Now, talking about the issue of Regional Offices, they are suggesting that the Regional Offices should be evaluated. To start with, we are asking the FAO, we are asking the Secretariat to undertake yet another activity, and this activity in itself will mean that the Secretariat must ask for funds for it to go and evaluate it, but apart from that, most of what the Regional Offices are doing is already known, as the Regional Offices have been in existence for some time now. This question of asking for evaluation is a deliberate sidestepping of what people want to say. It is clear that the components of this evaluation actually do not want the regional offices to exist. We find, ourselves, as of now, that the regional offices have a role which cannot be filled by the Country Representatives. Take regional Africa - there are so many regional organizations with the intention of producing rice or controlling locusts, they are there, and these activities are being coordinated by the regional offices and not by the Country Representative.

The Country Representative plays a major role within the country in which he or she is accredited or based, but they are activities which go beyond the bounds of the various countries. Many different countries are affected, and these activities are coordinated through the regional office. In Africa it is coordinated from Accra.

Until a substitute is found we, like all the others, show we support the regional offices and we support decentralisation through the country representatives of FAO.

I do not want to comment much on the various chapters such as TCP. What TCP does is something that we all understand, we know what it is, and to repeat it here will not help us to answer the regional needs that arise.

Has FAO put too much money in that project? That seems to be the problem. What these chapters are intended to do we all know, but we say that because FAO or the Secretariat has been preparing the programme in accordance with the requests it receives from the Member states. We support the levels. In fact, we have said in the past that we consider these levels to be minimal because in spite of the amount of money put in all the various chapters a lot of needs will go unsatisfied, and we shall continue to look here and there to see whether we can possibly satisfy our needs.

With those few words I wish to support the rest of the chapters which we did not discuss yesterday, and I wish to end on the note that yesterday a suggestion was made by Mexico that we should have a germ plasm bank. When we look at a suggestion like that it imposes responsibilities on FAO. Here is a Member Country asking for that and we are supporting it, the suggestion of Mexico, but here is something which again we are imposing on the Secretariat to undertake, and it means the Secretariat must find somewhere to carry out this important function.

So we come back to people who have a quarrel with the budget level, that if you think certain activities need not be undertaken by FAO, then let us speak along those lines. "FAO should not undertake this, FAO should not undertake that" - and in that way you can restrict the expansion of the programme. You can also restrict the increase on the budget but just to come and say you agree with the budget or you cut off that arm of the organisation, we do not think this is the correct way of looking at it. We are looking at the needs. We are looking at the requests of the developing countries which go to the Secretariat, and that is the need.

M.A. MANSOOR (People's Democratic Republic of Yemen) (original language Arabic): This is the first time I am addressing the Commission, as my delegation did not speak yesterday. We, therefore, would like to congratulate you and the two Vice-Chairmen on your election. We would, now like to state our support for everything said in Chapters 1 and 2, particularly on Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

The proposed increase of the level of the budget is minimal in size if you consider the vast services provided by the Organization to the peoples of Asia, Latin America and Africa. We feel that a balance between the activities of the Organization and the level of the budget, does exist, and my delegation throws its entire support behind the contents of the programme prepared by the Director-General and the Secretariat of the Organization to enable the latter to fulfil its mission.

G. SILOU (Congo): Ma délégation ne veut pas revenir sur ce qui a été dit par les honorables délégués qui ont pris la parole ici depuis ce matin. Nous intervenons simplement pour appuyer fermement le Programme de travail et budget préparé par le Directeur général.

S'agissant du Programme de coopération technique, nous le soutenons dans son ensemble, car nous estimons que c'est un programme important et efficace pour nos pays. Ce programme doit être renforcé, et cela se justifie dans la mesure où les besoins de nos pays s'accroissent et posent des problèmes parfois insurmontables dans le processus de notre développement.

En ce qui concerne le problème de la représentation, nous pensons que cette expérience est positive et devrait se poursuivre, car la représentation apparaît comme le cordon ombilical qui unit nos pays à la FAO. Il faudrait que les moyens mis à la disposition des représentations soient augmentés et développés dans les années qui viennent.

F.D.J. GAZZO (Peru): Al haber estado recargadas mis labores como Asistente del Señor Ministro de Agricultura de Perú, en las reuniones de la Plenaria, es la primera vez que asisto a esta Comisión. Por consiguiente, aunque fuera de tiempo, quiero saludar y felicitar al Presidente de la misma por su brillante desempeño en ella.

Hemos estudiado atentamente el documento y puedo decir que la posición de mi Gobierno es la siguiente; respaldamos plenamente el contenido del mismo en sus aspectos de planificación y enlace de los programas de campo e inversiones, de programas especiales y del representante de la FAO.

Mi país ha recibido ya los beneficios de estos programas a través de la ayuda sustancial para la programación de las acciones que se requieren y que han servido para incrementar el desarrollo de nuestro sector agropecuario. El último año ha llegado a la cifra de 11,4 inusual en la vida de la República.

Hemos trabajado en conjunto con la misión enviada por el TCP que viajó al Perú en abril de 1981. En ese entonces, yo desempeñaba la Dirección Ejecutiva del Instituto Nacional de Promoción Agraria. El trabajo nos llevó a evaluar los proyectos y a tener los documentos listos para la obtención de los fondos necesarios. Es conveniente mencionar además, que permanentemente se ha hecho un seguimiento de los proyectos que teníamos en ejecución, no sólo de aquéllos provenientes de fondos multilaterales sino aun de aquéllos provenientes de programas bilaterales.

Quiero recalcar que este sistema de trabajo no sólo nos ha permitido evaluar los programas en marcha sino, en algunos casos, hacer las enmiendas o cambios necesarios de acuerdo a las nuevas circunstancias y requerimientos del país. Me refiero en forma muy especial, a los proyectos de fertilizantes, al importante proyecto de comunicación, en apoyo al desarrollo, sin el cual todos los otros proyectos pueden tener mucho éxito pero si no hay una transferencia de tecnología en el idioma del analfabeto, en el idioma del subdesarrollado, se puede fracasar aun teniendo los otros proyectos muy eficientemente desarrollados.

Los proyectos forestales y aquéllos de adiestramiento, principalmente en los problemas relacionados con semillas, han tenido un éxito muy significativo. El hecho de que por el corto tiempo, no pueda mencionar otros proyectos específicos, no le quita en nada la importancia que tienen para mi país los mismos. Sugerimos que la FAO tenga en cuenta que este tipo de actividades son aquéllas que benefician en forma inmediata a los usuarios de la ayuda, que somos nosotros.

En relación con los representantes permanentes de la FAO, mi país es partidario de la presencia de ellos, puesto que el Perú ha vivido durante muchos años sin un representante permanente, y hemos sufrido las inconveniencias de ello. El tener un representante permanente es fundamental para la ejecución de los programas así como para la coordinación directa con las entidades nacionales y/o foráneas que se desenvuelven dentro del país. El contar con el representante permanente es pues muy importante porque nos permite obviar las innecesarias intermediaciones que sólo producen atraso y pérdida de tiempo. El representante permanente debe contar con una delegación de autoridad por parte del Director General, que le permita actuar con oportunidad y firmeza en la ejecución de los programas y en los cambios de emergencia que deban éstos sufrir. El lo hara con mejor conocimiento de causa porque reside en el lugar del acontecimiento, que lo que podía hacer el que recibe por correspondencia las observaciones respectivas. Tenemos entendido que contar con un representante permanente residente en el país, es directamente ya una descentralización, de la cual los beneficiarios somos los países receptivos de la ayuda.

Por consiguiente, el Perú está plenamente de acuerdo con las propuestas que ha hecho el Sr. Director General sobre el Programa de Labores y Presupuesto para 1982-83. Perú además se adhiere, y es un viejo soñador del Banco de Germoplasma bajo FAO. Tengo entendido que ha tenido malas interpretaciones de esta idea; no es que el Banco de Germoplasma en FAO sea en lugar de, sino es además de; y porque los países en desarrollo somos la fuente del material germoplásmico básico para el desarrollo de variedades, pensamos que debe ser una entidad estrictamente neutral, en la que el material ingresado tiene las nacionalidades de todo el mundo, y no como sucede ahora, en algunos Bancos de germoplasma, que el material toma una nacionalidad lo cual es inconveniente con los postulados de la FAO.

T. PEÑA (Philippines): Although this is our first intervention, in response to your request, Mr. Chairman, and taking into consideration the present status of our debate, the Philippine delegation will combine its congratulations to you and our general comments as well as our observations on Chapters 1 to 7. Also, we shall try to be very brief.

At the Plenary Session we had the opportunity to express our support for the Director-General's Programme of Work and Budget. May I reiterate that stand here. We have listened with careful attention to the constructive comments and suggestions of various delegations here and we note with special attention the calm, reasoned appeal of the Canadian delegate that our meetings here should not deteriorate into the dialogue of the deaf. We do appreciate the concern that underpins this request. We assure our Canadian colleague and other affluent friends that the Philippine delegation - and I am sure all other delegations here - seek with equal fervour a reasoned dialogue. The careful answer given by various members of the Secretariat as well as responses by delegates from developing countries attest to this desire. After all, if we cannot discuss rationally so basic an issue as food, then we deserve to be blown up with - to use a figure of speech from the Director-General - the world of the underfed. But I do appeal to our rich friends here to understand equally the urgency of our needs. What fuels this sense of urgency is the gap between who are poor in your countries and those who are poor in ours.

The 1981 World Development Report of the IBRD, for instance, points out that in a thirty-year period, between 1950 and 1980, increase in per capita income in the poor countries averaged only \$80, while it was \$6,500 in the more fortunate industrialized nations. So please bear with our concerns that arise from a flawed international economic order.

The Philippines also wish to associate itself with the perceptive comments made by Bangladesh, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, Thailand and Sri Lanka on the necessity of support of the budget level, the usefulness of the Technical Cooperation Programme and the cost-effective services that are provided to us by the FAO Regional Office out of Bangkok.

Turning to Chapter 1 of the Programme of Work and Budget, my delegation is in general agreement with the Director-General's proposal for general policy and direction. On Chapter 2, many delegations have noted that this constitutes the backbone of FAO's work with other countries. The Philippines welcomes the stress on the sub-programme 2.1.1.2 on further refinement of small farmers' development strategies.

I would like to note that the small farmers constitute the overriding priority for Asia and the Pacific, as mandated by the 13th, 14th, and 15th FAO Regional Conferences in Manila, Kuala Lumpur and New Delhi. On this point we would merely stress that our experience in Asia shows that even more important than developing delivery systems of services to small farmers is FAO's and other assistance that can enable them to receive and use available services more effectively.

You will also note that the 26 countries in Asia and in the Pacific have, in collaboration with the Regional Office, developed a consensus on priorities for the work that is, location-specific, namely: 1. expansion of field action programmes for raising productivity and income of vulnerable groups; 2. increased food production with emphasis on rainfed and semi-arid agriculture; 3. food security and prevention of post-harvest losses; and, 4. promotion of integrated farming systems. The Philippines welcomes the increasing attention paid by this Commission to the problems of rural energy, especially in agriculture. The delegate of the Netherlands underscored this priority very well. FAO's plan to update its report on the state of natural resources and human environment for food and agriculture, with specific reference to Asia and the Pacific, is also appreciated.

The Philippines participates in and appreciates the Director-General's prevention of post-harvest losses problems. We have in fact just signed with FAO two projects on rice parboiling and grain standards. We appreciate the assistance that has been given along this line and welcome the indication by developed countries that they can see their way clear to continued support, if I read the statement of Australia and Denmark correctly.

On research, my delegation appreciates the Austrian Government's generous offer of assistance in the handling of sophisticated research methods, including nuclear techniques. The Philippines will be interested in such techniques but at the same time we wish to urge FAO to give overriding priority to help Member Nations to develop the capacity for planning and managing adaptive research that values indigenous technology as it draws on sophisticated research available in the developed countries and translates them quickly into field level practices, with special stress on rainfed areas.

Agrarian reform constitutes a keystone in the policy framework of the government of President Marcos. The Philippines, therefore, supports the Director-General's proposals to speed follow-up action at country level of WCARRD and notes with appreciation that countries such as Sweden and China have contributed to that vital work. The FAO Regional Office has already completed a follow-up mission under WCARRD and we wish to congratulate Sri Lanka for receiving the mission.

Degradation of forest resources in several countries of tropical Asia has reached an unacceptable level in the recent past. The Philippines is no exception: some 225 000 hectares are being cut away every year; shifting cultivation is being given topmost priority by my government. The need of the hour is to ensure increased people's participation in raising the crops at the community level. Agro-forestry and energy plantations deserve the utmost priority to ensure that the benefits of our forest accrue to the communities that own them.

The Philippines is already receiving assistance from the Director-General on multiple-use forestry, and we support the forestry programme and endorse its focus which is rightly on integrating forestry with rural development, that is to say, on people.

During yesterday's discussion, the question of overlapping jurisdiction of FAO and UNIDO in the area of forest industries arose. We strongly support the view that primary forest industries should continue to be dealt with by our Forest Department, since its approach is a valid synthesis and integration of conservation, development and utilization aspects of forest resources with people as protagonists, participants and beneficiaries.

We have listened with careful attention to the view of the United States, Japan the United Kingdom and the Netherlands, the Federal Republic of Germany and other major donors with whom the Philippines has excellent relations and whose record of substantial and positive contribution to the food problem is well known. With all due respect, may I observe that all the statements delivered do not question the value of multilateral assistance. The reason for this type of assistance remains valid as they were in the days when they were presented in this very room by the same delegation only a few years ago.

I am reminded of the story of a distinguished agriculturist who revisited his school after many years absence. His professor showed him around, including even the latest examination papers. Upon examining the examination papers, he protested, saying: But these are the same questions that I answered 40 years ago. And the professor replied: Ah, yes, but the answers have changed.



CO. KELLER SARMIENTO (Argentina): En el contexto de los temas que están a nuestra consideración, Capítulos 3 al 7, deseo limitar mis comentarios sólo al número 4: Programa de Cooperación Técnica.

En numerosas ocasiones hemos tenido la oportunidad de referirnos a este importante instrumento de asistencia que, a nuestro juicio, merece ser señalado como uno de los más eficientes de la Organización, no sólo por su capacidad para enfrentar situaciones específicas de urgencia que requieren una acción inmediata en un determinado sector, sino por la variedad, la amplitud que abarca al cubrir las posibilidades de enfrentar situaciones imprevistas, dificultades de sistematizar a veces en el contexto de planes de asistencia determinadas.

Hay un amplio número de países en desarrollo, países miembros de la FAO, que no pertenecen a la categoría de los más seriamente afectados y por razones de prioridad, debido a los recursos limitados con que cuenta la Organización, no tienen acceso a programas de asistencia y recursos por parte de estos organismos. Sin embargo, estos países tienen urgentes y crecientes necesidades, si bien a veces no tan dramáticas como otros, pero que pueden actuar como efecto multiplicador de enorme importancia de la persecución del desarrollo económico y con ello procurar beneficios a otros países de menor desarrollo relativo.

En este contexto, el Programa de Cooperación Técnica cumple una importante función y en muchos casos se trata de un único Programa o tipo de asistencia al que tienen acceso un importante número de países también merecedores de ayuda.

Por estas razones, estimamos, Sr. Presidente, muy importante el Programa de Cooperación Técnica de la FAO y abrigamos la esperanza de que en el futuro pueda consolidarse y ampliarse para beneficio de todos los países miembros.

A. AZEEZ (Maldives): The delegation from Maldives did not intend to speak on this item as we have earlier indicated our support for the Director-General's proposals in this field. However we heard with respectful attention the comments of the delegate from Switzerland on TCP and his appeal for information that, in his words, "would enable his delegation to swallow as painlessly as possible the TCP proposals for the forthcoming biennium". May I therefore cite the experience of the Maldives in coping with the outbreak of a dangerous disease in our coconut areas, as well as in breadfruits this year. If we had gone through the usual channels, the traditional UN system as, for example, set out in UNDP manuals, the plants would have been long devastated before we got even the first draft of a document scrutinized. In this case we chose to ask for TCP assistance from the country office and I am pleased to inform you that the assistance came promptly and it was very useful.

We can fully understand the concern of some of the countries who must deal with multi-million packages but when seen from our perspective, what we need is prompt modest assistance. We think help given promptly is help doubled. For this reason my delegation wishes to reiterate its support for the TCP programme as well as for the decentralization programme that will see enhanced country offices and reinforce regional offices.

M.M. MUKOLWE (Kenya): I would just like to make one point on regional offices. It is our view from Kenya that the regional offices are playing their part and they should be given the due credit as they are helping people, particularly in developing countries, and in this respect we would oppose vehemently the question of evaluation and probable scaling down or underplaying the importance of the regional offices.

H. MENDS (Ghana): My Head of Delegation in his address to the Plenary three days ago fully supported the Programme of Work and Budget presented by the Director-General. This has really made it easy for me to intervene on this item, for I can only re-echo the support my Minister has voiced already.

We have heard in the course of the debate on this item and learnt with considerable interest that FAO should not duplicate the efforts of the other specialized agencies of the UN, such as the UNDP, ILO, Unesco, and what have you, in the field. For this reason it has been advocated that a reduction in the number of FAO Country Representatives be reflected in the Programme. This advocacy no doubt assumes that the UNDP or another similar organization already in the field should hand over responsibilities of the FAO Country Representatives, but apart from institutional loyalties and expertise my delegation

is not convinced that the job FAO carries out and proposes to perform in the programmes we are reviewing can meaningfully and effectively be performed and monitored by any other organization, apart from the FAO.

My country was lucky enough to have a Country Representative for the past two years and I am pleased to acknowledge the important and useful service he rendered. Unfortunately the decision of the Council has swept him away from the country and as can be seen from the verbatim records again my Minister was quite insistent in asking the Director-General at least to send in a professional man to assist the Regional Deputy Representative. This really goes to show that if anything at all the programme at FAO working through the field or countries at country level, through their representative, should be strengthened, because this is the only meaningful link the FAO has between its organizations and Headquarters here and the governments and I would re-echo strongly the support of my Minister for the strengthening of the FAO Representatives and the Programme of Work and Budget of the Organization.

M. PHOOFOLO (Lesotho): Most of the important items have been dealt with and they have been presented in very elaborate words which actually indicates their importance to developing countries, as well as to donor countries. I will confine myself to the question of regional and country representatives of FAO.

The concern of some of the major donors that their investments in FAO should have an impact on poor people in recipient countries and that such investments should not be made in duplication if possible may not be without basis. However my delegation submits that the efficient implementation of decentralization via the establishment of regional and country FAO offices which we greatly admire is an assurance that through monitoring evaluation and programme review of FAO projects will get closer to where the core of the problem lies. That is among the rural poor in the developing countries.

There exists an incorrect kind of cult of the individual in which there is no analysis but simply blind obedience and acceptance. This is definitely wrong. Our delegation has thoroughly examined and analysed the pros and cons of FAO Regional and Country offices. My delegation supports the creation of FAO regional offices and Country Representatives fully. For FAO, as for every other international organization, the central problem which exceeds all the others is that of combining effective leadership with meaningful participation in order to achieve a radical improvement of the living standards of the clientele themselves and to solidify cooperation among them. We feel that it is good for FAO to trust member states and involve them actively in shaping their own fate. In the long run this approach will be responsible for the great creative upsurge of new ideas capable of universal application in world agriculture.

It would seem that the primary purpose of decentralization through FAO Regional and Country Representatives is to permit the flow of coordinated information from the grass roots without which FAO Headquarters in Rome will lack the raw materials out of which correct decisions, programmes, policies and guidelines will be made. My delegation believes that if member states are consulted by means of these offices they will subsequently be in the right frame of mind to work to assert FAO policies, objectives and guidelines whilst they are elaborated and they will work devotedly towards the implementation.

As an international family we need to bring about a cooperative climate which has both centralization and decentralization, freedom and unity of purpose and ease of mind for all member states, a climate which allows inter-action interrelation and forged linkages between countries and FAO.

S.P. MUKHERJEE (India): I would like to make a general observation in a spirit of suggestion for further improvement but that should not be interpreted as being a critic of FAO's programme of work which is very laudable.

Yesterday I suggested that for serving the developing countries FAO willy nilly will have to think in terms of building up a cadre of its own officers who will be experts not only in the various disciplines on agriculture but also, what is more important, experts in transferring their skill and technology to the developing nations and developing countries. I feel that the transference of technology is as much a skill as the technology itself and perhaps a more difficult skill. It is not everybody's cup of tea to be able to transfer the technology to a community of people who are completely strange to that level of technology. In that context I would suggest for the consideration of FAO that we should give as much emphasis to running a project for demonstration purposes in a pilot scheme in the developing countries in various sectors where the farmers will have to be trained. My feeling is that the eye is more powerful in influencing the heart than the ear. What you hear may not be as durable in effect as what the farmer actually sees happening on his field. I may be wrong but I have a feeling that perhaps most of our

programmes when we talk in terms of assisting developing countries have been in terms of training courses, workshops, seminars, study tours, meetings, consultations, publications, technical get-together, and so on, which are very important. I accept, but they are not adequate in dealing with the farmers in the field. I would like to emphasize that the farmer in the field, the cattle owner in the field, in these developing countries should be placed at the centre of the stage in the FAO programme. I would be very grateful to be assured that FAO is doing something in this direction. Instead of having these training courses, workshops, study tours, meetings and what have you, I suggest that these programmes should be supplemented in a very meaningful and imaginative way by sending spearhead teams of experts into the various countries where there is a demand for improvement of agricultural techniques and management. These spearhead teams, with the assistance of local officials and experts, should jointly run, say, a seed farm, demonstrating to the farmers and the people in general how a seed farm should be run, how breeder seed should be converted into foundation seed and how from foundation seed one gets the certified seeds, and so on. These spearhead teams should also run farms for cross-breeding purposes. They should run jointly with the local people the fish seed farms and they should demonstrate how fertilizers should be developed and used in the farmer's field. They should demonstrate the use of high yield varieties, how a field should be irrigated, how many times irrigation should be given, the different methods of irrigation, how water should be conserved and used to the maximum advantage, how water should be distributed among the farmers if it is limited, how the land should be used, and so on.

There are hundreds of areas where there may be very learned textbooks and seminars, but the results of these may not be benefiting the farmer because there is a huge intellectual and organizational gap between the seminar and the farmer out in the field. Therefore I suggest to FAO in all humility that the constitution of these spearhead teams on the one hand and the adoption of a project for demonstration purposes in the developing countries should be tried out. I feel this would go a long way in educating the farmers in a better way of managing their farms.

A. TRAORE (Guinée): Nous voudrions nous associer aux délégués qui nous ont précédé et qui n'ont pas tari d'éloges à l'endroit du programme de coopération technique, programme dont la rapidité d'exécution et l'efficacité ont convaincu la très grande majorité des pays membres de notre Organisation. Ce programme doit donc être appuyé en lui fournissant les moyens nécessaires. C'est pourquoi nous jugeons très raisonnable l'augmentation du budget affecté à ce chapitre.

Contrairement à certains délégués, mon pays pense que l'élargissement des représentations dans les pays ne fera nullement double emploi avec les bureaux régionaux qui interviennent à des niveaux dépassant le cadre national.

Nous avons apprécié, avec satisfaction, l'important rôle joué par le Bureau de notre sous-région dans les vastes projets que sont l'organisation et la mise en valeur du fleuve Gambie, l'autorité du fleuve Niger et de la rivière Mano.

En souscrivant à la complémentarité des deux institutions, donc à la nécessité de leur maintien, nous approuvons aussi la proposition de double représentation de la FAO.

M.A. AL-SANEH (Kuwait) (Original language Arabic): I would like to concentrate my comments on Chapter 4 dealing with the Technical Cooperation Programme. This Programme is mainly addressed to developing countries so as to help them in solving some of the problems which are hindering their agricultural development. This is one of the most helpful types of assistance given to developing countries. My country, which is a developing country, has benefited, and is still benefiting, from the assistance given by FAO in this field. The Organization gives technical support to my country, especially concerning crops that are cultivated in greenhouses.

In assessing the activity we should not speak of the cost because the problem of hunger throughout the world is a problem of scarcity of resources. The general support given to TCP and the support that has been shown by various delegates shows that this programme has been very helpful to many of the Members.

My delegation, being aware of the benefit of this programme, supports the intensification of its activities in order to meet the needs of Member States. We also support the establishment of country representations which is an illustration of decentralization.

CHAIRMAN: Before we wind up I would like to invite the Assistant Director-General of the Development Department, Mr. de Meredieu, to comment on a few questions.

J. de MEREDIEU (Sous-directeur général, Département du Développement): Je répondrai d'abord à une ou deux questions d'ordre général et en viendrai ensuite aux problèmes qui ont appelé le plus de commentaires.

Si je puis commencer par l'un des derniers orateurs, je dirai au délégué de l'Inde que nos programmes de terrain ont toujours comporté une part importante de projets pilotes, et je pense qu'ils continueront à le faire. Il a tout à fait raison, c'est une forme très efficace de démonstration. Ce n'est pas souvent possible dans le cadre du Programme de Coopération Technique, car la durée et le coût de tels projets dépassent souvent ce que ce programme peut faire, et c'est donc plus souvent le cas dans le cadre du PNUD ou de projets de fonds fiduciaires.

Les délégués de la Mauritanie, du Botswana, des Philippines et du Nigéria ont bien voulu apporter leur appui au programme 3.3.1 (Campagne mondiale contre la faim). Me référant à la question particulière du délégué de la Mauritanie, je lui indiquerai qu'il existe un Fonds fiduciaire destiné à assurer le suivi de la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural. Ce fonds a déjà reçu des promesses de versements s'élevant à 9 millions de dollars, provenant de pays tels que la Suède, les Pays-Bas, la Norvège et la Chine, que je tiens à remercier ici. Mais ce chiffre est encore inférieur à l'objectif de 20 millions de dollars fixé pour ce programme d'action spécial et nous souhaitons, bien entendu, que l'appel de M. le délégué de la Mauritanie soit entendu.

Ce n'est pas à moi qu'il appartient de résumer le débat en matière d'investissements, mais il est clair que la très grande majorité des orateurs ont souligné l'importance de cette action. Je me bornerai donc à répondre à une seule question qui a été posée par le représentant du Royaume-Uni qui s'est dit surpris de noter la création de "nombreux postes de grades élevés". J'avoue que ce commentaire me surprend, car il n'est proposé de créer qu'un P5, un P4 et un G3 ! Le reste de l'augmentation proposée est destiné, d'une part, à couvrir le coût d'environ 30 mois de consultants dans le cadre du programme d'appui aux investissements et, d'autre part, à renforcer les activités du Centre dans le domaine de la formation de spécialistes des pays en développement dans la préparation des projets d'investissement.

J'en viens maintenant au programme de décentralisation, ou de représentation de la FAO dans les pays, qui est l'un de ceux qui a soulevé le plus de commentaires. Là encore, il est clair, je pense, qu'une très large majorité, et en particulier l'unanimité des pays qui reçoivent de tels représentants, appuie ce programme. Néanmoins, certaines questions ont été posées, auxquelles je tiens à répondre.

Les représentants du Japon et de la Suisse semblent craindre certains doubles emplois entre représentants de la FAO et résidents représentants du PNUD. Je voudrais leur dire, tout d'abord, que le délégué de Chypre a parfaitement résumé le point de vue de l'Organisation lorsqu'il a dit qu'il appartenait, bien entendu, au pays hôte d'assurer lui-même la coordination des assistances extérieures qu'il reçoit.

Je pense cependant que MM. les délégués du Japon et de la Suisse seront rassurés à la lecture de la lettre conjointe que le Directeur général et l'administrateur du PNUD ont envoyée à leurs représentants sur le terrain, le 30 juillet 1980, lettre qui est reproduite en annexe au document C 81/28. Vous constaterez certainement que cette lettre, loin de faire penser à une compétition ou à un double emploi quelconques, reflète au contraire un désir sincère de coopération constructive, dans l'intérêt des pays intéressés.

D'assez nombreux commentaires ont également été faits en ce qui concerne les relations entre représentations de la FAO dans les pays et représentations régionales. Il y a-t-il une différence entre ces deux types de représentations? Bien sûr, il y en a une, qui est fidèlement reflétée par leurs titres respectifs. Les représentants de la FAO dans les pays sont responsables des questions concernant individuellement chacun de ces pays, et les représentants régionaux sont responsables des questions concernant la région dans son ensemble, ou certains groupes de pays à l'intérieur de cette région.

Comme cela a été indiqué par certains orateurs, il y a de plus en plus d'activités régionales dans le Tiers Monde. Pour ne vous donner qu'une très brève idée des actions de ce type qui sont de la responsabilité de nos bureaux régionaux, je vous dirai que nous coopérons avec 76 organisations régionales de tout genre, dont 18 en Afrique; le représentant de la Guinée en a mentionné quelques-unes; il y en a bien d'autres, depuis l'OUA jusqu'à la plus modeste organisation technique chargée de la lutte antiacridienne.

Il y a de même 51 organes statutaires de la FAO, répartis dans les différentes régions, dont 12 au Proche-Orient et 14 en Europe, car nous avons également un bureau régional en Europe, auquel les pays européens sont, je crois, très attachés.

Nous avons quatre divisions conjointes avec les commissions économiques régionales et, bien entendu, de très nombreux projets régionaux de terrain, à l'identification, à la formulation et au suivi desquels nos bureaux régionaux contribuent très activement.

De plus - et c'est là un des nombreux points où il y a complémentarité et non pas double emploi entre bureaux régionaux et bureaux dans les pays - il existe, dans chaque bureau régional, un petit groupe d'experts de haut niveau, à la disposition des pays de la région et des représentants de la FAO dans les pays lorsqu'ils ont besoin d'une assistance de courte durée pour formuler certains projets. Je crois que ceci rejoint la préoccupation qui vient d'être exprimée par M. le délégué de l'Inde.

Nous avons certainement noté avec satisfaction l'appui, tempéré de certains commentaires, mais l'appui néanmoins que M. le délégué de la Suisse a donné à certains aspects du programme de décentralisation. Pour le rassurer, je lui indiquerai que, bien entendu, aucun secret ne couvre la liste des pays dans lesquels nous avons établi des représentations. Tout au contraire, chaque fois qu'une telle représentation est établie, le Directeur général la publie dans un communiqué de presse et dans un "bulletin du Directeur général", qui est toujours envoyé à tous les représentants permanents auprès de notre Organisation. Si vous en décidez ainsi, Monsieur le Président, nous pourrions, sous réserve des délais de traduction et d'impression, produire la liste qui vous donnera les noms des 60 pays où nous avons déjà ouvert des bureaux et des 11 qui sont pour l'instant couverts dans le cadre de doubles représentations.

Pour vous donner une idée des demandes qui restent insatisfaites, je vous dirai que le Directeur général a reçu jusqu'à présent 96 demandes d'ouverture de bureaux; nous sommes donc loin du compte. Vous comprendrez, par contre, qu'il ne nous soit pas possible de vous donner la liste des pays avec lesquels des négociations sont en cours, par courtoisie à leur égard et parce que nous ne pouvons préjuger de l'issue de ces négociations.

M. le délégué de la Suisse a également demandé comment le budget des différentes représentations de la FAO était réparti entre le Programme régulier et les autres ressources, et à combien se montait le coût moyen d'un bureau.

Je voudrais le renvoyer au document "Examen du programme ordinaire" (C 81/8), où il trouvera ces renseignements au paragraphe 5.86. Il verra ainsi que le coût moyen de l'un de ces bureaux a été de 194 000 dollars en 1980. J'ajouterai que les pays qui bénéficient de ce dispositif contribuent eux-aussi d'une façon notable au coût de fonctionnement de nos bureaux, leur apport étant en général de l'ordre de 20 pour cent du coût total, partie en nature et partie en espèces, avec des variations notables suivant leur richesse.

Le tableau 8, que l'on trouve au Programme de travail et budget dans le cadre du programme 3.4, donne la répartition de ces coûts entre Programme régulier et ressources extra-budgétaires.

Certaines questions ont été posées en ce qui concerne la délégation effective d'autorité aux représentants de la FAO dans les pays.

Je voudrais tout d'abord vous dire que c'est là un sujet qui préoccupe le Directeur général, qui a l'intention de continuer à oeuvrer dans ce sens. M. West, hier, vous a expliqué certaines des contraintes auxquelles nous nous heurtons, qui résultent toutes de notre souci de très grande rectitude dans notre gestion financière. J'ai néanmoins devant moi une liste de dix actions pour lesquelles différents degrés de délégation ont été consentis aux représentants de la FAO dans les pays. Je ne les lirai pas toutes, mais en mentionnerai quelques-unes: approbation de projets du Programme de coopération technique, dans certaines limites; recrutement de consultants; appui, y compris les responsabilités financières que cela comporte, à des projets de terrain des différents programmes; et il y en a bien d'autres.

Je passe maintenant au Programme de coopération technique qui, lui aussi, a soulevé de nombreux commentaires, dans leur très grande majorité extrêmement positifs, ce dont nous sommes très reconnaissants, mais aussi certaines questions.

Ceci va m'amener à anticiper quelque peu sur ce que je comptais vous dire, en ce qui concerne les ressources du PNUD, lorsque nous en viendrons à l'examen des programmes de terrain.

Monsieur le représentant de la République fédérale d'Allemagne a fait allusion ce matin à l'évolution des programmes du PNUD. Il a dit qu'il pensait que ces programmes croissaient moins vite qu'auparavant, mais qu'ils continuaient à croître, et il s'est demandé si nous n'essayions pas "de nous précipiter dans la brèche ainsi ouverte."

A mon très grand regret je dois dire que les dernières informations que nous avons reçues, du PNUD je le précise, indiquent une situation malheureusement plus préoccupante. Il y a un an et demi, M. Morse avait basé son Programme pour le troisième cycle sur une hypothèse de croissance des contributions de 14 pour cent par an. C'était plus que l'effet de l'inflation et il escomptait donc une croissance réelle nette. En juin cette année, il indiquait que, malheureusement, il ne s'agirait plus de 14 pour cent mais de 8 pour cent au maximum. A cette occasion, M. Morse lui-même a déclaré au Conseil d'administration du PNUD que, compte tenu des effets de l'inflation, un tel taux, qui est inférieur à celui de l'inflation, résulterait sans doute, en termes réels, en une décroissance de 12 pour cent, lorsque l'on comparerait le troisième cycle au second.

De plus, M. Morse vient juste d'envoyer, le 27 octobre 1981, un télégramme à tous les chefs d'agence, dans lequel il a donné les éléments d'informations suivants:

Lorsque l'on compare les ressources que le PNUD a reçues en 1980 avec celles de 1979, la croissance n'a été que de 3 pour cent en termes courants, ce qui est déjà une décroissance en termes réels.

Lorsque l'on compare les ressources de 1981 à celles de 1980, il y a eu décroissance de 7 pour cent en termes courants, ce qui fait presque 20 pour cent en termes réels!

Pour 1982, M. Morse, qui espérait, en juin cette année, pouvoir disposer l'année prochaine de 815 millions de dollars, a dit être confronté maintenant à la dure réalité qui voudrait qu'il ne puisse pas disposer de plus de 637 millions, soit 22 pour cent de moins. La brèche est donc large, très large.

La première conséquence pour nous sera qu'à la fin de cette année nous risquons d'avoir à licencier 3 ou 400 experts hautement spécialisés.

M. Boute Friedheim pourrait expliquer à Monsieur le représentant de l'Allemagne les raisons de cet état de choses.

La brèche est d'autant plus large que le pourcentage du Programme de coopération dans l'ensemble de nos programmes de terrain n'est que de 5 pour cent. Il n'est pas question que le Programme de coopération technique se développe à un point tel qu'il puisse se substituer au PNUD. Ce sont des opérations différentes, d'une taille différente, d'une nature différente. Si nous voulions "boucher la brèche" avec de tels moyens, cela prouverait que nous serions aussi courageux - si ce n'est téméraires - que le jeune Hollandais qui a bouché la brèche d'une digue avec son doigt!

Monsieur le représentant de la Suisse a demandé quels étaient les critères sur la base desquels les projets de coopération technique étaient approuvés.

Ces critères sont publics. Ils apparaissent au rapport de la soixante-neuvième session du Conseil, paragraphes 16 à 25; au rapport de la soixante-quatorzième session du Conseil, paragraphes 144 à 157, et aux documents soumis à ces deux sessions du Conseil, qui ont d'abord approuvé, puis confirmé et amélioré, le Programme de coopération technique. Ces critères ont été énoncés de façon détaillée dans une lettre circulaire que le Directeur général a envoyée à tous les Etats Membres, y compris bien entendu la Suisse, le 29 septembre 1976. Si Monsieur le représentant de la Suisse n'avait pas ce document, je serais heureux de le lui faire remettre. Je ne pense pas nécessaire de vous dire que ces critères sont appliqués dans un esprit de stricte rectitude administrative et financière, lorsqu'il s'agit d'approuver des projets.

Messieurs les représentants de la République fédérale d'Allemagne, de la Suisse, du Japon et du Royaume-Uni, ont fait référence à la possibilité d'une nouvelle évaluation du Programme de coopération technique.

Je voudrais d'abord me permettre de rappeler qu'un consultant extérieur, M. Linner, ancien représentant résident du PNUD, a été chargé d'une telle évaluation en 1977-78, et que cette évaluation a été soumise à la soixante-quatorzième session du Conseil - j'ai déjà cité les paragraphes correspondants - qui, à sa très grande majorité, a été pleinement satisfait par les résultats de cette évaluation, Ceci l'a conduit à adopter la Résolution 1. 74 à laquelle référence a été faite ce matin. J'ai relu très soigneusement cette Résolution, et n'y ai rien trouvé qui demande une autre évaluation à court terme. De façon plus générale, je n'y ai pas trouvé la moindre instruction à laquelle le

Directeur général n'a fait pas donné suite.

En ce qui concerne ce problème général d'évaluation, je pense que Monsieur le représentant de la Yougoslavie, dans son intervention en sa double qualité de représentant de son pays et de Président du Comité du Programme, a fourni une meilleure réponse que celle que je pourrais donner moi-même.

Monsieur le représentant du Royaume-Uni nous a demandé ce qu'il en était de l'approbation de nouveaux projets du Programme de coopération technique.

Je lui répondrai qu'à la fin de cette année 1981, nous nous attendons à ce que la totalité des crédits disponibles soit engagée et nous pensons qu'il nous restera encore à ce moment là une centaine de demandes en instance, qu'il n'aura pas été possible de satisfaire et qui se trouveront donc en compétition avec celles que le Directeur général recevra l'année prochaine.

Messieurs les délégués de l'Autriche et de la France, après avoir formulé des commentaires très positifs à propos du Programme de coopération technique, ont fait allusion à son effet catalytique et le délégué de la France a posé des questions en ce qui concerne la catégorie dite des "divers".

Nous reconnaissons bien volontiers que cette définition de "divers" n'est pas satisfaisante. Il faut se référer aux critères donnés dans les documents déjà mentionnés pour voir ce que l'on entend par là. Je me limiterai à indiquer que c'est très souvent dans cette catégorie que se trouvent des projets qui ont un effet catalytique.

En dehors de ceux qui appartiennent à la catégorie "investissements" et qui sont comptabilisés ailleurs, cette catégorie "divers" couvre la plupart des projets du Programme de coopération technique qui sont destinés à préparer un projet du PNUD, un projet de fonds fiduciaires, à fournir un pont entre deux projets, à compléter un projet du PNUD qui peut-être, à certains égards, ne couvrirait pas tous les aspects nécessaires. J'ajouterai que, très souvent, ce sont les représentants du PNUD qui conseillent aux gouvernements de s'adresser au Directeur général pour recevoir ce type d'assistance et ce à tel point que nous avons été, à plusieurs reprises, obligés de leur demander de modérer leur zèle.

En tout état de cause, je pense que les représentants des divers pays n'ont pas lieu de craindre une évolution du Programme de coopération technique dans un sens qui l'amènerait à financer des activités qui tendraient à se perpétuer dans le temps, en dehors de critères très stricts.

Vous serez peut-être surpris d'apprendre à cet égard, qu'alors que la dimension moyenne d'un projet du Programme de coopération technique était de 78 000 dollars au début de ce programme, elle a décliné, en dépit de l'inflation, à 54 000 dollars en 1980.

Ceci traduit précisément le très grand nombre de petites opérations ponctuelles d'urgence, y compris celles de formulations de projets.

Je puis mentionner comme exemple l'aide apportée à certains pays africains, pour transformer le plan d'action de Lagos en des plans nationaux d'action concrète, en coopération avec le PNUD.

De même la durée moyenne de projets du PCT n'est que de cinq mois et demi.

Monsieur le représentant de la France avait posé hier des questions sur la part de l'Afrique dans le PCT. Aujourd'hui il a reconnu que cette part était élevée. Elle est, en effet, très élevée, puisque l'Afrique, depuis le début du Programme, a reçu 37 pour cent du total. Si l'on utilise une autre classification, celle des pays les moins développés, cette part est de 35 pour cent. Le Directeur général voudrait faire plus, mais il doit penser aussi à d'autres parties du monde. Messieurs les délégués de la Turquie et de l'Argentine, dans leurs interventions, ont rappelé cette nécessité d'assurer un équilibre, tout en donnant la priorité aux plus pauvres.

J'espère, Monsieur le Président, avoir répondu aux principales questions et vous remercie, ainsi que Messieurs les délégués, pour le très vaste appui que vous avez bien voulu donner aux différentes activités couvertes par les chapitres III et IV du Programme de travail et budget.

J.A. GUEVARA MORAN (El Salvador): Yo quiero, en primer lugar, agradecerle por concederme el uso de la palabra. Queremos felicitarle a usted y a los vicepresidentes de la Comisión por la excelencia con que están dirigiendo estos debates. Deseamos indicarles que nuestra delegación, desde junio pasado, con motivo del 79° período de sesiones del Consejo, expresó su completo apoyo a las políticas, objetivos, estrategias, planes, programas y proyectos presentados por el Director General; apoyo que ratificamos en el seno del recién pasado 80° período de sesiones del Consejo.

En consecuencia, en esta nueva oportunidad, con motivo de este 21° período de sesiones de la Conferencia y en relación a esta Comisión II, y reafirmamos nuestro más absoluto apoyo al Programa de Labores y Presupuesto para el bienio 1982-83. Deseo, sin embargo, con relación al tema de este día, referirme a los puntos siguientes:

Primero, no logro comprender aun cómo es posible que se apoyen los programas y que se brinde un voto de confianza y se felicite al Director General indicando que su primer mandato ha sido un excelente ejemplo de eficiencia y de eficacia y, a la hora de aprobar el presupuesto, todavía se presenten dudas y reparos al nivel del mismo.

En segundo lugar, y no para dorar la píldora porque aunque nuestros países son pobres, pero nosotros los funcionarios y en mi caso, como Ministro de Agricultura y Ganadería de mi país, no quisiera establecer justificaciones acá para dorar la píldora, porque entonces nos estaríamos haciendo un autoengaño. Queremos manifestar con mucha seriedad las cosas que nosotros defendemos y en nuestro caso cuando hacemos un planteamiento no lo hacemos para congratularnos con nadie, sino que lo hacemos convencidos de que estamos defendiendo algo justo para los intereses de nuestros países subdesarrollados.

Por esa razón, con relación al tema de la descentralización de las actividades de la FAO, considero que esta ha sido una de las acciones más felices que se han realizado en la vida de la Institución. Nosotros en mi país estamos totalmente satisfechos con el representante de la Organización, ya que esto ha permitido una dinámica acción en todos los proyectos que en conjunto desarrollamos. Por lo anterior, creemos que aquellos países que están solicitando estos servicios saben por que lo hacen y nosotros, con conocimiento de causa, les recomendamos que no descansen hasta lograr este objetivo, ya que los resultados serán positivos al más breve plazo. Es una experiencia vivida en nuestro país y que, sin egoísmo por supuesto, la compartimos con aquellos países que no disfrutaban de esa gran ventaja de tener representantes en su país, sobre todo si son representantes de la calidad del que nosotros hemos tenido.

En tercer lugar, quiero referirme al PCT; nosotros consideramos que debe mantenerse y que debe reforzarse, ya que éste constituye un elemento fundamental para la formulación rápida de propuestas de proyectos y de programas de asistencia técnica apoyados por la FAO, o por cualquier otra de las agencias financieras o por el Centro de Inversiones de la FAO.

Por último, Sr. Presidente, deseamos solicitar vehementemente a todos los países desarrollados que apoyen el nivel del presupuesto para el bienio 1982-83, ya que con esto se estará dotando a nuestra Organización de los medios mínimos indispensables para cubrir con eficacia todas las actividades propuestas en el Programa de Labores y, lo que es más, se estará en camino para coadyuvar efectivamente a la solución del problema del hambre y de la malnutrición de los países pobres del mundo entero.

CHAIRMAN: Distinguished delegates, I have the impression this brings us to the end of the debate on items 9 and 10 of the Agenda, which is the Programme of Work and Budget and the Medium-term Objectives, and I take this opportunity to wind up.

Throughout the debate an overwhelming confirmation transpired of the Medium-term Objectives. Delegates underlined the continued validity of these Medium-term Objectives as contained in the respective documents. 104 countries participated in the debate on the Programme of Work and Budget. Some of them took the floor twice, or even more frequently. The largest part of the delegations that took the floor expressed support both of the contents of the Programme of Work and Budget as well as of the level of the budget itself - precisely 80 countries, of which 24 considered the budget as a strict minimum.



Many of these countries emphasised that a zero growth would not be feasible for an organisation that has been set up to play a vital, central, and leading role in solving world problems of food, hunger, and development in Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

There were 11 countries who were not very specific there, the content of their statements suggested in most cases an attitude in favour of the proposals as contained in the budgetary appropriations resolution.

A number of delegates, while supporting the Programme of Work and Budget felt that not all of the objectives might be reached with the level of the budget proposed. A few delegates -we recognized sevdn- reserved their position and indicated that their countries would state their position on the budget proposals at a later stage of the Conference. Six countries were unable to express during the debate in Commission II support for the Programme of Work and Budget as presented in document C 81/3. Quite a number of delegates encouraged the Director-General to continue the process of decentralization. A number of delegates made remarks pertaining to the format of the report on items 9 and 10 and some suggested to amalgamate the two documents on the Programme of Work and Budget and the Medium-term Objectives.

Finally, I would recall the remarks of the delegates of Sweden and Zambia that stand for the wisdom, the reconciling and understanding attitude that also characterized other statements. We should respect the views held by delegates representing their sovereign States, yet we should equally cultivate the dialogue amongst us. After all, we should be aware that we all carry a heavy responsibility for the Organization's next biennium, and possibly beyond that period. The FAO is our Organization; it is the Organization that was set up as the central and lead Organization to tackle hunger and food and associated problems in a global and concerted manner. These were thoughts and feelings that transpired through many statements of the delegates.

out the debate on these two subjects, it can be concluded that Commission II refers the draft resolution on the budgetary appropriations 1982/83 as contained in document C 81/3 on page 2, to the Plenary.

R. GARCELL (Cuba): Disculpe Sr. Presidente que hagamos uso de la palabra; pero usted ha demostrado el cuidado que ha tenido en tomar nota de las deliberaciones. Quizá yo haya entendido mal o la traducción no me haya llegado bien; pero hablaba usted de 24 países que habían señalado como mínimo su apoyo al presupuesto. Esto, quizá demostraría una participación minoritaria. Nosotros con el apoyo que queremos dar en el trabajo de la delegación, y con la responsabilidad que se nos ha concedido de participar en el Comité de Redacción hemos ido tomando todas las notas que nos ha sido posible aunque, seguramente sin el cuidado con que ha podido hacerlo el Presidente y la Secretaría.

Pensamos que quizá sería más conveniente reflejarlo en otros términos, ya que más de 24 países dieron su apoyo irrestricto al presupuesto, unas veces planteando que estaban de acuerdo que era el mínimo y, otras que podría ser aumentada.

Esa es mi preocupación.

CHAIRMAN: I think there must be a misunderstanding. I spoke about 80. Perhaps in the translations this came out different but it was 80 countries that were in favour of the proposals on the Programme of Work and Budget, and in addition, 11 countries that were not very specific, although from the content of their statements, one could conclude that most of them were showing an attitude in favour. Is this sufficient clarification? Thank you.

- National Agricultural Research in Developing Countries
- Recherche agricole nationale dans les pays en développement
- Investigaciones agrícolas nacionales en los países en desarrollo
- World Soil Charter
- Charte mondiale des sols
- Carta Mundial de los Suelos

CHAIRMAN: Let us now move on to discuss two documents that were kept separate from the debate so far but which actually form a part of item 9 and 10. These are documents C 81/26, National Agricultural Research in Developing Countries, and C 81/27, World Soil Charter. I would suggest that for the sake of an expeditious working procedure, I leave the floor open for discussion on both subjects, if this proposal is agreeable to delegates. That being so, I would also like to draw your attention to the fact that in document C 81/27 we find included a draft resolution for the Conference entitled World Soil Charter, and Commission II will have to come up with a clear formula of support, hopefully, as a proposal to the Conference and to the Plenary.

We shall have the benefit of a very useful introduction by the Assistant Director-General of the Agriculture Department, Mr. Bommer.

D.F.R. BOMMER (Assistant Director-General, Agriculture Department): Conference document C 81/26 National Agricultural Research in Developing Countries is presented to Commission II for a more detailed discussion on sub-programme 2.1.4. Research Support, which is contained in document C 81/9 Medium-Term Objectives.

Research in FAO'S programme is not perceived as narrowly directed towards the generation of technology but as an integral and indispensable link of agricultural services supporting the total process of development. In this function research provides at its one end the base for decisions to be made by governments in agricultural planning and policies and on the other end it should provide results which should improve farming systems, forest management and fish catches and has to be verified in farmers' fields, in forest groves and in the boats of fishermen.

There have been three considerations to present a separate document on national agricultural research to this Conference. First there is an increasing recognition in developing countries of the impact which well directed research has on agricultural productivity and rural development and that self-reliance is closely linked with the strength of national research capabilities.

Secondly it has become evident over recent years that irrespective of progress made in international efforts in support of agricultural research for developing countries, the strength or weakness of agricultural research systems and their integration with rural development programmes will determine the degree to which international or other externally generated research results can be adopted and applied under local conditions.

And thirdly there has been some misconception on the priority research support received in the Organization's programme and on the approaches which are being pursued to build up research capabilities in developing countries.

Document C 81/26 reviews in a broad way the progress which has been made since the 18th FAO Conference in 1975 which has recognized the importance of research for improving agricultural production and the availability of food and other products in developing countries. In examining the major constraints still existing for the development of national research capabilities, the paper provides the framework for a broad strategy in the 1980s which could be followed by all member nations either in need of developing their own research capabilities or in a position to assist and support such developments.

The strategy, following an indication of some of the major areas of research, is developed in four major components: the first indicates the desirable growth and the provision of investment and financial support required; the second underlines the needs for trained manpower and suggests some ways and means by which these needs may be met at all necessary levels. The third indicates the urgency of giving greater attention to research organization and managements and stresses particularly the need to integrate research with the services to successfully transfer research results to the farming community and to the policy making levels and provide for the necessary feedback to guide research to priority needs of each country. Fourthly, but by no means last, is the area of research collaboration at the international and regional levels in supporting national research endeavours. In addition to the activities of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research other and new innovations are in need of support or development. Finally, the concept of a World System of Agricultural Research comes into view, evolving from existing elements, mutually supporting and enforcing each other. FAO would have to play a key role in such a System.

Within this overall strategy, FAO's Medium-Term Objectives are indicated in Chapter IV. These objectives have to be seen far beyond the sub-programme 2.1.4. which summarizes under Research Support only a small part of FAO's programme actually supporting research for agriculture, fishery and forestry. The bulk of these activities is covered in various technical programmes and sub-programmes mainly in Chapter II of the Programme of Work and Budget for 1982/83.

The document, its assessment, strategy and consequences for FAO's Medium-Term Objectives is presented by the Director-General to this Conference for appraisal and endorsement.

R. DUDAL (Director, Land and Water Development Division): it seems a paradox that in spite of major technological advances in agricultural production hundreds of millions of people are still not having enough to eat. This paradox stems, as you know, from a number of causes, many of which have been analysed in this forum and on different occasions but I should like to draw your special attention to one of the most alarming causes and possibly the least acknowledged, and it is the rate at which the production capacity of the land is being reduced or destroyed through various forms of land degradation, such as erosion, desertification, desalination, waterlogging, etc. It is a slow but pernicious process. In Latin-America it has recently been called un terremoto silencioso, a silent earthquake, a silent landslide, which progressively diminishes the world ability to produce food.

As you know, FAO's study "Agriculture: Toward 2000", estimated that 200 million hectares of new land will need to be brought into production by the year 2000 to meet the food requirements of the population of the future. This estimate was made on the assumption that conservation techniques would be applied but should this not be the case, and it is not the case in many instances, we calculate that during the next twenty years 22 percent of the land productivity in developing countries will be lost. Therefore a greater part of additional land should be brought into cultivation just to compensate for the loss that will be suffered. In 1974 the World Food Conference, recognizing this issue, requested FAO, in cooperation with other UN organizations, such as UNEP, Unesco and others, to select the most appropriate ways and means to establish a world soil charter and to promote international cooperation towards the most rational use of the world's land resources. In order to do so we had to evaluate the present capacity of the world's land and their production potential which we had done over the last five' five years and I am happy to report that this study is now completed.

This land-use capacity indeed was needed to prepare the world soil charter because erosion and other forms of degradation are always the result from utilization of the land beyond its production capacity. We now present this world soil charter to you, meant to highlight the urgent problem of land degradation and to sensitize decision-makers and land-users of the imperative need to maintain and improve the production base for agriculture, range land and forestry for the generations to come. This land base is limited in area and the loss of its productivity is irreversible in most instances.

Action programmes for soil conservation have been postponed under the pressure of other more urgent problems but an appeal is being made through this charter to consider not only the immediate requirements of production but also the long-term needs to maintain the resource base, the loss of which would endanger man's very existence.

We are submitting this charter to you in the form of the resolution in the hope that if you adopt it it would strengthen the Director-General's arm and the Organization's action in this field.

L. A. BRAMAO (Portugal): Concerning the establishment of the World Soil Charter, it is important and the respective documents are very well prepared.

Among the top priorities facing the human race now and certainly worse in the future if serious measures are not taken, is the mammoth need for increasing food production. This has been the theme of the previous FAO Conference and also of the present one. Delegates are all agreed upon this need but countries continue to be unable to increase their food production at the rate absolutely to meet the needs of their populations, which population is increasing in numbers and in standards of living.

Increased food production depends on a number of factors of social and economic nature but depends also on suitable agricultural practice, use of pesticides, of improved seeds, of other important inputs, such as suitable equipment, etc. Climate is generally considered but specific soil units and their properties, including resistance against degradation and erosion, etc., are often overlooked at all levels, from the government staff down to the farmer.

The soil map of the world when established had many finalities. I would like to mention a few. The finality of dividing the first inventory of the world's soil as it occurs in different continents, to define it as accurately as possible and to describe its characteristics for multiple uses but particularly for agricultural and forest use and above all its capacity for food production on a sustained basis. The soil map of the world provided, therefore, for the first time an instrument of guidance to all countries on the quality of such vital resources such as soil and to supply information to everyone,

particularly to government services and students at all levels on the respective extinction and quality of the soil unit on a world basis, of their production potentialities and problems.

The World Soil Charter is the logical consequence to be followed up by this great and important Organization. The World Soil Charter will be a red light, a strong warning for the world about this precious resource for survival of the human race on our planet.

The document mentions the care that should be taken in dealing with the soil. The World Soil Charter, we would remind people that soil has a limited area, it is a very perishable resource and a non-renewable one and that soil area, we know that it has been decreasing at a frightening rate as Mr. Dudal just mentioned, through soil erosion, degradation etc., all maladies produced by misuse of soil by man. All this must be stopped quickly. Suitable utilization of a world soil resources must be implemented if we are going to eliminate famine, hunger and malnutrition, and His Holiness referred to today, and if we are going to succeed in raising the standard of living of the very poor farmer.

My delegation therefore supports the World Soil Charter. I am pleased to inform you that my government has placed the problem of increased food production on a sustained basis as one of its four priorities and that careful care will be taken about the soil in the process. We are speaking of urgency in increasing food production but how can food production be increased if it is not done in close agreement with Mother Earth.

B. M. SAID (Libya) (original language Arabic): For developing countries I think the report gives the basic data for the national agricultural research programmes and in this connexion I would like to say that a great number of countries along the edge of the desert have considerable problems with regard to water resources and try to benefit as much as they can from new water resources in order to increase their food production. But climatic conditions which are very difficult make the use of these resources extremely costly and make it difficult to ensure the food supplies for the population. This makes these populations dependent on the help of other countries. That is why we feel that a particular emphasis has to be placed on research on water resources along the Sahara and we feel that the Organization should also give the necessary assistance in order to carry out this task.

As far as the World Soil Charter is concerned it is necessary that this subject, soil conservation, be included as a priority in the midst of priorities of the Jahamirya. The climatic conditions and our proximity to the desert make it necessary for us to make every possible effort in order to avoid the erosion, soil degradation and so on. This is why we are very satisfied with the contents of this draft resolution. Although this draft comes rather late if we take into consideration the fact that the Resolution of the World Food Conference laid stress on the importance of the preparation of such World Soil Charter seven years ago. I think I can say that this Charter gets our full support, especially since it has gone through a long period of very careful preparation and consultation on a very wide basis. We are of the opinion that the Organization is undoubtedly able to carry out this very difficult task. We have studied the draft Resolution very carefully and we fully agree with the principles embodied in the Resolution, since it covers all the very important aspects. The Jahamirya already applies very many of these principles.

As far as the general guidelines are concerned we fully agree with them and we feel that the Charter is tackling very many organizational problems, especially what appears under (iii), concerning the institutional framework for monitoring and supervising soil management and soil conservation. This is to be found on page 4 of the English text. If we are of the opinion that the institutional framework alone is not sufficient, since there is interaction between soil and water and plant resources, we believe that it is necessary to establish a link between soil and water conservation and plant production.

In conclusion, I feel that a proposal needs to be made with regard to the preamble to this part of the Resolution, because we believe that the Resolution has not referred to the International Conference on the Fight against Desertification which was held in 1977 in Nairobi. In the course of this Conference a great deal of emphasis was laid on soil management and soil conservation, and this is mentioned in paragraph 2 on page 3 of the Arabic text. It says: "Recalling further the Programme for Action adopted by the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development..." Here we should add: "Recalling further the resolution of the World Conference on Desertification held in Nairobi in 1977 concerning the necessity to fight against erosion and soil degradation..."

C. THOMSEN (Denmark): Our remarks will be limited to the document on National Agricultural Research in Developing Countries, C 81/26. We would like to congratulate the Organization on the preparation of this document, which we find a very valuable contribution in this important area of activity and we consider that the document deserves the attention of this Commission.

We are satisfied that we have been provided with a coherent picture of the situation and of the technical assistance activities, both bilateral and international, as a background to our consideration of the role of FAO and its activities, also perhaps particularly in the medium-term perspective. We consider it an excellent document and we would only like to emphasise a few aspects of it.

The first one, whereas I have said we find the analysis satisfactory and agree with the list of major trends in the first part of the document, we would however like to stress the importance of the attitudes, or perhaps I should say the orientation of the research workers, particularly with regard to the awareness of the problems of the farmers and the agricultural producers in the utilization of the results of the research they produce.

We would therefore particularly emphasise the gaps in linkages between research and the farming community, as we consider this simply crucial to the justification of agricultural research expenditure in the long run.

We also attach much importance to fruitful collaboration between the various agencies and donors involved in this field. Here, as in other instances, there is need for the best possible use of the resources available. We therefore particularly like the reference in the document to the active collaboration which has been initiated -- this is just an example -- between FAO and the International Service of National Research, ISNR. We agree that agricultural research is basic to agricultural development. But much depends on the linkages of research with extension and the farming community. So we much appreciate that the document has devoted a special section to this subject. We consider it deserves more attention. I can say that from the experience of my own country we know that these linkages have a decisive influence on the rate of diffusion of research results and their impact on agricultural development. It is of particular importance that these links provide a line of communication in both directions, so as to provide the necessary feedback from farmers to research about the problems which deserve high priority. I am just trying to emphasise points that have been made in the document.

I then come to the role of FAO in the medium-term, on which we have a few comments to make. They are related to the question of orienting the work of the Organization with a view to supplementing the other agencies and donors who are active in this field, as the Assistant Director-General himself said. Referring to the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research, continued close collaboration for the purpose of the best use of resources is highly desirable, and it is a question of taking initiatives where there is a gap in the existing number of agencies and activities, not only to promote the production of research results but, equally important, to ensure the proper utilization of these results. We feel that FAO has a special role to play in supporting the collaboration between the national agricultural research organizations by way of networks, thus supplementing the activities of others, but also in other forms of collaboration where reference has been made to the International Federation of Agricultural Research Directors and the various information systems. But we would like to caution against getting too much involved in the notion of a world system of agricultural research from an institutional point of view. To us this is more a question of content than form.

Another important area is the strengthening of the national research organizations in FAO in the future. This applies both to research organizations and management, and also training has to be an important part of this. I have already referred to the close collaboration established with ISNR to ensure complementarity and I would like to say that there is plenty of work to be done by everybody. So it is just a matter of having sufficient contact about it. We also understand that at present an initiative has been taken to have an evaluation study on assistance to national agricultural research, and we welcome that very much.

Perhaps the most important role of the FAO would be to give special attention -- and I come back again to linkages between research and extension services as well as other services of agricultural development in the developing countries -- not only to promote the flow of results to farmers, but again, equally important, to promote the feedback from the farmer to the research workers.

FAO, in view of its wide area of competence, has special possibilities in this area and should work towards influencing also the services we are talking about, extension services and other development services, in this same direction.

With these remarks I would just like to say that we fully endorse the document in front of us on National Agricultural Research.

R. GARCELL (Cuba): Estamos tratando de enmarcarnos en el plan de 20 minutos que usted nos ha señalado. Agradecemos a los miembros de la Secretaría la introducción que han hecho de los temas. Nos referiremos a los dos que están siendo objeto de análisis. En la Carta Mundial de los Suelos hemos hecho algunas sugerencias a la Secretaría de tipo formal que con su comprensión y amabilidad acostumbrada, seguramente han de tener en cuenta. Pero también quisiéramos, al tiempo que apoyamos este documento y este proyecto de resolución, que se analice por los órganos técnicos correspondientes y por las demás delegaciones, el agregar un párrafo o incorporar una idea que no tiene un carácter retórico sino de fondo, en el sentido de inscribir, por ejemplo: "teniendo en cuenta que el mal estado de los suelos se manifiesta con mayor intensidad en los países en vías de desarrollo". Sería esto en el caso del texto en español, en una de las partes de la página 2, y esto nos conduciría a que, al final de la resolución, en la página 5 del texto español, en el subpárrafo ii) que dice: "Ayudar a los gobiernos - nos...", inscribir: "prioritariamente a los países subdesarrollados". Repito, señor Presidente, no es un aspecto formal sino que es en los países subdesarrollados donde se manifiesta con mayor intensidad la degradación de los suelos por la explotación que los mismos han sido objeto, por distintas causas que no vale la pena mencionar porque son sobradamente conocidas.

De todas formas, reiteramos nuestra aprobación al documento C 81/27 y reiteramos el saludo a la Secretaría por su inclusión en nuestra Comisión. Con respecto al C 81/26, Investigaciones agrícolas nacionales en los países en desarrollo, nuestra delegación recibe con satisfacción la inclusión del tema y recordamos que esta Comisión ha tenido también la misión de discutir el presupuesto. A los organismos internacionales y a los propios países, les resulta difícil seleccionar el mejor camino entre aquél que conduce a destinar fondos a la promoción de incrementos inmediatos en la producción agrícola, o a la investigación, los cuales aunque tienen una influencia decisiva en la producción, sus resultados se obtienen más tardíamente.

Al analizar este tema, nos viene necesariamente a la mente, nuevamente, la injusta posición de algunos países ricos que no han aceptado hasta ahora el incremento del presupuesto para 1982-83. Por nuestros estudios combinados de los documentos C 81/3 y C 81/26 estimamos que la organización lleva confrontadas insuficiencias de fondo para lograr cumplimentar la estrategia que pretende desarrollar en materia de investigación agrícola, que se muestra en los párrafos 48 al 62. Si comparamos esos objetivos con el modestísimo incremento que se refleja en el Programa 2.1.4 -Apoyo a la investigación, el que sólo recibiría un x incremento de 340 000 pesos en el bienio, nos preguntamos podremos avanzar así en la investigación, podrá transformarse así el atraso tecnológico que en materia agrícola mantienen los países en desarrollo? Si no se invierte en la investigación, no se incrementará sustancialmente la producción agrícola.

Nuestra delegación sugiere que si por cualquier circunstancia, el presupuesto de la Organización tuviera que hacer reajustes, éstos no atenten contra los limitadísimos fondos previstos para la investigación, que es la seguridad del futuro; pero sobre todo, instamos a que tanto la FAO como los países vigilen y aseguren que todo fondo destinado a la investigación tenga una vinculación directa con objetivos prácticos de producción, y nunca se conviertan en meros ejercicios teóricos.

Así, en el párrafo 53 lo recoge el documento C 81/26. La aplicación práctica de los resultados de las investigaciones en la esfera agrícola en los países en desarrollo, es un paso modesto para estrechar la ancha brecha que separa a éstos de los países desarrollados, y no podemos conformarnos en que esta distancia se mantenga inalterable, o lo que es peor, se ensanche.

Queremos también sugerir que los países y la organización consideren como elementos de investigación, encuestas no sólo sobre las técnicas de producción agrícola, ganadera, o de pesca, sino que también se abarquen las condiciones socioeconómicas de los pobladores rurales que son los actores y víctimas del atraso existente. Con lo cual, estaríamos en concordancia con la Declaración de Principios y Programa de Acción presentado a la Conferencia Mundial sobre Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural.

I. GARBOUCHEV (UNEP): First of all, I would like to take this opportunity to extend the gratitude of the United Nations Environment Programme Secretariat to the Director-General of FAO of UN and FAO Council for the invitation to attend the 21st Session of the FAO Conference.

A number of UNEP/FAO joint activities, programmes and projects are at an "on-going" or "forthcoming" status. A review of this cooperation just a minute ago was presented at the Plenary Session.

For the moment, I would like to draw the attention of the distinguished delegates attending the Session of this Commission to a few remarks and comments regarding the World Soil Charter and FAO research programme in developing countries.

The UNEP Governing Council, at its 8th and 9th Session (1980 and 1981) requested the Executive Director of UNEP to identify the most important technical, institutional and legal elements of a World Soils Policy and Plan of Action for its implementation. In close collaboration with FAO, Unesco, the International Soil Science Society and other relevant organizations, two Expert Group Meetings were held in FAO Headquarters, Rome, (1980 and 1981) for the purpose.

The last meeting, held in February 1981, adopted recommendations for "A proposed World Soil Policy and framework of Plan of Action for its implementation". The elements of a World Soil Policy are considered both at the international and national levels.

The overall objectives of a World Soil Policy could be summarized concisely as follows: 1. Establishment of a global land and soil productivity and environment monitoring system; 2. Adoption of internationally agreed methodologies for the assessment of land productive available and potentially available, based on periodical cost benefit analysis, and their productivity, based on accessible input technologies; 3. Promotion of international and national legislation for the protection and development of land and soil resources.

I would like to state clearly that very substantial achievements in these directions have been accomplished by FAO over the last 20/25 years.

However, now is the time for FAO's (and other's) relevant scientific achievements all over the world to be organized into a World Soil Policy and built up as a unique system for periodical assessment of global land resources and promotion of methodologies for their improvement, reclamation and sustainable use. In fact, the FAO programme under Medium-Term Objectives and research in the field of land and soils conservation, development and management are fully in line with the objectives of a World Soil Policy and a Plan of Action for its implementation.

To this end, on behalf of UNEP Secretariat, I would like to express my sincere hope for further even more active and close collaboration with FAO, to carry on all necessary activities for the establishment of a World Soil Policy and a Plan of Action for its implementation.

There is no doubt that the World Soil Charter prepared by FAO, in meeting the World Food Conference request in 1974, would form a fundamental moral and legislative background both at the international and national levels of a World Soil Policy. The earlier draft of this Charter was favourably considered by the last Expert Group meeting on World Soil Policy held in Rome.

The draft of the World Soil Charter, document C 81/LIM/11., due to be adopted by the 21st FAO Conference, is now a well-developed document and deserves full support.

However, I would like to suggest a few amendments, which I believe would further its improvement:

- Under Resolution 81, paragraph 3, "Recalling..."- Actually this was already mentioned by Libya; it is related to the conference on Desertification, but I would particularly like to suggest after that line 1, "adopted by the" add "United Nations Conference on Desertification which called to combat land degradation and desertification";
- Under "Principles", para. 6. After the word "sound" on the first line, the word "technical" might be inserted before "institutional" for comprehensiveness;
- Under "By International Organizations", A new paragraph was already suggested to be incorporated reading: "Collaborate closely for the implementation of Plan of Action to combat desertification".

I would like to express particularly UNEP's full support of the FAO Research Programme in developing countries and the readiness of the United Nations Environment Programme to cooperate in whatever levels and aspects are needed, including catalytic funding for better performance and in fostering environmental objectives of various research and extension projects in developing countries.

S.A. ADETUNJI (Nigeria): I would like to thank the Chairman for this opportunity to comment on the documents on Agricultural Research and the World Soil Charter. We fully endorse these two programmes, but one doubts whether the allocations to these two programmes will be adequate. The programme in support of Agricultural Research is welcomed. We would like to congratulate the Secretariat for producing this document and we fully share and endorse the analyses presented and the constraints in Agricultural Research as laid out in document C 81/26.

There is no doubt that there is much to be done in the field of agricultural research in developing countries. We are aware of the activities of ISNAR which is relatively young and still very thin in staff. We feel there is much that the FAO and International Research Centre can do to improve research activities in developing countries, thereby helping these countries towards self-sufficiency in food by helping them to develop their capabilities and capacities in research through collaborative programme training (short and long term), visits, conferences, management training.

However, we realise the effectiveness of research in most cases does not depend on the number of institutions but is considerably influenced by the number of linkages between the institutions, the integration of research, agricultural extension research and liaison, and efficient extension systems. The flow of information between national and international research institutions is also very important.

All considered, this is why our delegation considers this programme to be very important, hoping that it will promote effectiveness in research output and promote collaboration between the international institutions in the CGIAR systems and national research institutes, strengthening the capability of the national research scientists and improving the development of management staff. This has been found to be crucial in strengthening the national efforts in agricultural research to provide sound backing for efforts in agricultural production.

I would like briefly to mention the World Soil Charter as this programme is very important. I would also like to compliment the Secretariat for the production and the evolution of these documents. Therefore we acclaim the objectives of the World Soil Charter. Misuse of land in many parts of the world has rendered soils very unproductive. Therefore we support also soil and land use programmes that will promote soil conservation and reclamation.

The problem of developing land use policies will not be as serious as efforts in enforcing such policies, therefore the FAO will have to help, among other institutions, development of institutional capabilities and manpower development in some of the developing countries, also FAO will have to be deeply involved in public awareness programmes in soil conservation/land reclamation, and efficient use of such resources.

We fully endorse the two programmes.

V. KRENTOS (Cyprus): First of all, I would like to congratulate FAO for presenting this document an all-embracing overview of the present situation and the priorities of the future as well.

I must give credit to, and indeed I congratulate, the Assistant Director-General for presenting us with the salient features of this document - I am talking of C 81/26 on National Agricultural Research in Developing Countries.

We look upon agricultural research as a multi-disciplinary approach. We would not support or create institutions which are mono-disciplinary - in other words dealing with one commodity or with one resource subject.

We would therefore like to see an institute on the national level which would embrace the disciplines of natural resources such as land, water, animal production, the forests, the fisheries, and the management of these resources as well, including supporting studies of the most efficient use of these resources.

With your permission, Mr. Chairman, I will use this forum to express our deep gratitude to FAO for assisting us in building up an institution 18-20 years ago on the lines I have described.

With all humility I may say we are doing the best we can in close cooperation with the extension services and with the Department of Agriculture in order to disseminate the results of the research to the farming community.

I am extremely gratified that my colleague from Denmark, who comes from a developed agricultural country, has touched on this very point. I represent the developing countries, and I fully support and endorse that applied agricultural research is an essential element of success. I made that point yesterday when you allowed me to intervene, Mr. Chairman.



There may be a need, perhaps, for mono-disciplinary institutions on a regional basis. This is not the time to discuss this, I think, but we agree fully that the major constraints are those set out in paras. 8-13. I would like to comment on para. 9 which stresses, if I may quote: "The first of these constraints is the lack of recognition of the importance of research in national development plans, with a consequent lack of investment in research development, and insufficient long-term financial support." However, I must stress here that on the national level we - in other words institutions which are doing applied international research - must build and maintain the credibility of the planners. In other words there must be a credible institution and it must produce useful work so that one can claim financial support from the national budgets.

I made this point, but I would like to re-stress it again, that the linkage between extension and the farmers is the most crucial point in the success of any programme on the national research level. At the same time, this association creates the necessary ideas and inputs to the overall programme of research. By exchanging ideas and by interacting between extensions and the research workers there are many benefits. As a matter of fact, this can bring the research worker right into the field. It can bring him right into the real problems which the farming community is facing.

On the question of research collaboration I must add that FAO must act as the catalyst, as the agent, for effective coordination of ideas. I do also wish to stress the point that the agricultural institutions should cooperate closely with the other bodies which deal with agricultural research such as the IAEA, IBPGR, etc.

As I said previously, I think the strategy for action in the 1980's is very well presented. The guidelines are there and they are very clearly set out for each one of us to take those which are relevant and pertinent to our own situations.

With regard to the strengthening of international research collaboration, again it is implicit that we fully support this kind of relationship with, other international research organizations.

As far as the objectives are concerned I think they are very well and clearly set out in para. 94. This is the direction to follow, and we intend to do exactly that.

With these few remarks, we fully endorse document C 81/26, and we look towards FAO to help national institutions to strengthen those areas in which they may be lacking.

Now I turn to document C 81/27, the World Soil Charter. Indeed, I must in this case also congratulate FAO for presenting this Commission with this excellent and comprehensive report on the salient features of what has to be done in order to alleviate the problem of soil and land degradation. In this case too, we have gone through this document very thoroughly and we endorse it fully, and recommend adoption of both documents.

A.H. EL SARKI (Egypt) (original language Arabic): Document 26 gives us very useful information, and that is why we would like, to thank FAO for having presented it to us.

In the light of this document we feel it is necessary to have a link between research and the farmers and also to establish links among research institutions.

We would also like to pay a tribute to FAO for the collaboration with other agencies, and we would recommend that a special emphasis should be placed on agricultural research, particularly with regard to the increase of agriculture and food production.

The factors which make it possible for us to surmount shortages of production start with soil conservation, and therefore, after having reviewed document C 81/27, we would like to give our support to the resolution contained in this document.

O.M. SELIKANE (Lesotho): We would like to congratulate the Secretariat for presenting these two documents to us. We shall confine our remarks to document C 81/27. This document is clear and comprehensive enough for our needs. Our special attention is paid to the principles presented. The importance of these principles cannot be over-emphasized.

In consideration of the action to be followed, the Government of Lesotho has instituted the new Land Act of 1979 which is intended to remove constraints in the use of land and other national resources according to their productive capability, and to give encouragement to commercial utilization of the soil.

We also commend FAO and other agencies for assisting in the fight against soil erosion which we in Lesotho consider as an emergency; with projects pertaining to land use, planning and proper utilization of the soil, we believe that programmes in soil conservation would further be enhanced by strengthening and linking research and extension activities towards individuals and cooperatives utilizing the land. My delegation firmly supports and endorses these two documents.

A.L. TANIS (Haiti): La délégation d'Haïti, après un examen minutieux des documents soumis à son attention, adresse ses chaleureuses félicitations au Secrétariat général pour la qualité de ce document, et aussi pour la liaison qui existe entre les éléments qui figurent sur ces documents.

Contrairement à la plupart des délégués, je propose de faire d'abord des commentaires sur le document concernant la Charte mondiale des sols. Ma délégation pense que le sol constitue le substratum physique sur lequel doit s'organiser toute l'agriculture rationnelle en vue d'arriver à produire suffisamment de vivres pour assurer l'alimentation des populations du globe.

La délégation d'Haïti adresse aussi ses félicitations à la FAO pour la qualité du travail réalisé. Pour mener à bien ce travail, on a dû avoir recours à toute la documentation qui a été réunie. On a recueilli l'opinion de tous les utilisateurs des sols ainsi que des gouvernements, et nous estimons que le travail qui a été effectué est remarquable et digne de l'attention des délégués participant à cette Conférence.

Nous pensons que, tout au début, c'est la forêt, qui recouvrait alors les sols, qui a contribué largement à maintenir l'équilibre biologique entre la plaine et les montagnes. Et, au fur et à mesure que s'accroissait la population du globe, l'homme a dû intervenir et briser cet équilibre fragile, en débroussaillant d'abord, en brûlant et en labourant ensuite, et, à partir de ce moment, a commencé vraiment le drame de la dégradation des sols qui a eu pour conséquence immédiate les bas rendements, la misère et la faim.

Un point a été soulevé par le représentant du PNUE, sur lequel j'aurais voulu revenir en l'approfondissant. Au fur et à mesure de la dégradation des sols, un phénomène tout à fait nouveau apparaît sur la planète, à savoir le phénomène de la désertification. Et les archéologues en fouillant les pages millénaires des civilisations disparues sont arrivés à cette conclusion: ce sont les activités funestes et maladroites des hommes qui ont causé l'érosion et modelé certains déserts artificiels sur la surface de notre planète, et causé la ruine de civilisations.

C'est pourquoi la délégation haïtienne estime qu'avant de procéder à l'établissement de cette charte mondiale, on devrait d'abord procéder à un inventaire complet de toutes les ressources naturelles renouvelables, en vue d'établir une classification des sols qui tienne dûment compte des systèmes écologiques de chaque région; qui tienne compte de la structure des sols et de leur composition chimique, ainsi que de leur potentiel de développement, et tous ces facteurs doivent avoir pour objectif initial l'utilisation adéquate des sols et surtout de leur conservation, en vue de pouvoir fournir à l'humanité les produits nécessaires à son alimentation.

C'est pourquoi la délégation haïtienne appuie le document tel qu'il a été présenté par la Direction générale de la FAO, parce qu'elle est convaincue qu'en l'absence d'une stratégie générale qui permette d'arriver à une meilleure utilisation, à une meilleure conservation des sols, on continuera à obtenir pour les cultures des rendements de plus en plus bas, lesquels continueront à se dégrader et cela sera la désolation et la misère partout.

En ce qui concerne le document visant la recherche agricole nationale, la délé haïtienne n'a pas l'intention de répéter tout ce qui a été dit par les orateurs qui se sont succédés à ce micro et ont traité de la question avec beaucoup de maîtrise et de compétence. Toutefois, elle aurait voulu formuler les remarques suivantes: nous pensons que la recherche constitue la base fondamentale de l'augmentation de la productivité et, partant, de la production alimentaire mondiale. Mais nous pensons également que les programmes de recherche doivent être étudiés d'une façon méticuleuse et ne pas constituer des documents de travail élaborés à partir de certains bureaux de la FAO ou de certaines agences gouvernementales, et être parachutés sur le terrain. Je pense que la recherche, compte tenu de son importance, devrait faire avant toute exécution l'objet d'un inventaire exhaustif de toutes les ressources physiques d'une région, de toutes les ressources humaines et également de toutes les ressources budgétaires ou financières.

Nous attirons l'attention de cette Commission sur le fait que la recherche doit être réalisée dans le but primordial de satisfaire certains besoins immédiats des populations, et dans cette perspective, je crois qu'une attention particulière devrait être accordée à la formation de l'homme, parce que la recherche doit tenir compte des traditions de l'homme, de sa formation, de son degré d'évolution, pour être vraiment valable et appelée à satisfaire les besoins.

J'attire également l'attention des participants de cette Commission sur le fait qu'un lien étroit doit exister entre la recherche et la vulgarisation.

La recherche étant appelée à satisfaire des besoins immédiats, doit avoir un contenu précis, elle doit se refléter dans les tâches de la vulgarisation. On ne doit pas faire de la recherche simplement pour le plaisir de faire de la recherche, mais pour obtenir des données de base à partir de ce que possède et de ce que pratique le paysan pour essayer, étape par étape, d'améliorer sa productivité et partant son revenu, et pour lui permettre d'avoir les conditions de vie plus humaines.

Je pense donc que dans cet ordre d'idée, la recherche devrait s'occuper de problèmes à court terme, appelés à satisfaire les besoins des agriculteurs; la recherche étant un travail d'équipe nécessite également un personnel très spécialisé et à très haut niveau, que ne possèdent pas beaucoup de pays en développement.

C'est pourquoi, j'appuie les propositions qui ont été faites par certains délégués, à savoir qu'une diffusion de certaines conclusions admises ailleurs, permettrait, dans certains cas, à la plupart des pays, d'améliorer grandement leur productivité, sans avoir recours à une recherche sophistiquée mais en procédant simplement à ce que je pourrais appeler des contrôles agronomiques à partir de certains travaux de recherche réalisés ailleurs, dans des conditions similaires.

Il se pose authentiquement la gestion de la recherche sur laquelle une attention beaucoup plus approfondie doit être portée.

Pour conclure, je dirai que la recherche coûte cher, et au terme de cet exposé, et en tenant compte de tout ce qui a été dit par les orateurs qui se sont succédé la déléguée haïtienne prend plaisir à assurer la direction générale de son plein appui, en ce qui concerne l'exécution et l'application de ces deux documents, à savoir: la Charte mondiale des sols et la recherche agronomique.

Pour terminer je demanderai à la FAO de recommander aux différents gouvernements intéressés, d'avoir à renforcer leur service national de la recherche agronomique.

C. FRENCH (United States of America): The United States also adds its support to the World Soil Charter resolution. Also, we commend the Secretariat for preparing document C 81/26 on National Agricultural Research in Developing Countries. The United States has consistently supported the main thesis of this document, namely that well-designed and executed research is necessary for successful development. We support the emphasis in the document on worldwide cooperation and coordination to ensure a total integrated world system, a system which rightly recognizes the importance of the various components including individual country systems, regional systems and international systems. We think the document makes a contribution with regard to research priorities but we must emphasize that much more work needs to be done in developing research priorities.

Research by its nature is expensive and every effort, including careful setting of priorities, must be made to develop cost-effective research systems. The role which FAO has played in participating as an active member of the total group of agencies encouraging research coordination, as illustrated in paragraph 105, is the appropriate role for FAO and we commend that.

K. TANOUCHEV (Bulgarie): Notre délégation soutient entièrement les principes exposés dans le document C 81/27 et appuie sans réserve le projet de Résolution sur la Charte mondiale des sols. Les problèmes de la conservation des sols sont toujours restés au centre de l'attention de notre gouvernement. Actuellement en Bulgarie, on développe un programme détaillé de conservation des sols. Ce programme est exécuté sur l'ensemble du pays et il est supervisé par de nombreux spécialistes et chercheurs scientifiques de l'Institut de pédologie. Une structure de formation de perfectionnement existe depuis plusieurs années auprès de l'Institut de pédologie et de nombreux jeunes spécialistes nationaux et des pays de développement y ont été formés. Nous sommes donc prêts à coopérer activement avec les pays désireux d'une réalisation d'un programme global de conservation et d'utilisation rationnelle des sols.

A. DE LEON LLAMAZARES (España): Mi intervención en nombre de la delegación española va a ser breve, puesto que aun cuando la importancia de los temas contemplados en los documentos C 81/27 y C 81/26 es grande, están completa y correctamente tratados en los mismos, por lo que no es necesario insistir en ninguno de sus múltiples perfiles.

En este sentido, mi felicitación a la Secretaría por su excelente trabajo. Por todo ello, quiero dejar patente aquí únicamente la satisfacción de mi delegación por un documento como el C/81/27, en el que se recoge una propuesta de resolución sobre el Mapa de Suelos del Mundo, resolución que nos parece del mayor interés y cuya adopción respaldamos, ya que entendemos que daría coherencia a todas las actividades básicas para la lucha, a largo plazo, contra el hambre, el mantenimiento y mejora de la productividad de los ecosistemas terrestres, y la consecución de mayores cotas de bienestar social. Esto es todo.

WANG SHOU RU (China) (original language Chinese): We are very pleased to see the World Soil Charter drafted by the Secretariat of the Conference which outlines in a very succinct manner the principles of the rational utilization of soil resources and proposes action to be taken by the international community.

This charter will play an important role in our future agricultural production practice of conserving and improving soil productivity as well as promoting steady development of agriculture.

The Chinese delegation supports this draft and would like recommend its adoption by the Conference.

The Charter, in its paragraph 8, in its Principles section raises the question relating to land tenure. This is a question of principle that concerns the rational use of all soil resources and should be in fact summed up into a major principle. However, in view of the differences in the social and economic systems of different countries and their levels of agricultural development, while in order to adapt this existing situation, we would like to suggest for your consideration an amendment to the sentence of the 8th paragraph which would then read: 'Appropriate ways and means should be pursued to overcome such obstacles in the light of the principles concerned in the Programme of Action of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development.' I would like to propose this for your consideration.

As for the question of national agricultural research in developing countries, we believe that helping developing countries to reinforce agricultural research works is of vital importance to the promotion of sustained growth of the world food and agriculture. It is therefore quite necessary to rank it as one of the priorities in the Medium-term Objectives of this Organization.

We strongly support the concept of agricultural research strategy for the 1980s as set out in the document. We also support the work in the four priority areas.

Viewing from the realities of the agriculture research in our country we find that the training of new research workers is of even greater significance in the four priorities areas. The number of personnel in China that have the equivalent level to that of agricultural university graduates is about 300 000, that is to say in a country with a large population like ours only three out of 10 000 agricultural specialists, and among these many of them are engaged in administrative and extension work. As a result the number of personnel really engaged in agricultural research is even smaller. This falls far behind the demand of the task to promote scientific research in our country's agriculture. We keenly feel that without a sufficient number of qualified research workers the goal to strengthen agricultural research cannot be achieved even if a certain amount of funds and corresponding research systems are available. Therefore training of personnel is here a fundamental principle, it is a prerequisite for carrying on national agricultural research in a self-reliant way. I believe that many of the delegates present here have had the same experience. Therefore we look forward to continued international cooperation in this field.

M. LUC ECHEVERRIA (Chile): Deseo manifestar que la delegación de Chile apoya el trabajo que en el futuro se realizará con relación a la Carta de Suelos. Al respecto, mi país tiene, a la fecha, un estudio

que cubre sobre esta materia gran parte del territorio nacional, y con alarma, nos pudimos dar cuenta, gracias a este estudio, del avance del desierto y de zonas importantes que estaban siendo objeto de erosión.

Esto llevó a que en el año 1974 se dictara una Ley de Fomento Forestal que, en términos simples, señala que el Estado le colabora a aquél que quiera plantar un bosque, en aproximadamente 75 por ciento de su valor. Se tomó esta medida por lo grave que consideró el Gobierno la destrucción del suelo, y es así como esta iniciativa permitió que, en el período 1974-80, se plantaran 620 000 hectáreas, comparado a un período anterior similar de 230 000 hectáreas.

Manifiesto esto solamente con el objeto de indicar la importancia que Chile le da al reconocimiento del suelo y a su conservación adecuada. En lo que se refiere a la investigación, también mi delegación apoya el documento que se nos ha presentado, pero desearía llamar la atención en algunos aspectos que estima importantes.

En primer lugar, la investigación debe dirigirse, en términos tales, que la relación costo/beneficio, especialmente para los países en desarrollo, tenga una adecuada resultante. Además es importante, como lo dijo un delegado con anterioridad a que yo hiciera uso de la palabra, el que sea multifacética esta investigación, para lo cual es importante ver la posibilidad de investigar el manejo de cuencas hidro-gráficas en su todo, porque de lo contrario, muchas veces no se consiguen los objetivos que se pretenden.

Todo esto, como también lo han dicho varios delegados, debe ir íntimamente relacionado con una transferencia tecnológica adecuada. Mi delegación estima que es necesario analizar la situación mundial de la investigación y descubrir nuevas formas para que ella se transfiera; porque a la fecha, la transferencia de lo investigado ha sido pobre si se compara con lo mucho que se ha investigado. Es difícil hacer que el productor haga suyas las prácticas que el investigador ha estimado convenientes. Y esto evidentemente hace que cuando no se puede aplicar, en forma práctica, lo investigado resulta un costo que no es justo que países en vías de desarrollo afronten. Creo que en este aspecto, la FAO podría darnos un apoyo muy importante. Con esto, señor Presidente, termino esta intervención por lo avanzado de la hora.

C. MUZZALSKI (Poland): The Polish delegation has very carefully studied this document and wishes to congratulate the Secretariat on its preparation and presentation.

We share the opinion That the World Soil Charter is very important and will be very useful for developing countries in their efforts to increase food production. We are also of the opinion that the training for research is very important and that the Secretariat should organize assistance and national cooperation in this.

O. RAMADAN (Tchad): En parcourant ces deux documents 26 et 27, je me suis arrêté au premier, relatif à la conservation et à l'utilisation des sols. J'ai relevé deux points:

Le premier point concerne un travail curatif conseillé par la FAO, en ce sens que l'utilisation des sols, que ce soit des terres anciennes après engrais, mais surtout des terres nouvelles, débouche nécessairement sur l'augmentation de la production agricole pour satisfaire la population d'un pays et résoudre le problème de l'insuffisance alimentaire.

Le deuxième objectif conseillé par la FAO est également curatif puisque, parallèlement à l'utilisation des sols, la FAO conseille aux Etats de ne pas perdre de vue la dégradation de ces sols.

Le second document a trait à la recherche agricole. Qui dit recherche, dit formation des cadres, des chercheurs. Ce problème n'a pas été perdu de vue. Je demanderais à la FAO, qui a soulevé ce problème très crucial dans les pays en développement, d'appuyer les gouvernements des pays en développement pour la formation de cette catégorie des cadres nationaux.

Qui dit recherche, dit également amélioration d'une situation donnée. Dans l'orientation de la FAO, on a toujours en vue l'insuffisance alimentaire. Donc, toute recherche agronomique vise à l'augmentation de la production agricole pour satisfaire les besoins des populations en nourriture.

Une autre problème a été soulevé également dans le second document, c'est le problème de la coopération dans le domaine de la recherche. Il faut d'abord une coopération locale. J'entends par "coopération locale" le fait que toute recherche doit nécessairement appliquer ses résultats sur le terrain. Automatiquement il se crée une relation entre le technicien du terrain, cadre subalterne, et le chercheur. Le

technicien rapporte les résultats au chercheur.

Qui dit recherche scientifique, dit nécessairement coopération au niveau régional. Ce problème a été vu également par la FAO. Je demanderai à la FAO, compte tenu du fait qu'il y a des instituts de recherche ou des laboratoires dans certains pays africains, d'appuyer les gouvernements des pays où se trouvent ces structures de recherche pour que s'établisse une coopération régionale pouvant déboucher sur une coopération internationale. Dans cette coopération il y a d'abord la formation des cadres qui peut se faire sur place dans certains pays africains dotés de structures de recherche, et au niveau international pour profiter des résultats et de l'expérience des pays avancés.

En conclusion, Monsieur le Président, la délégation du Tchad approuve les deux documents, le premier relatif à la Charte des sols, et le second relatif à la recherche agricole. Elle remercie également le secrétariat général de la FAO pour le sérieux qu'elle a mis dans l'élaboration de ce travail.

M. M. MUKOLWE (Kenya): My delegation would like to join the others and commend the Director-General and his staff, together with the assistants from various committees and institutions which have contributed to the preparation of these two very vital documents, C 81/27, World Soil Charter, and C 81/26, National Agricultural Research in Developing Countries.

It is an undisputed fact that increased food production remains our theme and the best way to achieve this is by soil management, the use of fertilizers and how to manipulate them.

The two documents, and more so the one on the World Soil Charter, are opportune, and in fact a bit late, but better late than never.

I come from a developing country to which the contents of the two documents are very relevant. I am sure from what I hear that very many Member Countries will support this.

Mismanagement of land by mankind has increased the awareness, particularly of the developing countries, and we feel, as the UNIP Representative said, that degradation of land, and soil for that matter, from which we have to make a living is very rife in developing countries, especially where I come from.

So I would very much like to state the views of my country in that we have given support to soil and water conservation and this has led to the formation of a Presidential Committee on Soil and Water Conservation and Afforestation.

On research I agree with the speakers. I particularly agree with the ones who supported the idea that the research should be oriented to the rural population, and that is the dissemination and emphasizing the link between research and extension. This is a very vital link and is what is missing in most areas. It is just because the basic information is not there, it is how to put the basic information across, how to put it into practice to produce food.

These are very important areas. As various Members have already said, the areas of management development, that is the training element, particularly in research is vital to us. We also recognize that the two areas, research as well as soil and water conservation, and particularly land degradation, will mean a lot of resource investment to cure what has been misused or mismanaged by the inhabitants of those areas for many years. I would like to affirm, as other members have done, and endorse simultaneously the two documents that are before us.

S. AIDARA (Sénégal): Je suis un peu confus de prendre la parole au moment où vous vous apprêtez à lever la séance mais je vais être très bref, et je vais même vous faciliter la tâche Monsieur le Président.

Je n'ai pas eu l'occasion de participer au débat sur les chapitres 3 et 4 du budget; ma déclaration était prête mais cet après-midi j'ai dû assister à plusieurs réunions, notamment au niveau de ma région et au niveau de la Conférence islamique. Je vous ai dit que j'allais vous faciliter la tâche parce que, avec votre permission, je remettrai la déclaration au titre de ce point au secrétariat pour qu'elle soit consignée au procès-verbal, si vous n'y voyez pas d'inconvénient bien entendu et si la Commission est d'accord.

Pour ce qui est des deux documents qui nous sont soumis, en son temps le Sénégal avait fait part de sa position, notamment au niveau du Comité de l'agriculture, et ce n'est que pour réitérer notre soutien à cette charte que je prends la parole.

En ce qui concerne la recherche, je voudrais attirer l'attention de la commission pour que des efforts soient entrepris et que des fonds soient alloués également pour la recherche nationale, non seulement pour les groupes qui s'occupent de recherche, mais également au niveau national que des efforts soient entrepris pour qu'à ce niveau la recherche puisse aboutir à des résultats concrets.

CHAIRMAN: I think we have no further comments from the floor. With your understanding I turn around to Mr. Bommer and Mr. Dudal and ask whether they would like to provide comments.

D.F.R. BOMMER (Assistant Director-General, Agriculture Department): I do not want to prolong the discussion. I only want to say we are very grateful for the comments that have been made during the last two days on the subject of research which we felt received very strong support, and now with this very extended discussion and a lot of additional comments and information we received through the discussion, we are very grateful, and I feel this more or less supports the content of the paper, how we approached the subject.

R.DUDAL (Director, Land and Water Development Division): I too am grateful for the support we have received for the World Soil Charter, and I should like to confirm that the specific suggestions which were made to me on the document, particularly from Libya, Cuba and China successively and from our colleagues from UNEP, will be taken into account to improve the document.

A.F.M. DE FREITAS (Brazil): I would just like to mention, in accordance with the suggestions made by the Chinese and other delegations, that if reference is made to the World Conference on Principles and Plan of Action, there should be added "as adopted", as we usually do in FAO. If the principles are to be mentioned, I should like to see the words "as adopted" included.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much for that pertinent remark.

I see that there are no further comments on the two subjects we have discussed this afternoon. In total we had 20 speakers that made very solid and constructive comments and statements to the two subjects. I would briefly wind up by saying that the Commission received document C 81/26 on National Agricultural Research in Developing Countries and concurred with the analysis of the current status of agricultural research in developing countries. Furthermore, the Commission approved the Agricultural Research Strategy for the 1980s and endorsed FAO's Medium-Term-Objectives on Agricultural Research.

In regard to document C 81/27 and the draft resolution attached to it on the World Soil Charter, delegates commended the careful preparation and excellent presentation of the subject, and I understood that in addition to the statements made and to the amendments suggested in the oral statements, written comments have been passed on to Mr. Dudal also.

I have confidence that the amendments suggested will be effectively taken into account in amending the text of the Draft Resolution, and I feel I can speak for the Commission in saying that Commission II recommends the adoption of the resolution in the Plenary Conference. It certainly must give great satisfaction to Mr. Bommer and Mr. Dudal to see a charter being approved that goes back to the World Food Conference in 1974 initially and to see now that this Charter being proposed for adoption by the Conference, a Charter that deals with one of our most important resources that we have at our disposal, the soils, is now possible.

With these remarks, we have come to an end of the debate on items 9 and 10 of the agenda. I would like to thank all delegates for the valuable remarks and contributions to "the core of the matter", as Graham Greene would have said, to the Programme of Work and Budget.

The meeting rose at 19.30 hours

La séance est levée à 19 h. 30

Se levanta la sesión a las 19.30 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

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C 81/II/PV/8

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Twenty-first Session

COMMISSION II

Vingt et unième session

COMMISSION II

21° período de sesiones

COMMISSION II

EIGHTH MEETING  
HUITIEME SEANCE  
OCTAVA SESION

(16 November 1981)

The Eighth Meeting was opened at 9.50 hours  
R. Steiner, Chairman of Commission II, presiding

La huitième séance est ouverte à 9 h 50, heures, sous la présidence de  
R. Steiner, Président de la Commission II

Se abre la octava sesión plenaria las 9.50 horas bajo la presidencia de  
R. Steiner, Presidente de Comisión II

CHAIRMAN: I now call the 8th meeting of Commission II to order. Before starting and going into agenda item 11, I have a few announcements.

The first announcement concerns information received from the delegation of Czechoslovakia that a written statement on the Soil Charter would be handed over, and I suggest, with the approval of the Commission, that we include this written statement of the delegation of Czechoslovakia in the verbatim on the subject of the Soil Charter. Is this acceptable to Czechoslovakia? Thank you.

I also wanted to remind you that when we received from the Resolutions Committee the Resolution moved by Hungary on the World Food Day, we will bring it into the debate so as to allow approval by the Commission as quickly as possible and further processing by the Resolutions Committee, I think.

I have been asked by the Secretariat to draw the attention of delegates to the fact that for the Programme Committee, eleven places will have to be filled; so far five nominations have been received. For the Finance Committee nine places are to be filled and four nominations have been received. Nominations should be submitted by 12.00 hours today, Monday, 16 November. I repeat, nominations for the Programme and Finance Committees will have to be submitted in order to be valid by 12 o'clock on Monday, 16 November, that is today.

With regard to the Council, nominations for the period 1981-84, sixteen places, have to be filled. So far six nominations have been received, and for the overlapping period, January 1983 to November 1985, 16 places will have to be filled; five nominations have so far been received. Nominations for the Council are to be submitted by 18.00 hours on Tuesday, 17 November. I repeat, nominations to be submitted by 18.00 hours tomorrow, that is Tuesday, 17 November.

II. ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMES OF THE ORGANIZATION (continued)

II. ACTIVITES ET PROGRAMMES DE L'ORGANISATION (suite)

II. ACTIVIDADES Y PROGRAMAS DE LA ORGANIZACION (continuación)

11. Review of the Regular Programme 1980-81

11. Examen du Programme ordinaire 1980-81

11. Examen del Programa Ordinario 1980-81

I now come to the agenda of today. Today we have for debate Item 11, Review of the Regular Programme 1980-81, Document C 81/8. I understand we will have the benefit of an introduction by Mr. Ayazi.

A.R. AYAZI (FAO Staff): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Distinguished delegates, two years ago this Commission discussed the first Review of the Work Programme. The deliberations of the Commission were very encouraging. It approved the overall structure and approach of the Review, and the Commission felt that it was an important addition to FAO's evaluation system. As the delegates are aware this system of evaluation also includes evaluations by programme monitors, special reviews of individual programmes by the governing bodies and in some cases by the Joint Inspection Unit. At that time, the Commission noted with approval both the Performance Report and the In-Depth Reviews presented in the first Review. In particular, it praised the section on Issues. The Commission concluded that the In-Depth Reviews continued to be a careful, critical and in-depth exercise especially as it focussed on field components of the sub-programmes. The frank and constructive debate of the Commission and the careful and detailed suggestions made for future improvements formed the basis for planning the second Review which you now have before you. Like the first Review, it follows the FAO Programme structure and contains both a Performance Report on the entire Programme of Work, that is Part One, and In-Depth Reviews on selected subjects, that is Part Two.

The front pages of each part explain the approach that we have adopted. Also, as last time, the culmination of the analysis is in the identification of major issues and outlook and considerations by both the governing bodies and the Secretariat. In both parts of the document, however, we have tried to make substantial modifications and improvements.

Mr. Chairman, permit me to briefly explain what these modifications and improvements are. In Part One, which is the Performance Report on the Review and which covers pages 1 to 126, we have tried to introduce the following improvements:

One, we have examined the individual programmes within their major programme framework rather than in isolation. This has made it possible to single out areas of interaction and to focus on the contribution of each programme and sub-programme to the achievement of broader programme objectives.

Two, results of common activities such as training course, meetings, publications, technical back-stopping of field projects and direct assistance to Member countries on the Regular Programme have been pulled together.

Three, we have covered achievement for 1979-80, and possibly for the first quarter of 1981. This has allowed us to assess results for 24 or sometimes 27 months rather than 15, as it was in the last review.

Four, programme reporting has been condensed to a considerable extent and presented in the form of tables and charts. You will notice the Performance Report contains 20 tables and 4 charts. As a result of these amplifications we have been able to put much more selection in the narrative, and those highlight significant achievement and developments.

Five, we have added a chapter on the state of programmes of the 12 special action programmes under the major principle of agriculture. This is Chapter Two of the Review.

In Part Two, which is the in-depth reviews and covers pages 127 to 268 the following improvements have been made. We have expanded the coverage of selected programmes and sub-programmes from five in the first Review to eight in the second review. These in-depth reviews include topics from each of the three major technical areas of FAO - namely agriculture, fisheries and forestry.

Two of the in-depth reviews are topics which cut across programme lines and were suggested by the Programme Committee two years ago. These are Chapter thirteen, which is the development of small-scale fisheries and rural agriculture, and Chapter Fourteen is information covering analysis and dissemination - in other words, the basis of FAO. Their inclusion is an indication of a potentially interesting direction for the future.

As a result of these modifications, Part Two constitutes little more than half of the review compared with the first review, which was only 30 percent.

We have extended the time frame of the in-depth reviews from five to seven years and have included much more quantity of information presented wherever possible in tabular or graphic form. Part Two includes six tables and eleven charts.

We have tried to incorporate more analysis than was possible last time of the field components of the various programmes and sub-programmes. This has made it possible to treat the programme and sub-programme in a much more comprehensive way and focus on achievements and impact.

The Programme and Finance Committees expressed satisfaction with the improvement made in the documents, many of which were in response to their suggestions and those of the Council and Conference two years ago. However, they feel the next review should include further the coverage of the effects and impacts, particularly of the in-depth review. In order to accomplish this without lengthening the documents, the Programme Committee suggested some reductions in the Performance Report but less reporting on objectives, resources, and links among programmes, and more focus on the progress and achievements on the outlook and issues.

Other improvements suggested by the Programme Committee included giving more attention to the specific contribution of the Regional Office and the activities of the FAO as a whole together with other organizations, particularly the UN agencies.

The Programme Committee have made use of the review in its deliberations on the Programme of Work and Budget, 1982-83, and it intends to make further use of the document when resuming the cycle of programme reviews during 1982.

While we have done our utmost to improve the document, we cannot hide the fact we have problems of meeting in one document the requirements on the one hand for brevity and on the other hand for completeness and in-depth analysis in a programme as large and complex as that for FAO. We have tried to strike a balance as we did last time, and hope we have succeeded. We have included all suggestions made for improvement, and hope we have a better product to show.

There are gaps in the analysis. Measurement of impact in all cases is still elusive for many reasons, some of which are inseparable. It is usually impossible to separate FAO's contribution completely from all the other factors which interplay to achieve changes at the country level.

Before closing, it needs to be mentioned that any review or evaluation is a learning process. Its sole purpose is to improve planning and future activities for greater efficiency and effectiveness. We have tried to provide a frank assessment of what has been done and the problems that have arisen. The review does not provide global recipes nor does it touch on problems of a problematic nature which this Commission has already covered at length when discussing the Programme of Work and Budget, 1982-1983.

We look forward to hearing the views of the Commission on this document and receiving its guidance on future reviews.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you Dr. Ayazi, that was indeed a very useful introduction made by a very competent person, the Chief of the Evaluation Service who is in the office of the Programme of Work and Budget and Evaluation.

C. THOMSEM (Denmark): I would like first to express our thanks to Dr. Ayazi for the very useful introduction we have just heard which clarified some of the points we had in our minds. My statement will comprise some comments of a more general nature, and then a few more specific comments at the end.

In our view this document provides very useful and valuable background information for the delivery of the Commission and the Conference. Together with the Programme of Work and Budget and Review of the Field Programmes it forms part of what we consider to be a very useful triad and we appreciate the efforts that have been made to adopt a common format or structure for these documents in order to facilitate the task of the users. We would welcome any further programmes which may be possible in this direction.

At the same time, we believe it necessary to warn against the tendency for continued expansion, and the point has already been made by Dr. Ayazi. It is necessary to keep in mind that a considerable amount of resources are involved in the preparation of these documents, and whereas we welcome the expansion of Part Two which provides the in-depth reviews of selective programmes and sub-programmes, we consider this expansion would have to be - at least to some extent - at the expense of the absolute length of Part One.

Over a period of time the in-depth reviews in Part Two will cover the total programme of the Organization and surely thus, in our view, there will be less need for elaborate treatment under the Performance Report in Part One, which could easily become a bit repetitious in nature.

We welcome the amount of evaluation which has taken place. It is, of course, only appropriate that the Organization should put its own house in order if it wants to promote the production of evaluation systems in the national programmes. In this kind of evaluation service it has a major part to play in our communes, and we particularly welcome the so-called schematic evaluations that have been undertaken in cooperation with UNDP so far on training and under preparation in national agricultural research programmes. We have to see more initiative in this connection.

As another general comment we appreciate the information provided about the results achieved, but we would like to hear more about the problems and difficulties encountered. We note the progress that has been made in this direction, and are grateful for this. We also recognize the constraints you are up against, but still, the more the better.

Then I come to the few specific comments, although I thought it would be hardly proper to go into detail about this wealth of information. We would like to offer a few specific comments, mainly with regard to Part Two. This should, however, not be interpreted to mean that we have not taken an interest in other parts of the document as well.

As regards Part One, our only comment is connected with the section on linkages under the major programme of agriculture, and as Dr. Ayazi has explained, there are now good reasons for the way it is presented, but in our opinion it would enhance the value of at least half of this information on linkages if it could be integrated under sub-programmes so that when you read the programme narratives you get the immediate linkages to the sub-programmes; but there are parts of it where this would not apply.

With regard to Part Two, our few selective comments refer to Chapter 9 and Chapter 12.

Chapter 9 is on soil management and fertilizers, and deals to a large extent with the fertilizer programme. This has, in our opinion, developed in a very satisfactory manner, and we hope it will continue in the same direction - that is, that continued efforts will be made to make it accessible and useful to small farmers. We attach much importance to the integration of this programme at the field level to the policy at Headquarters. We appreciate also the positive cooperation of the fertilizer industry, and hope it will continue.

The last thing on this Chapter is that, as is indicated somewhere in the text, we feel there should be considerable scope in this programme for more technical cooperation among developing countries.

In Chapter 12, the development of support communications, we would like to question some of the statements concerning the use of the media techniques under this chapter. It seems doubtful to us whether it can be safely stated that this technique can be taken to remote areas and stand up well to use under primitive conditions. In fact, the experience so far in my own country has shown that at present it is not found suitable for use in extension work for farmers at training centres.

We would also like to emphasize under this Chapter 12 the importance of linkages of the sub-programmes with the Technical Programme as well as the conventional programme of training and extension. The need for intimate relationship between the allocations of the sub-programme and the integration into the follow-up of agrarian reform and rural development cannot be emphasized too strongly.

With these comments we would like again to commend the Organization and in particular the Secretariat for the comprehensive information about the activities of the Organization which has been provided, particularly in the second part of the document.

E.M. PARSONS (United States of America): In accordance with your request, Mr. Chairman, we have shortened considerably the intervention that we were planning to make on this agenda item because we do realize that we are running behind time, and we will try to focus our comments on the more important issues that we wish to bring before you.

I would first like to offer a few general comments and then I will proceed to a few specific observations.

The United States welcomes the document that is before us, C 81/8, A Review of the Regular Programme 1980-81, as a very useful mechanism for reviewing the effectiveness and efficiency of Regular Programme activities. In our view the document represents a substantial improvement over the initial review. It is considerably expanded over the earlier document, it includes the statistical and graphical material requested by the Conference at its last Session and it contains an impressive amount of information on FAO's wide range of programmes.

Regarding the format, we believe the report's conceptual frame to be satisfactory. Its division into two parts, one stressing major programme performance and the other providing a more detailed assessment of specific sub-programmes, is helpful and we believe should be continued. The strengthening of Part Two, the more analytical section is welcomed and the United States is generally satisfied with the trend towards analytical versus informational reporting in this section. The United States also appreciates that many of the Regular Programme activities are empirically difficult if not impossible to quantify. We also appreciate that many are often interwoven and occasionally indistinguishable. Nevertheless, this inability to differentiate diminishes the value of the report because it does not show which funds are financing a particular activity. We do not know, for example, the magnitude of the Regular Programme's financial support for the Mediterranean Olive Improvement Programme or the Desert Locust Campaign. We also do not know the number of Land and Water Division officers performing missions financed from Regular Programme as opposed to extra-budgetary sources, or the number of programming missions by the Field Programme Development Division supported by each source. The United States would hope that the Secretariat would devote more attention to this aspect when preparing subsequent reports.

As a last general observation the United States, along with the Programme Committee, as has been mentioned, would note that this report seems to make only passing reference to the contributions of FAO's regional offices. In our view the functions and achievements of the Regional Offices should have been more clearly identified and we would propose that the next review contain more detail and greater analysis, of these bodies, and in particular the functions that they perform under the Regular Programme. Perhaps in this regard a separate chapter could be devoted to Regional Offices.

I will now move quite promptly to a few specific comments. First I would note, as regards the Director-General's forward, that we would like to commend him - and the FAO - on his evaluation efforts. We endorse his auto-evaluation system and generally agree with the JIU's views on its value. We would point out, however, that internal evaluation procedures have certain limitations and cannot be regarded as a substitute for independent professional evaluations such as those conducted by the Programme Committee and the JIU or the thematic evaluations carried out in cooperation with the UNDP.

All are important in giving Member Nations a comprehensive overall assessment of FAO programmes.

Secondly, with regard to the chapter on agriculture, Chapter One, we particularly endorse the objectives, strategies and work of Major Programme 2.1 which we consider to be FAO's core programme and crucial to the success of 80 percent of the field programmes. The addition of tables to the chapter is helpful as is the expanded overview treatment consolidating information on training, on meetings, on publications and generally on back-stopping and direct support. Although this reduces the detail on these activities at the Programme level, it no doubt avoids repetition and duplication.

Regarding Programme 2.1.5, Rural Development, we note that in order to initiate two new activities and emphasize others in WCARRD - World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development - follow-up, reduced attention was given to the domestic science aspects of home economics. We consider home economics important and would like to express here the hope that any reduced attention such as we have noted would only be temporary.

Moving on to the chapter on Fisheries, we do believe that that portion of this document is helpful. Though it is necessarily brief, the descriptions of activities are clear and precise. There is useful comment about the progress that has been made and, refreshingly enough, there are straightforward statements about unfinished business or incomplete achievements. It is always nice to see this little breath of fresh air in such reports. Furthermore, the tables provide a quantitative handle, if I may use that word, for a number of important phases of FAO's Fisheries Programmes.

The section dealing with the outlook and issues raises some significant problems for the immediate future and we would urge that this subject continue to receive careful attention by the Secretariat. Of particular interest in this presentation apart from the need for extrabudgetary funding are the concerns for investment promotion, particularly in the private sector, small scale fisheries and the need for an effective inter-country regional mechanism to deal successfully with the mutual problems of fisheries' management and development.

As regards the chapters on Forestry, we again would like to commend the Organization for its vastly improved treatment of forestry programmes in this document. We find it contains a great deal of useful information, once again, on FAO activities in a readable form and we would hope that its critical approach, rather than a mere report of accomplishments, will be continued in the future. We generally support the objectives and work of the Forestry Department but we would like to endorse particularly the Programme's increasing emphasis on fuelwood and the energy aspects of its mandate, and the important role that Forestry and its associate industries can play in many rural development activities.

Finally - and again, we are cutting short our intervention on this - I would like to say just a few words about Technical Cooperation and Development Support, Chapter Five. In our view, the main function of TCP should be to serve as a catalyst, and as such it can be a valuable tool. We would, however, raise some questions. The first is as to why the Miscellaneous Projects category has been increased despite FAO's emphasis on projects with sharply defined priorities. And our second question would be as to why TCP funds are used for programming missions despite the fact that such activities are covered in other programmes' Regular Budget allocations.

I would end my comments at that point. Thank you very much for giving us the time to express in general our satisfaction and our welcome to this document.

KYO-EUN KIM (Korea, Republic of): The delegation of the Republic of Korea would like to fully support the document, C 81/8, Review of the Regular Programme, and also would like to appreciate the FAO Secretariat's remarkable report devoted to the formulation of the document. The document, I believe, can contribute largely to the further improvement of FAO's works for the next biennium and all of the achievements and suggestions mentioned in the documents are valuable and meaningful enough to get full support from my Government.

In this connection, I would like to make clear my Government's views on the following two points. The first one is related to the suggestions made in Chapter three, Fisheries.

My government, in particular, welcomes the decentralized implementation through inter-country mechanism for the efficient development of fisheries resources in the Exclusive Economic Zone, suggested in paragraph 3.36 on page 62 of the document under review. This decentralized approach may become the most effective means of fostering technical and economic cooperation among developing countries in the spirit of TCDC and between developing and developed countries; and also such collaboration could promote fisheries development and the exchange of appropriate technology to the benefit of all parties

concerned. In this regard, I would like to make one thing clear, that is, my Government is ready to cooperate and to strengthen its cooperation with that of member countries who want to share our accumulated experiences and technical know-how in the fisheries sector. Since 1968, my Government has offered two-or-three-month training courses in the fisheries development fields to the technicians and specialists from the developing member countries. About 120 persons from the 36 countries had already finished their training courses in Korea by last year, and also this year, 16 persons from 14 countries have attended the various training courses organized by the Korean colleges, and research and experiment institutions concerned. On the basis of those accumulated experiences of the technical cooperation my Government is willing to develop its cooperation with member countries into a new dimension under the FAO initiative.

Another point to be made here concerns Chapter 11, Agricultural Banking and Credit. The Korean delegation would also like to support fully the suggestions made in para. 11.51 on page 209 of the document. That is; "Greater efforts should be made by the sub-programme to help developing countries to learn not merely from the experience of developed countries but, equally important, from the mistakes and successes of other developing countries." In this field we are also ready to share our experiences with member countries. Agricultural banking and credit in Korea has been evaluated as one of the most successful by the FAO experts. Anyone who has interest in the evaluation may refer to the FAO economic and social development paper 14, Promotion of Small Farmers' Cooperatives published in 1980.

WANG SHOU RU (China) (Original language Chinese): The Chinese delegation has carefully studied the Review of the Regular Programme for 1980-81 prepared by the Secretariat of FAO. We are of the opinion that the analysis of some problems in this document is more profound in comparison with that in the previous review. It not only reflects the achievements and results that have been made but also points out problems and puts forward suggestions for their solution. This approach of seeking truths from fact is commendable. It enables the delegates to have a more thorough-going consideration of the Organization's work and at the same time it facilitates better cooperation in the future between member countries and the Secretariat, thus ensuring still greater results in the various activities of the Organization. Therefore, although there might still be some room for improvement in the document, yet we are satisfied with the review.

I am not going to comment on the specific programmes in the document. I would like simply to make some remarks on the view points as summed up in it.

First of all, in its analysis of ways to assist member countries in planning in paragraph 7.50 chapter 7 page 145 of the English text, the review touches upon the conflict between doing the job by the Organization's own personnel and training others to do the job. The review's conclusion is mainly to train in the long run personnel in member countries to do the job. We consider the conclusion is correct. As mentioned in paragraph 7.16, this would mean an allocation of greater resources for training rather than for direct support activities. In our opinion this should not only be applied to the support of planning but also to any other projects as appropriate. Of course, the activities of this Organization vary greatly and the same is true for the conditions and requirements of different member countries. However, it will be very important, both for lightening the Organization's burden in its direct support and for enhancing developing countries capability to rely on themselves to raise the level of the personnel in the recipient countries through practical support work and various kinds of special training.

Secondly, we also endorse the view as presented in paragraph 1.102 of the document that more impact at primary level is achieved when resources are employed to train trainers and trainers-of-trainers, rather than concentrate on medium lower level technicians. We believe that this holds out not only in the training of field project planning personnel but also in other kinds of training.

Third, as to how to select priorities, we agree to the suggestions in paragraph 1.96 which refers to promoting replicable approaches rather than solving problems restricted to a small area in any one country. If we understand it correctly this means paying attention to those major problems that will have a bearing on the interest of the majority of member countries on problems of a general nature.

Fourthly, concerning the use of this Organization's resources, the document proposes in its summary, paragraph 22, that in order to use its limited resources effectively FAO will have to be increasingly selective in the choice of Headquarters-based activities in order to release resources for field project support and direct assistance to governments. We deem this policy to be in the interest of the majority of Member countries. Meanwhile as pointed out in paragraphs 1.94 to 100 of the document, the Secretariat will be able to provide more effective support to Member countries if there is better coordination of all sides concerned, as well as the clearer definition of work programmes and division of responsibility when it performs its various functions.

J. BIDAUT (France): Ma délégation s'efforcera de traiter dans un délai assez bref les problèmes relatifs au programme ordinaire, de façon à faciliter un déroulement normal de nos travaux.

Le document C 81/8 fait rapport; sur les activités entreprises par l'Organisation au moyen des ressources budgétaires, pendant la période presque écoulée 1980-81.

L'examen du programme ordinaire constitue pour l'essentiel une analyse d'activités qui appartiennent, bien sûr au passé, mais également au présent et même à l'avenir de l'Organisation puisque nombre d'entre elles sont en cours et se continuent par delà les échéances de gestion administrative et budgétaire. De plus, ce programme est porteur d'idées et de propositions en gestation qui verront leur accomplissement dans le programme suivant, c'est à dire en fait 1982-83.

Ma délégation se bornera donc à des remarques sur quelques points qu'elle considère comme essentiels, sans pour autant se livrer à un examen exhaustif des six chapitres sous lesquels sont organisés et regroupés l'ensemble des questions.

En matière de politique alimentaire et agricole figurant au chapitre sept, mais qui dans la logique des choses s'inscrit en premier lieu dans le déroulement de l'action, ma délégation est favorable à l'inclusion de considérations relatives à la nutrition dans l'analyse des projets, à l'appui à la collecte de données de base et à l'amélioration des systèmes statistiques, surtout en ce qui concerne les pays les plus défavorisés. Il apparaît très nettement aux yeux de ma délégation que ces éléments statistiques peuvent servir de préparation et de thème de décision, de façon qu'ils jouent un rôle décisif dans la gestion d'une politique de sécurité alimentaire intéressant un ou plusieurs Etats.

Souvent, les structures statistiques de certains Etats nécessitent un soutien plus ou moins durable, alors que d'autres Etats qui sont, certes, également éligibles à l'assistance technique de l'Organisation sont parvenus à un certain niveau dans le domaine de la formation et de l'expertise; ces Etats demandent également l'avis de consultants pour des missions plus courtes et plus spécialisées, afin d'accomplir des tâches tout aussi fondamentales.

Sous la rubrique planification qui essentiellement correspond à la page 124 du texte français du document, on mentionne certains jugements relatifs à la spécialisation des tâches, en indiquant qu'il est, dans certains cas, préférable de faire appel à des économistes confirmés ou à des techniciens bien également confirmés.

Aux yeux de ma délégation, il n'y a pas lieu d'engager sur ce point d'arides pontroverses entre spécialistes. Il importe au premier chef que les tâches soient accomplies, et sans aucun doute, un bon économiste est également aussi utile qu'un bon technicien, et dans l'autre sens, les agents ou les experts trop peu confirmés, ne sont pas à même de rendre les mêmes services, dans ce domaine comme dans d'autres.

Ma délégation voudrait se référer au Plan d'action de Lagos, adopté au mois d'avril 1980 par le Sommet économique de l'Organisation de l'Unité africaine (OUA). Je voudrais, à ce sujet, indiquer qu'en 1981, mon gouvernement coopère avec l'OUA dans un projet "Recherche et développement des cultures vivrières dans les zones semi-arides".

Ma délégation voudrait maintenant évoquer les programmes d'action spéciaux. Ceux-ci paraissent parfois retenir davantage l'attention que les activités classiques et de fait, les programmes d'action spéciaux bénéficient d'appuis extérieurs, peut-être plus fréquents. Et il ne faudrait pas qu'au sein de la même Organisation se creuse un fossé entre les divisions que l'on considère comme plus classiques et les programmes d'action spéciaux plus ou moins favorisés.

Mon gouvernement accorde une attention soutenue à nombre de ces programmes d'action spéciaux. Je voudrais citer à cette occasion le programme EMASAR, l'aménagement écologique des parcours arides et semi-arides, qui s'étend à l'Afrique du nord, au Proche Orient et maintenant également à l'Afrique occidentale, et se traduit par la mise en oeuvre d'un système de pâturages et d'aménagement des parcours propres à favoriser un élevage équilibré.

Pour rester dans le sujet de l'élevage, mon gouvernement accorde une attention soutenue à la lutte contre la trypanosomiase animale africaine et le développement des zones concernées par ces actions.

Ce programme a pour objectif la lutte contre les effets nocifs de la mouche tsé-tsé, mais également l'amélioration de la résistance des animaux à la trypanosomiase, ainsi qu'un ensemble d'actions de formation auxquelles participent à la fois des organismes bilatéraux et multilatéraux dans une approche tout à fait fructueuse, notamment la communauté économique du bétail et de la viande (CEBD); ce groupement économique sous-régional a fait preuve d'efficacité dans cette catégorie d'activités.



En ce qui concerne la lutte contre le criquet pèlerin et les autres ravageurs migrateurs, sans aucun doute des actions à une échelle assez large et faisant appel à de nombreuses institutions à la fois régionales et sous-régionales, sont déjà en place, notamment l'OCLALAV, organisme de lutte antiacridienne, mais aux yeux de ma délégation peut être peut-on envisager une sorte de recentrage et de regroupement de l'ensemble des activités de cette nature, alors qu'à l'heure actuelle chaque organisme diffère à une spécialité particulière. D'autres organismes sous-régionaux ont des aires géographiques déterminées et peut-être serait-il temps maintenant de considérer que le problème est assez vaste pour qu'on puisse tenter de mettre sur pied un dispositif intégré avec des objets multiples s'étendant à différentes régions, le tout permettant sans aucun doute une meilleure utilisation des ressources, évitant parfois des brèches qui peuvent naître dans les dispositifs; les effets qui en résultent sont pour les campagnes en cours assez défavorables.

A ce sujet, ma délégation voudrait faire état d'un organisme le PRIFAS qui est rattaché au GERDAT, et qui actuellement met sur pied, du côté français, dirigée plus spécialement vers les pays en développement, l'étude d'un dispositif à la fois plus global et plus général, qui permettrait une action plus concernée, plus étroite, pour juguler l'ensemble de ces phénomènes.

Ma délégation est toute disposée à faire part de son expérience à l'ensemble de la Communauté internationale.

Mon gouvernement également, en ce qui concerne le Programme d'aide à la sécurité alimentaire mondiale, a fourni certains appuis aux missions d'experts en vue de l'élaboration par les Etats de stratégies dans ce domaine.

Ma délégation serait également désireuse de mentionner le problème de la recherche. Cette question a déjà été évoquée vendredi dernier, mais je voudrais indiquer que mon pays est tout à fait favorable au renforcement des institutions et services nationaux de recherche. M. le représentant du Sénégal d'ailleurs, à notre dernière séance, a magnifiquement insisté sur ce point. Ma délégation est en plein accord avec ce qu'il a affirmé, comme d'ailleurs d'autres délégations. Elle considère sans aucun doute que la coopération entre les différents organismes et les différentes institutions s'occupant de recherche est éminemment nécessaire, mais elle considère en même temps qu'il ne faudrait peut-être pas s'orienter vers l'instauration de systèmes trop complexes et trop institutionnels.

Le rôle essentiel de l'Organisation de l'Alimentation et de l'Agriculture est sans aucun doute de s'attacher à un rôle de liaison, de renforcement de la circulation des connaissances et de l'information, et de fournir des appuis à des Instituts nationaux qui en ont certes grand besoin.

A cet égard, je voudrais ajouter que mon pays accorde aux Instituts de recherche des pays en développement un soutien de près de 500 millions de francs français, ce qui correspond presque à 90 millions de dollars, par la voie seule du Ministère de la coopération, et ce qui n'est qu'une part de l'effort accompli à l'échelle mondiale dans le domaine de la recherche s'appliquant aux pays en développement.

Ma délégation considère également que les travaux sur la Charte mondiale des sols sont tout à fait intéressants. D'ailleurs, elle avait déjà eu l'occasion de se pencher sur ce problème lors de précédentes sessions. Elle exprime tout son intérêt pour cette initiative.

Pour terminer, en ce qui concerne les Programmes spéciaux, il y en a maintenant une douzaine, et cette liste risque sans aucun doute de s'allonger au fur et à mesure que des besoins se présenteront et que des actions plus spécifiques et plus ponctuelles apparaîtront nécessaires. Il faudrait peut-être envisager, une fois que le principal travail est accompli dans le cadre d'un Programme spécial, que celui-ci puisse à nouveau entrer dans le rang des activités, pour laisser la place à de nouveaux thèmes sur lesquels doit se porter une attention de plus en plus soutenue.

Monsieur le Président, avec votre permission, en ce qui concerne un point très particulier sur les forêts, je voudrais passer la parole à M. Bailhache, Conseiller de notre délégation dans des matières très spécifiques.

R. BAILHACHE (France): Je voudrais simplement ajouter aux propos tenus par le délégué de la France que deux secteurs d'intervention de l'Organisation nous paraissent tout à fait importants. Il s'agit de la pêche et du secteur forestier.

Je ne dirai rien du premier, mais en ce qui concerne le second nous considérons, avec le plus grand intérêt, le travail de cartographie des zones menacées de désertification qui a été effectué par l'Organisation à la demande des Nations Unies.

La France, en coopération avec la Banque mondiale, a pris des initiatives dans les pays sahéliens parmi les plus éprouvés dans ce domaine pour la reforestation, aussi bien par des projets de plantation que par un certain nombre d'études de recherche de développement.

Nous pensons que la FAO dans cette région, et en liaison avec les institutions régionales existantes, notamment l'équipe associant les Etats Membres du Comité inter-Etats de la lutte contre la sécheresse au Sahel et la Communauté internationale regroupée au sein du Club du Sahel, pourrait jouer un rôle pour une meilleure coordination des efforts de la Communauté internationale pour l'élaboration d'une politique de gestion des ressources.

Il nous apparaît en effet que beaucoup des efforts qui sont entrepris dans ce domaine risquent d'être sans lendemain. Le bois à usage domestique est devenu un bien rare et précieux et de l'ordre doit être mis dans son exploitation comme dans sa commercialisation sinon les actions de production seront vaines ou vouées à l'échec. Une rationalisation de l'économie du secteur est nécessaire à laquelle la FAO pourrait apporter une contribution importante.

A.F.M. de FREITAS (Brazil): I will first make a few brief comments on document 81/8. My first remark refers to the improved format and presentation of the document as compared to the previous one. My delegation believes that the suggestions made by the different delegations in previous meetings have proved useful and we now have at our disposal a fairly good description of how the Programme of the present biennium is being implemented. My delegation wishes to thank the Secretariat for this effort. We are aware of the limitations inherent in such endeavours: time constraints, the great number of programmes to be reviewed, the need to introduce certain criteria for selectivity of topics. All those elements are present in our minds when we read the book. My delegation believes that an acceptable solution has been found for those problems, and the final product is worth the effort.

I am also aware, as the introduction reminds us, that the results of the substantive work carried out under the Regular Programme are not susceptible of clear and precise measurement. My delegation wishes to make one or two suggestions regarding still the format and the presentation which, if acceptable, could help in the preparation of the next edition of this document.

I refer to the possible suppression of the first item of the review format for each chapter, Objectives and Strategies. I presume that the normal reader of the book is a person connected in some capacity with FAO and therefore familiar with the Programme of Work and Budget, the parent document of the review and which extensively describes the Programme. Not only that, but in reading the Review, we see again the first paragraph of each programme briefly states the content and purpose of the programme. I believe that this introductory paragraph is sufficient to help understand the discussion that follows. In this way, many pages could be omitted in the next edition and a more concise and no less clear document would result.

As for Part Two of the document, I would like again to express the satisfaction of my delegation with the results achieved. I believe the format of each chapter is built in such a way as to permit a full understanding of the programme as the programme is being discussed. If a suggestion is pertinent in this case, it might be the possibility of rotation of the special subjects for assessment. The future Reviews of the Regular Programme should perhaps contemplate other programmes not yet evaluated in such depth so that with the passing of each biennium a greater number of programmes could be analysed in such a way.

I will not go specifically into the different programmes that interest my delegation. I will just mention three of them. The first one is Forest Industries and Trade. My delegation would like to express its agreement with the emphasis given to training forestry industry personnel. We believe that this is a particularly relevant subject when we are talking of developing countries. Training industry personnel is also another topic that is emphasized in the document, and also one important point for us is the question that technology in use in industrialized countries is often unsuitable for developing countries. We believe that this approach is the right one and we think that FAO should pursue its efforts in this same direction when training experts from developing countries.

We are also concerned about the paucity of the question of data on tropical forests and we agree with the emphasis given to this topic by programme 2.3.2.

Now going to the next programme that has particular interest to us, this is Soil Management and Fertilizers. I would like to express also the agreement of my delegation with the correct treatment to the question of stressing the capabilities of Member countries to develop soil and water management methods and to extend the use of mineral and organic fertilizers. This is an item that weighs very heavily on the import list of many developing countries, and we are grateful for the emphasis properly

given to this topic by FAO. Here again the question of training comes to the fore, training in fertilizer use and training in fertilizer policy and procurement, and I think this effort should be pursued also, especially concerning more efficient use of fertilizers, promoting and recycling of organic materials and in particular the application of biological nitrogen fixation, which is a special effort being developed in my country.

Finally, going to chapter 13, development of Small-Scale Fisheries, my delegation would also like to express its agreement with the right emphasis given by FAO to the question of Small-Scale Fisheries and rural aquaculture, which came to the fore in FAO's strategy in the last years, as is mentioned in paragraph 13.8.

We also express the hope that the efforts developed by the Organization in the development and management of the Exclusive Economic Zones might also reach the question of development of small-scale fisheries as is proposed in paragraph 13.10.

Those are the main comments I would like to make at this point. My delegation as a member of the Programme Committee has already had occasion to examine most of the document of the Review of the Regular Programme and had occasion to express its general satisfaction with the presentation of the document.

CHAIRMAN: I see that your constructive proposals have been taken note of carefully by the Secretariat.

O. IYAMABO (Nigeria): I was not present when the first review was made and discussed, but I find this review very good, and I would like to congratulate the Secretariat and all those who worked on it.

Reviews and evaluations are always extremely important. They tend to improve efficiency and effectiveness. The tables given are fine and perhaps they give support to a comment that was made earlier that if this is supported with external reviews working very closely with those internal, it will even be better.

I like a number of the recommendations in the summary, particularly the emphasis on soil management, which often is neglected in agricultural production. I also like the emphasis on linkages mentioned somewhere, I think, in recommendations 15 and 21, but I wonder why livestock is left out. I think livestock is an important land use and it certainly has very close linkages with crop production and forestry, so I suggest that livestock be included in the different sub-sectors mentioned there in the linkages.

Although research also is diffused in all these recommendations mentioned, I think research is so fundamental for agricultural development, particularly in the developing countries, that it requires a special mention, in my view, and I strongly recommend that science and technology have a special feature in the recommendations. The exact formulation perhaps one would leave to the Secretariat, but if one wishes that one gives a draft, one could do that.

Also, there is mention of training, again diffused in all the recommendations. I entirely agree with France and Brazil who spoke earlier on this issue. I think training is of such basic importance that it also requires a special mention in the recommendations. Training has to build up capabilities, and one of the greatest aids I think international organizations and bilateral programmes can lend to developing countries is to build up their capabilities, capabilities as planners, capabilities in implementing these projects, and capabilities in management.

Subject to these comments, my delegations supports this document and the efforts to improve it for them.

Y. KUROKOCHI (Japan): First of all, my delegation wishes to register here its deep appreciation for all the efforts made by the FAO Secretariat to compile this hefty document C 81/7 entitled Review of the Regular Programme 1980-81. The Review, as we have learned, came into being despite the fact that the staff concerned was very limited in size. The document is highly illuminating and helps a great deal in grasping the details of programmes that FAO has implemented and also the connexions between FAO programmes and those undertaken under the auspices of other international organizations.

My delegation notes with much pleasure that the review in Part Two presents the Secretariat's analysis and evaluation of FAO's proper activities of gathering analysis and dissemination of information. In this connexion, may we stress our strong hope that the Secretariat will continue to supply further detailed evaluations and appraisals on informational activities of FAO.

In reading this Review, my delegation gets the impression that the review should have been compiled in such a way that the reader could promptly see its relevance to the Programme and activities in the biennium 1982-83. The document would have still higher value and usefulness %o all the Member States if it contained or presented particularly detailed analysis by making country by country breakdowns of programmes and such budget items as TCP and Country Representatives that have marked sharp rates of growth in the budget 1982-83.

If I may add one more word on this, I am inclined to think it a pity that the Review does not provide very much more than a sketchy evaluation of the trend, so to speak, in so far as TCP and Country Representatives are concerned. My delegation is therefore proposing that when the Secretariat sets about preparing the next Review some two years hence, it should consider how the presentation of the Review could be further improved by adding a page or two to the detailed account of the recipient countries and the contents of the programmes therein, in the case of TCP, and in the case of Country Representatives, of their respective activities and costs. The members of this Commission would certainly find the Review edited in such a way so much the easier and helpful for discussion. Would it be asking too much if I venture even to ask that the accounts be backed up, where appropriate, with footnotes referring to decisions of the Conference and Council, the Director-General's circulars and the Secretariate bulletins of relatively older dates?

Summing up my brief intervention, may I just say that the Conference of a huge international organization like FAO should be a forum for discussion with full understanding among the participants, both new and old, both experienced and inexperienced.

W.A.F. GRABISCH (Germany, Federal Republic of) (Original language German): The Federal Government is happy that in this document C 81/8 the recommendations of the last Conference have been taken largely into account. The presentation and assessment of the priority areas of the current and past activities have certainly gained information value as compared with the past with regard to contents and structure.

The document also shows that the review carried out in the framework is a suitable and economical instrument which represents a certain self-evaluation. Basically we agree with the findings and assessment contained in the summary and the conclusions derived therefrom for the work of the Organization. We also support the suggestions which have been made for further improvements, as contained in the Report on the Programme Committee and Document CL 80/4. This applies in particular to the suggested extension of the presentation of activities at Headquarters and in the field, in relation to the activities of other international organizations, particularly in the UN system.

This also applies to the consideration, the presentation of Regional Offices to give greater attention and, that with regard to their functions with regard to Headquarters, but also to the country offices.

As to five different programmes or sub-programmes, my delegation would like to make the following comments.

First of all, the main programme agriculture has special importance to increase agricultural production in the developing countries. We see the role of the FAO particularly in the mobilization and use of world-wide existing technical knowledge and in the use of the results of agricultural research of the developed and developing countries as well as in the direct planning and implementation of projects; my country is one of the main supporters of the group dealing with agricultural research which is established with the World Bank. As you know, it has set up a special service for the use of results of agricultural research in the developing countries, my country also supports this work.

Close collaboration between governments and institutions is above all necessary to avoid overlapping, and to maintain or establish close contact between research and practice. Special seminars serving the exchange of experience and training workshops are particularly suitable to achieve these goals. The Federal Government and non-governmental organizations in Germany have been working successfully with FAO in this field.

Secondly, apart from the different directly production-oriented programmes and measures the marketing of agricultural products, which we feel is an important strategic instrument for development is no doubt of special importance. My delegation has therefore noted with some concern what is said in

Chapter X. para.10.1. According to this it would seem there are deficiencies in the internal marketing systems of developing countries, which are one of the, main factors impeding the increase in agricultural production. We should therefore draw sufficient attention to this field for the benefit of producers and consumers. My delegation agrees with what is said in para. 6 in Document C 81/8 that this sector also offers great possibilities for cooperation between developing countries.

Thirdly, the importance of using adjusted communication methods for rural development, above all the expansion of extension services, is also highly valued by the Federal Government, and in this connexion my delegation would like to refer to what China said and to support it - namely, that in the training and further training of experts in the recipient countries more emphasis should be laid on teachers, those who do the training.

Our collaboration and the exchange of experience with FAO were successful as in the case of the common work done for the preparation of a bilateral product in Egypt. Over and above this, the Federal Government has placed communication experts at the disposal, and German non-governmental organizations have been concerned with agricultural extension. Together with FAO they developed with the use of modern communication methods projects and implemented them in the field.

Fourthly, my delegation welcomes the fact that Chapter V, paragraph A has partly assessed the TCP. We consider this assessment as already set out under agenda Items 9 and 10 also in connexion with C 81/4 not sufficient.

Fifthly, according to the information in paragraph E, Chapter V, at the end of 1981, eighty countries will have FAO representation, and sixty-two of these have full country representation, eighteen through accreditation. This Programme, therefore, should as soon as possible be assessed in greater detail than in the case of document C 81/8.

My delegation has noted with satisfaction that in para.5.87 it says that collaboration between the country representatives of FAO and the UNDP is apparently good in most countries. This, we hope, will soon be the case in all countries.

S. DE MARE (Sweden): I will make some very brief general remarks on this item, taking into account the time constraints of this Commission mentioned by you earlier, Mr. Chairman.

The Swedish delegation has studied the document with great interest, and the regular projects, and like some speakers today we wish to commend the Secretariat on it. It represents a clear improvement on the first issue presented to the 1979 Conference.

Together with the information given in the document, Programme of Work and Budget, especially in the sections on progress and achievement, we received a clear and illustrative performance report on the achievements of this Organization during the last biennium.

We also found the part devoted to in-depth reviews of important programmes in Part Two of the document a very valuable complement to this Review.

On this occasion, we wish to reiterate and underline some of the comments made by the Programme Committee concerning the review of the regular programme points that have also been made by the United States and Japanese delegates this morning. We also find that the relationships to the activities of other UN organizations and the Regional Offices and their complement to Headquarters and field activities need great attention in the Review. It should also be possible to identify specifically the role played by the Regional Offices in the activities of FAO.

Further reviews, those to be presented in such a way as to facilitate the identification of the contributions of Regional Offices to these activities of the Organization. It would also be very valuable if the functions and role of representatives could be subject to an in-depth review in the next programme.

I will refrain from making any more specific remarks on this occasion, but I wish to finish by reiterating our strong support for this very valuable document.

S.P. MUKHERJEE (India): We have a few comments to make, and on certain matters where I have some doubts and reservations I hope that the Secretariat will provide me with some light.

I had, stated a few days ago on the floor of this house that FAO's regular budget on the basis of per capita per year comes to only 5 cents per head of world population per year. In that context all efforts should be made to ensure that every cent of FAO is spent with the effect of ameliorating the conditions of the people in developing countries, and in that context our system of evaluation and awareness of cost effectiveness should remain the foundation of FAO's activities.

I would commend for the consideration of the FAO Secretariat whether some sort of review by the Evaluation Committee of this Commission should not be set up as a standard method of continuous review of evaluation and cost-effectiveness of the activities of FAO. I am making this suggestion with all humility and emphasis in the context of the financial constraint and the challenges that the developing countries are facing on the front of poverty and starvation.

My country supports wholeheartedly the programme as indicated and delineated in this document for production to ameliorate poverty in the vast sectors of world population. Most of the points which have been indicated in this document have already been enshrined in our Prime Minister's 20-point economic programme for instance, the question of increasing irrigation in the countries, the question of land reforms in the context of smaller marginal farmers, afforestation, etc. etc. They form the pillar of India's agricultural and rural development programme.

Having said that, and having commented on the manner in which this Review document has been prepared, may I suggest for the consideration of the FAO Secretariat that it would immensely facilitate a quick evaluation and analysis of the total programme of FAO's activities if in these documents - not only in this document but also in C 81/3 regarding the Programme of Work and Budget - if the Secretariat of FAO could kindly prepare a master chart, just a 1-page chart, indicating the various programmes and sub-programmes, and also against each programme and sub-programme the various items such as training, workshops, experts, etc. Against each sub-programme they could indicate the outlay, the expenditure incurred, and also the number of experts and the amount of expert-hours spent. This would give us in one page the total picture of the emphasis or lack of emphasis in FAO's programmes and sub-programmes, and whether FAO has been spending its money on items which are of high priority.

It will be extremely useful and I repeat that this sort of master chart could perhaps be incorporated in these documents.

Anti-poverty and anti-starvation programmes will have to be location-specific, country-specific and will have to be related to the production potential of each country with due regard to its agro-climatic conditions, its socio-economic and cultural background and its untapped resources. I am suggesting in all humility that there cannot be one recipe for all the countries of the world. For instance, I know in certain countries the land/man issue is very high. There, the problem is lack of manpower although the land resource is so vast, most of it remains untapped. Most countries I know have less than 10 percent of arable areas that have been brought under cultivation whereas in countries in Asia like mine, 90 percent of the arable areas have been brought under cultivation. So naturally, the agricultural strategy for a country such as mine has to be different from that adopted where only 10 percent of arable land has been put under cultivation.

In countries such as mine only one percent of the deep sea fisheries resources has been utilized and 99 percent remains unutilized. Similarly, in certain regions of my country ground water exploitation is hardly 10 percent or so and it will be very necessary for FAO to identify the untapped resources of each country on a location-specific basis and when drawing up its priority or programmes for assistance to these countries, relate it to the untapped resource, otherwise we may be applying blindly programmes across the board to all the developing countries, irrespective of conditions and the untapped resources and it will go haywire.

I also suggest for consideration of the FAO Secretariat that whereas it is very good for FAO to have a division according to subjects as also according to regions, I would also suggest for consideration of FAO that there should be some sort of countrywise setup in FAO's Organization, a committee of officers of the FAO, perhaps, with officers of a particular country for which that setup is established who will make a horizontal as well as vertical analysis for the programmes of FAO, identifying the potential and the programmes and also follow and review the programmes in particular countries. This is very important and I would suggest that serious consideration be given to this because I feel that with the regional setup, a multi-country setup in the FAO will not be able to devote itself to the location-specific problems of individual countries. This is very important: if the FAO is to be made cost-effective, it has to service the peculiar problems of individual countries.

My next suggestion is that there is a feeling that we are spending rather too much on seminars, workshops, touring of experts, publications, etc. whereas we are spending very little, or very much less, is left for direct assistance to the developing countries. From this document it appears that during

1979 about 188 seminars were held - seminars alone - which means that every other day of the year a seminar was being held in one country or another. Though it has not been indicated how much money was spent on these, I suppose it would not be inconsiderable. I would therefore suggest that there has to be a ceiling of all the amounts FAO spends annually on seminars, workshops and other learned discussions which may not be of direct consequence to the problems of the developing countries. However, having said that, I would say that whereas you should have fewer seminars, workshops, etc., you should have more training courses and I agree with those delegates who have spoken before me and suggested that there could be training of trainers; more pilot projects where FAO's experts jointly along with the officers of that particular country could run pilot projects and demonstrate the effects of good agriculture to the local people. There should be more and more demonstrations and extension.

I suggest with all emphasis that for the developing countries in Asia and Africa where agriculture is thousands of years behind modern agriculture, there has to be unmitigated emphasis on agricultural extension services. Even the rudiments of ploughing are not known in certain countries of the world, including mine; they do not know how to use a plow, they simply dig the earth for cultivation. In certain areas they still use the system of slash and burn: they slash the forests and burn and do some sort of cultivation. Where are we, and what are we doing for this type of problem? I would suggest therefore that extension services, even of a rudimentary nature, are required in certain countries, in certain areas and we should train the extension staff on a village level in these countries rather than have these learned seminars and study tours.

I also suggest that publications and information documents of FAO are very nice, very acceptable, very eyesome; the get-up is very good, but there is a need, I think, of having a type of publication and information document of FAO which will be specific to the problems of individual countries. They should be country-specific and translated into the language of that country and be intelligible to the farmers and related to the problems of those countries. As to how it should be done is an area where FAO could ascertain the details, but this is something where there is a gap in the present system and this gap has to be filled.

We are very grateful to FAO for having the early warning system which indicates the likely weather conditions and its effects on crops. But again, for the sake of the global picture, the country's picture is lost. It is no use saying that Western Africa is going to have a drought during 1982 unless we go down into the various regions of each country to say which parts of the country are going to be affected by drought and to what degree. Here I might indicate this is the weakness even in the meteorological department in my country: the forecast is given on the basis of the average for a particular region and that average has no relation to what is happening in a particular area or group of villages. This law of averages is a very dangerous system. I am reminded of a story of a king and a statistician. They were crossing the forest and there was a river, and the king wanted to cross the river. He asked the statistician: what is the depth of this river? The statistician put his specs on and consulted his paper and said: My lord, the average depth of this river is only five feet. The king said: my height is six feet and therefore I can well cross the river without any danger. He never crossed that river because the maximum depth of that river was about 10 feet or so. Likewise, the average rainfall on any particular region is no indication of the rainfall which is going to fall in a particular area.

Therefore, it is very necessary, if FAO wants to service the drought-prone countries at all, to have a large number of rain gauge stations distributed evenly in that particular region and then people would know the type of weather conditions that they may expect on a village-to-village basis; or if not, at least on a group-of-villages basis. Only then would there be some practical benefit from this early warning system.

While we commend the approach to rural development adopted by FAO, I would suggest that apart from increasing production and improving the health and nutrition of the rural areas, what is very important, the idea of having a small family norm in the rural population should also go hand in hand with our total system of rural development; because I feel that in countries where the population pressure is very high, the rate of growth of population is outrunning the rate of growth of agriculture, so the idea of small family norm is very important and it would be suicidal on the part of the developing countries to lose sight of this rising population and do nothing about it and go along only from the production angle.

I would also suggest for the consideration of FAO the system of cooperatives in the unorganized rural sector as a medium of giving help to the farmers in the form of agricultural credit, in the form of seeds, fertilizers and also giving help through technical advice and other material inputs by increasing production, giving them credit and also helping them in collecting, storing, processing and marketing the produce through the cooperative sector and, through that, to the farmer. This we have adopted under the World Food Programme, Flag one, Dairy Programme in India. It has been a great success and we are trying to adopt this cooperative system, this vertical integration of production with marketing and processing in other sectors also; and I would think that this system will be very beneficial and very suitable in other countries also.

I will close my comments with only one last point and that is on social forestry. We are giving emphasis to social forestry where, through energy plantation, we are having trees with a very quick rate of growth which will give us timber, fuel wood, fodder and green manure. But I am not so sure whether the approach on expanding forest-based industry, given in this review report, will be suitable for developing countries, where the percentage of area under forests is much less than what the experts say it should be - 33 percent of the total area. In certain countries - it is much less than that; and in those countries to propagate the idea of forest-based industries and getting the contractors and industries into the forests will lead, to my mind, to indiscriminate felling of trees, which will further aggravate the situation.

I would therefore suggest that this question of having forest-based industries in the developing countries should be very cautiously approached and it should be viewed in the context of the dire necessity of conserving whatever forest is left in some of the countries.

Sra. D. SANCHEZ (Colombia): Cuando se presentó a la Conferencia pasada la primera Evaluación del Programa Ordinario, El Director General reconoció las posibles deficiencias de toda nueva actividad y prometió las mejoras que fueren pertinentes.

Esta segunda edición refleja, en buena forma, las observaciones hechas en la pasada Conferencia y a través de un acertado criterio selectivo confirma la calidad y la eficacia del trabajo de nuestro Programa Ordinario.

La delegación de Colombia espera que mediante este proceso continuo de evaluación se perfeccionen cada vez mas los resultados logrados y se confirme ampliamente la importancia y el valor de la acción multilateral.

Los jefes de los Departamentos y Directores de Divisiones deberán continuar con profundidad el sistema de vigilancia y evaluación internas, porque sin duda ello, como lo dice el documento, contribuirá a mejorar la aplicación de las prioridades y a realizar más positivamente las actividades del Programa.

La lectura del documento C 81/8, confirma, una vez mas, la estrecha relación que existe entre el Programa Ordinario y los Programas de Campo.

Los problemas de contratación de personal, que debe ser ampliamente representativo por la procedencia, sus capacidades e idiomas, y de mayor uso de consultores e instituciones nacionales, podrán irse resolviendo satisfactoriamente a la luz de los resultados de la evaluación.

El mismo criterio de selectividad con que forzosamente debió elaborarse este documento, se impone al intentar hacer algunos comentarios sobre este interesante volumen. Podríamos escoger el Programa Principal 2.1: Agricultura. Este es el mas amplio Programa de la FAO, atendido por dos departamentos importantes de la sede: Agricultura y Política Económica y Social. El 45 por ciento de los recursos del Programa Ordinario y el 70 por ciento de los fondos extrapresupuestarios se asignan a este Programa Principal.

La importancia de este programa queda confirmada en los recursos que se le asignan y en los objetivos de "aumentar la producción alimentaria y agrícola en los países en desarrollo".

Los representantes de gobiernos de países en desarrollo podemos comprobar directamente el beneficio que ha representado para nuestros Estados el apoyo directo que se nos ha ofrecido por medio de misiones para la identificación, formulación y evaluación de proyectos, así como útiles asesoramientos en materia de política agropecuaria.

El párrafo 1.29 hace referencia a "un proyecto de cooperación técnica entre países en desarrollo sobre conservación de suelos en América Latina". Ojalá que se realice este proyecto, el primero de esa materia, que luego podrá servir de ejemplo para aplicarlo en otras regiones.

Sobre Ganadería - Programa 2.1.3 nos complace registrar el hecho de que este programa haya contribuido a incrementar la producción de ganado. También deberá seguir asistiendo a los gobiernos en la formulación de proyectos y programas de inversión en el sector ganadero. Los proyectos de FAO - dentro del PCT - llevados a cabo en América Latina, contra la fiebre porcina africana dieron muy buenos resultados.

El desarrollo rural - Programa 2.1.5 está ofreciendo muestras de dinamismo y eficacia en la aplicación del Programa de Acción de la Conferencia Mundial sobre Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural. Igualmente la organización del Día Mundial de la Alimentación, celebrado el pasado 16 de octubre, fue exitosa y contribuyó a llamar la atención de los gobiernos y de la comunidad internacional en favor de los graves problemas agrícolas y alimentarios. El doctor RAFAEL MORENO y sus colaboradores hicieron un buen trabajo.



El programa NUTRICION es satisfactorio, sobre todo en la asistencia a los países para elaboración de políticas nacionales de nutrición y alimentación.

El Capítulo Cinco - Programa de Cooperación Técnica. Confirma la viabilidad y eficacia de los proyectos del PCT. Esa asistencia es más fácil, más ágil y oportuna. Hay que preservar los objetivos específicos para los cuales fue creado el PCT. Está bien que los proyectos del PCT se usen en misiones de programación. En Colombia lo utilizamos para misiones de análisis y formulación sectoriales, con resultado satisfactorio.

Sobre INVERSIONES, merece destacarse el aumento del 21 por ciento de proyectos elaborados por el Centro de Inversiones, con la participación esencial del Programa de Apoyo a la Inversión, que es financiado enteramente por el Programa Ordinario.

Las misiones a los países para identificar y formular proyectos de inversiones y la asistencia a Organismos de Financiación, serán muy convenientes para este importante aspecto del desarrollo, ya que la carencia de recursos suficientes -muchas veces por falta de proyectos adecuados- viene siendo una de las limitaciones al aumento de la producción alimentaria en los países en desarrollo.

La Sección E - Representantes de la FAO - ha venido ya siendo evaluada a través de las deliberaciones en los órganos rectores. Esta parte del documento, confirma la utilidad y conveniencia de que la FAO haya establecido su cuerpo de propios representantes, como funcionarios de la Organización. Las funciones de los representantes de la FAO no se han limitado a Representación y Protocolo, sino que a través de la acción de esos Representantes la FAO ha podido conocer mejor y más directamente las necesidades, políticas y prioridades de los gobiernos.

Igualmente, los Representantes de la FAO han venido participando activamente en la vigilancia sobre las actividades de campo, y en labores de asesoramiento y asistencia útiles a los gobiernos.

Es satisfactorio el resultado de la cooperación entre los Representantes de la FAO y los Representantes Residentes del PNUD. Esto permitirá a nuestros Representantes asesorar a los gobiernos que lo deseen en esta etapa anterior al Tercer Ciclo de Programación 1982-86, con la esperanza de que se logren buenos proyectos en agricultura y alimentación y se contribuya así a dar alta prioridad a esos aspectos en los planes nacionales de desarrollo.

CHAIRMAN: I have been informed that Hungary also wishes to place a statement in the verbatim record on the World Soil Charter. The Secretariat will act accordingly.

J.C. McCOLL (Australia): I have just a few comments of a general nature, some of which have already been touched upon by other delegations. They relate to the primary purposes of the documentation under discussion, namely the provision of information in a format and sufficiently detailed to provide Member Nations with a reasonable picture of just what the Organization is doing, how efficiently it is functioning, what the problems are and what the Organization is doing to solve them.

Whilst appreciating the improved presentation and the considerable effort already expended, we would like to see a deepening of the analytical and feedback value of the document, in particular, perhaps a concentration more on in-depth reviews of programmes, focussing on the extent of achievement and impact with added reference to the efficiency of the implementation.

The Organization, to the extent practicable, should endeavour to achieve standardization of its review procedures. This would allow a comprehensive and objective analysis and provide clear action-oriented statements aimed at identifying inadequacies and shortcomings. Naturally, care should be taken to ensure that review and evaluation functions do not absorb a disproportionate share of total resources and that appropriate use is made of random checks. There is some duplication inevitably between the reviews assessment of results and the sections dealing with progress made contained in the Programme of Work and Budget 1982-83. It is possibly worth while considering the advantage of combining the new review document with the Review of Field Programmes, document C 81/4, thus achieving an overall picture of programmes and facilitating a more integrated approach to the analysis and evaluation of activities funded from all sources.

The Organization should be commended for its effort to improve its efficiency and effectiveness. It is no easy task to reconcile the manifold and often conflicting desires of some 150 countries. While a large part of the Organization resources is naturally directed to activities in or primarily of value to developing countries, Australia acknowledges that benefits are derived by all: for instance, we make good use of FAO's publications, and as a substantial food aid donor we have found the information provided by the Early Warning System of considerable value in determining allocations, whether bilateral or through the World Food Programme.

R.W.M. JOHNSON (New Zealand): I find that some of my remarks have already just been spoken by the delegate of Australia and also I have been anticipated by the delegate of India. However, I do have something to add to what has been said.

We have a few brief remarks to add on the Review of the Regular Programme. I remember asking for this kind of information in Commission II in 1977. So I am heartened by the progress made. New Zealand is not represented on the Programme Committee, so some of what I have to say may already have been discussed there.

My remarks today concern the evaluation of individual projects and programmes on the one hand and the two chapters on forestry on the other. First, it seems to me that there remains a basic lack of focus on the effectiveness of each project. The question perhaps could be asked: when can the usefulness of each project be assessed in its lifetime? Then as a result of this assessment, when is the first opportunity to discontinue a project? Would it be possible, for example, to list projects which have been discontinued? Would it be possible to build time limits into approved projects so that they fall away in due course? Perhaps lists could be provided of projects, classified by dates of approval and dates of completion. It may well be that this is already done within the administrative structure of the divisions - I certainly hope it is. But perhaps some report along these lines to the governing bodies would be useful. In our own government we have management by objectives with a basis of zero-based budgeting and we too have problems in identifying cost centres, or project elements as they are called here, and also measuring the results, on a centre basis, as Mr. Ayazi indicated in his introduction. Where this lack of measurement exists it is clear that management must accept responsibility for resource decisions taken.

This brief analysis leads us to the conclusion that management in FAO must make many of the project by-project decisions and develop the rules for assessment, effectiveness and continuity. The need remains however for reviews by the JIU and the Programme Committee so that overall assessment is also provided.

Secondly, I would like to make a few remarks on the forestry chapters. Our forestry people in New Zealand have looked at chapters 4 and 8 of the document. They particularly commend the analysis on forestry and trade, even if the results achieved have been disappointing. They mention that FAO is doing useful work as a source of global information on forestry as well as carrying out useful forestry evaluation studies. Our forestry people say that they will be happy to provide advice and aid on those aspects of exotic forestry on which they are experts.

O. LINDSTAD (Norway): With your permission, Mr. Chairman, my delegation would like to make a few brief comments on items connected both with the Regular Programme and Special Field Programme.

First, I would like to repeat my Minister's remarks in the Plenary about the special responsibility for including the rural population in the process of development and thereby integrating women in development programmes. We strongly believe that it is a precondition for obtaining sound and balanced rural development, that all groups of the rural population are given more influence and responsibility in development efforts. In line with this we consider the existence of primary, secondary and nation wide and apex cooperative organizations to be most valuable. We therefore support the statement made on cooperatives by the delegate of India.

First, we believe that cooperatives often function as useful instruments for general development. The membership of a primary society provides in many cases the best opportunity that an ordinary producer and his or her family have to participate in economic and social development efforts in the local community.

Secondly, we believe that the cooperative structure after all, and I stress after all, offers the best alternative we have when dealing with marketing of produce for a great number of producers as well as for supplying the producer with agricultural input and consumer goods.

Experience everywhere proves that it takes a long time, sometimes a very long time, to develop efficient and solid cooperatives, but it is no doubt worth the efforts.

The above views lead us to believe that cooperatives have a leading role to play in rural development and to recommend that this field of activity should be strengthened in the FAO work. Going through the Regular Programme as well as the Field Programme we find something, but not very much, about cooperatives.

Still within the aspect of increasing the people's participation, we are very much concerned about the liaison between practical farming, extension and research. It is of great importance that new technology in agriculture is thoroughly tested in the local environment before it is introduced to the farmer. But it is equally important that research institutions have good contact with the farming community. An applied research programme can only be successful if it is based on the problems of the farmers in the area concerned. In order to increase consumption emphasis has to be placed on the food crops that are consumed in each specific area. An increased production of cash crops does not necessarily improve the food situation in the local community.

Concerning research and extension, we support the proposal in the conference documents to increase the number of national scientists. A possible constraint to achieve this, in addition to those already listed, is the relatively low status of research work. The best graduates will often seek employment in the administrative positions, since these have the highest prestige and also the best salary.

R. GARCELL (Cuba): Ante todo agradecemos el documento C 81/8 y la presentación que aquí nos hizo el distinguido representante de la Secretaría.

De su estudio debemos extraer experiencias para mejorar aún más el trabajo de la FAO y de los propios países.

En el programa 2.1 se plantea la demora en la aprobación de los informes de las misiones de los posibles receptores que debilita el interés de los que se consideraron posibles donantes. En este sentido, la experiencia acumulada por la FAO y los propios países deben asegurar que haya una mejor concordancia entre los distintos factores, es decir entre la necesidad, entre el país receptor y los donantes, de manera que no se atrasen las soluciones a problemas acumulados cuando exista la posibilidad financiera de darle la solución; me refiero a lo expresado en el párrafo 2.4 de la página 33 del texto de español.

Sr. Presidente, si al desaprovechamiento que resulta de lo que hemos expresado anteriormente se le añade que aún ocurren enormes pérdidas de alimentos durante la cosecha, nuestra delegación insta a la Organización y a los países a apoyar la prevención de las pérdidas de alimentos, pues es muy lamentable que por una parte no se ejecuten proyectos por demoras de distinto tipo que son recuperables, tal cual expresáramos y además, por otra, se pierdan alimentos en los cuales ya se han invertido recursos en semillas, siembras, abonos, salarios, etc.

Observamos con satisfacción la gestión del Laboratorio de Semillas (página 35), el cual podría ser complementado y mejor instrumentado en el futuro en la medida que progrese la propuesta de creación de un banco internacional de fitogermoplasma, que ha sido presentada por la delegación de México y nuestra delegación apoya.

Con relación a las actividades complementarias de la Conferencia de Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural en lo que se refiere a mejorar las condiciones del hombre del campo, nuestra delegación apoya las gestiones realizadas y los incrementos que sobre ellas puedan lograrse por cuanto es el hombre el actor y protagonista y debe ser el mejoramiento económico y social de su status el objetivo primordial de cuanto hagamos.

Observamos que aún no se ha logrado completar el Fondo extrapresupuestario de 20 millones de dólares (párrafo 2.37) y sólo cinco países han hecho promesas que son muchas menos de la mitad de lo previsto originalmente.

En concordancia con la Conferencia Mundial de la Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural, la Organización debe hacer todas las gestiones a su alcance para complementar este Programa de tan nobles y beneficiosos propósitos e instar a los países donantes a que hagan sus mejores esfuerzos por cumplimentar este objetivo.

Nuestra delegación concede especial atención al Programa de Cooperación Técnica (Capítulo 5) y a la estrategia de delegar en los representantes regionales de la FAO la autoridad necesaria para aprobar determinados proyectos.

Con relación a la distribución porcentual por valor entre categorías (Figura 2 de la página 74 del texto español), nuestra delegación sugiere a la Organización que continúe en su gestión de disminuir todo lo que sea posible aquellos gastos que no tienen una repercusión directa en los incrementos de la producción y, en este sentido, llama la atención que en los gastos varios se han incrementado aproximadamente un 15 por ciento en 1978 a un 30 por ciento en 1980, quizás tenga alguna explicación plausible; mientras los gastos de capacitación disminuyen de un 30 a un 26 por ciento, observamos con beneplácito el incremento relativo de inversión por la repercusión futura que ella significa.

J. B. WARREN (United Kingdom): I shall confine myself to a few general points. We are encouraged to see that the Review takes a critical look at certain of FAO programmes and that it does set out priorities for the future and a strategy which indicates the thoughts given by the division concerned to future policy. We note that this paper is intended to be read in conjunction with the Programme of Work and Budget and trust that its lessons for the future have been taken into account in preparing the budget for the next biennium. We regard a review of this type, which both sets FAO's programmes in their context and also looks to the future, as an essential part of the planning process and are pleased by the recognition throughout the paper of the problems faced in the field. Indeed, we would wish to see the review system extend to carry out even more detailed evaluation of selected elements within such programmes and also to make greater use of independent evaluations.

Within the present paper we note three points in particular: 1, an appreciation of the risk of duplication within FAO Headquarters itself between different divisions doing very similar aspects of a particular project. We note with satisfaction that this problem is fully recognized and that changes in administration will result from the Review. 2, the findings of the Review, with which we agree, indicate that in some cases, probably too many targets have been aimed at in the past and that there is a need for greater concentration on areas likely to show the greatest return in terms of local development.

Finally, my third point, the effort in Part Two - which we welcome - to devise a general programme for evaluation of the different programmes makes it more possible to examine the success of each programme in relation to others reviewed.

We are not fully satisfied that the current rather wider approach enables us to reach proper conclusions. We therefore look forward to a further development of the Review which might look into detailed evaluation of a small component of one of the sub-programmes, giving a full evaluation in the strict sense of the word so that Member nations can really assess the effectiveness of that particular element in FAO's programme.

A.H. EL SARKI (Egypt) (Original language Arabic): Allow me at the outset to thank the Director-General for his introduction to this document. My country's delegation also wishes to commend the amendments introduced, these have allowed us to identify the achievements of the past two years. The document's importance is also due to the fact that certain programmes are ongoing ones. We are grateful to FAO for the efforts being undertaken throughout its departments despite its current financial situation and taking due account of calls being made for a cutback in expenditure. This is by far the best programme review we have received and I am confident that it will improve in quality as time goes by.

We have carefully examined Chapter one of the document and wish to commend in particular the 8 sub-programmes under the main programme 2.1: Agriculture.

This programme, the very basis of FAO activities, aims at increasing agricultural and food production as well as improved food distribution. In this context we hope that the mandate of country representatives shall be extended to enable them to approve small-scale projects implemented under TCP. These projects have proven their efficiency in responding to urgent needs.

As for the main programme 3.2 Investment, we approve the achievements of the Investment Centre and are appreciative of its role in elaborating investment projects.

Paragraph 7.13 of Chapter 7, sub-programme 2-1-8 on Food and Agricultural Policies fails to give due priority to local skills and expertise thus causing the allocation of substantial amounts to provide the minimum of experts required. We urge FAO to allocate more importance to the question of the

training of trainers, and the development of training courses. Further attention should also be given, as was stated by previous speakers, to case studies which must be circulated to the various governments to increase the benefits accruing from them.

After examining programme 2-1-1-3: On Soil and Fertilizer Management we agree to the rationalization in the use of fertilizers and the need to make the maximum use of indigenous resources in soil fertilization.

Integrated systems of production must be applied in cropping and animal husbandry systems - we hope these will be included in future field programmes. We agree to the application of scientific data in agricultural practices, in the effective use of fertilizers and in the production of biogas.

Egypt is a proponent of the principle of fully benefitting from the services of national Institutions. We call for the expanded application of this principle and reaffirm our belief in the usefulness of TCDC as a means of meeting the increasing demands from developing countries for consultative services in marketing. We have always believed that TCP have a role to play in the field of agricultural credit systems as these prevent the monopolization in rural areas of this activity by certain groups. We welcome the Agricultural Credit Programme for the establishment of Agricultural Credit Institution - and the redirecting of this system's activities.

As for Chapter XII on development, Egypt favours the continued support given to Member Countries for the development of rural radio and T.V. broadcasts. We would opt for an expansion of this aid considering its importance and positive impact on rural development.

Thanks to aid provided by the FRG Egypt is currently expanding its rural broadcast programmes.

We are considering the possible establishment of a nationwide network, as we firmly believe that such programmes enable the betterment of farmers and raise their standards and thus achieve the sought-for development.

L. VROONEN (Belgique): Concernant le document C 81/3: Programme et budget, mon gouvernement reconnaît l'intérêt d'un tel document, toutefois nous aimerions suggérer au secrétariat de le rendre un peu plus maniable dans l'avenir; c'est bien volumineux Monsieur le Président; d'autres délégations ont déjà signalé certaines redites, je ne reviendrai pas sur cet aspect.

De plus les documents C 81/4 et C 81/9 sont greffés sur ce document C 81/3, avec un petit effort on pourrait certes nous donner une présentation plus simple.

Sur le budget en général, nous sommes certains que des doubles emplois peuvent être éliminés. Avec le délégué de l'Inde qui m'a précédé, nous pensons que la FAO a peut-être trop tendance à mettre l'accent sur des conférences, des séminaires, qui se répètent, et qu'un effort supplémentaire pourrait être porté sur les programmes de terrain. Nous croyons que certains services restent trop gonflés et qu'on peut garder, et même renforcer l'efficacité, en réduisant parfois le personnel de certains services pour en renforcer d'autres. Ainsi nous pensons que le programme forestier mériterait un renforcement en argent et en personnel, le maintien sinon l'extension de la forêt étant une oeuvre de civilisation.

Outre le programme forestier, mon gouvernement soutient tout particulièrement le Programme du PASA qui vise plus le commerce que la production vivrière, le Programme engrais et intrants agricoles, lui s'occupant davantage de la production, encore que pour ce programme engrais nous aimerions que soit renforcée la vulgarisation des méthodes agricoles biologiques basées sur les ressources renouvelables localement plutôt que sur des intrants exigeant une énergie fossile, dite "commerciale".

Notre gouvernement voit aussi favorablement les différents programmes qui s'occupent des pertes des végétaux, aussi bien pertes en cours de culture que pertes après récolte, que la FAO dilue dans plusieurs de ses services. Un regroupement de ces services ne serait-il pas, en passant, une nouvelle économie budgétaire possible?

Concernant le document C 81/26, sur la recherche, que nous avons discuté vendredi après-midi, mon gouvernement est très favorable à l'intensification de la recherche et soutient déjà bilatéralement certains pays dans ce domaine.

Par ailleurs la contribution beige, tant en argent qu'en personnel au sein de la famille du CGIAR est importante.

Nous soulevons toutefois deux questions: ne faudrait-il pas en plus introduire systématiquement un volet: Recherche - application à la plupart des projets agricoles? D'autre part, ne faut-il pas craindre une certaine concurrence entre le CGIAR et les centres nationaux? Sauf s'il était décidé, de façon explicite, que pour chaque Centre de la famille du CGIAR, une portion budgétaire serait réservée au soutien à des centres nationaux ou à des coopérations avec certains centres nationaux.

Enfin, concernant la Charte des sols également discutée vendredi, nous vous avons fait passer une correction en suggérant que dans cette Charte l'accent soit davantage mis sur le problème des forêts, parce que nous pensons que la protection des sols passe par la protection des forêts.

LE PRESIDENT: Ai-je bien compris votre dernière remarque comme étant un amendement au texte de la résolution? En ce cas, je suggère qu'il soit bien pris note de votre remarque et qu'il en soit tenu compte.

M. SALAMEH (Syria) (Original language Arabic): My delegation has listened with interest to the introduction given by the Assistant Director-General to this document and we note that the present Review is excellent.

When it comes to Chapter two of the document we would like here to place emphasis on self-evaluation and internal evaluation of programmes, because this evaluation would be better if it is done by those who are most familiar with these programmes, and this is the reason why we feel an internal evaluation would be very useful. If the evaluation has to be done outside the FAO, this can be done from time to time, and that is actually what the FAO has done on several occasions. However, we do not think this type of evaluation can prove very useful, because a consultant from outside the FAO might not be conversant with all the ins and outs of all these projects and programmes, and here we should like to emphasise the role of governments. It is our duty to urge the Member Governments to evaluate projects in a better way.

Our delegation would like to place emphasis on the need to broaden the mandate of country representatives in the light of the important role they play. After all, they are the link between the FAO and the Member Countries where they are accredited. They are in fact, the link between FAO, UNDP and the beneficiary countries, and the aid could only be improved by such a strengthening of their role.

To finish, in regards to what was said by the delegate of India regarding the Early Warning System, and in the light of the efficiency of that system, I would like to state that we have profited a great deal from this system, and last year we were able to evaluate the rainfall and the various climate conditions which would prevail in our country, which was extremely useful to us.

That is why we would like this Early Warning System to be broadened in future, and invite the Secretariat to provide us with a report on what was achieved through this System.

T. SEYOUM (Ethiopia): The Ethiopian delegation welcomes this important document before us, namely Document C 81/8. In this connexion my delegation would like to express its admiration to the Secretariat of FAO, which as usual has done a commendable job in preparing this detailed report on the activities of FAO. As stated by the Head of the Evaluation Division here, there is no doubt as to the qualitative improvement made since his report was submitted to this Commission two years ago.

I will not at this stage, because of lack of time, comment in any detail but would only like to record the appreciation of my delegation.

H. ÖGUT (Turkey): This time I shall limit myself to making a general comment on the context of the FAO Review of the Regular Programme. My delegation considers the Report very comprehensive and to the point, both in its depth and the subject matters covered.

The Review is also critical even though it has been completely prepared by FAO Staff. It provides a clear evaluation of activities carried out by FAO during the last biennium and analyses the strength and the weaknesses, while providing a definite case for changes and additional efforts which its governing bodies may conceive within the attainable resources.

We believe FAO should continue presenting us with such Reports in Conferences, cutting the length and coverage carefully in order not to require substantial resources to carry out such a review.

The number and topic of subject matters should certainly cover the key issues and problems common to the whole world of socio-economic importance which FAO may select on the basic wisdom of its Conference and its guidance provided by the Council and Committees.

H. REDL (Austria) (Original language German): May I congratulate Mr. Ajazi for the very precise presentation and introduction of Document C 81/8. The Austrian delegation greets the way in which this document has been submitted. We have noted that indeed it is a meaningful addition to the programme of FAO. The information contained about the results is very important.

It would also be very interesting, however, with respect to these problems to know exactly how the problems have been solved.

As for the work, the activities should not be dealt with in an isolated manner - rather, the activities should be connected to work in other regions. For example, in this connexion let me refer to the network of the European Region and the work being done there. The presentation of the agricultural development without a description of the role of women in land development seems to us not to be complete, in particular the activities of FAO in this field we feel are extremely important. We are also happy to hear about the activities in the field of training and education, be this in connexion with agriculture or forestry.

In the future there should be to a greater extent possibilities of training for the different developing countries - for these countries or the developed countries of FAO, particularly with reference to Part Two, Chapter Nine, the Danish delegate referred to the importance of fertilizer, and we support what he said in this connexion.

As to what is said in Part Two, Chapter Twelve, we must emphasise the fact that the preparation of clear information on methods is a very good idea as this is taking account of the developing countries. The inception of modern information methods should also bear in mind the local conditions to a greater extent, and we support what has been done by FAO in this connexion.

As to the importance of close contact between research and practice, much emphasis has been laid upon this. We also believe, however, that the role of the country representatives in FAO, particularly with respect to the implementation of projects and the presentation thereof should be laid down in a clear manner.

In the field of forestry activities, of course, Austria attaches great importance to these, and I do think we need to emphasise this fact, it is clear.

In summarizing, may I once again say what has been said in the documents is very pleasing to us, and we hope a clear expression of how the use of the work of FAO will be further developed in the future.

B.E. PHIRI (Zambia): I will be very brief. We wish to commend the Secretariat for the form in which this document has been put together for us. It is clear and concise, but I would like to mention just a few paragraphs.

The first is on page 105, paragraph 5.91, in which it says about one-half of the programme missions initiated in 1979-80 took place in countries with FAO Representatives. I am mentioning this because it is one of those areas in which we have some controversies in this Commission when we talk about the office of FAORs and the Regional Offices. The FAORs have not been long in the field, but it seems the effect of these Offices is already pronounced.

Then we come to page 143 and paragraph 7.43 in which it says the decisive factor is the will of national governments to keep operationally effective on the national level with policies created at the proper level.

I decided to highlight this because we speak here as though the lack of adequate implementation efficiency were with the Secretariat only but sometimes the problem is with the national governments. The response, the talk about personnel and plans which a national government is supposed to provide for a particular project may render the effectiveness of the Secretariat impossible to implement.

We therefore think that when we are reviewing the activities of the Organization we must also review the part played by governments, either in making a project either successful or unsuccessful.

Then on page 144 it is said:

“On the whole the planning assistance activities carried out under the programme have not been as effective as might be wished.”

The reason here is that adequate resources are not provided for training in the projects, and the example is given of Tunisia and Brazil. Now it appears that there is a tendency possibly to just prepare a project and implement it with a weak training component included in the project, so that when the FAO experts or other experts leave, the local experts will take over. They have already been trained to take over and they continue with the project and we see that because of the weakness in training, some of the projects have tended to be stretched out into several phases over a period or a number of years. We therefore think this is an area where possibly FAO should do more.

On the whole we wish to commend the Secretariat for the work they do and the manner in which they are doing it.

New Zealand raised a point about whether to have a list of projects that have been cancelled and whether it is possible to have some deciding factor as to when a project should be abandoned, because it is proving impossible to implement. We think this can only be possible if the problems that the Secretariat has faced in the past in implementing projects are clearly highlighted so that these can guide us in avoiding the pitfalls in future projects.

F. MARTINEZ GOMEZ (Mexico): La principal consideración que se puede hacer del examen de los programas de campo lo constituye la falta de recursos para estas importantes actividades, teniendo en cuenta la actual situación alimentaria mundial y el estado económico y tecnológico en que se encuentran los países desarrollados. El constante incremento de los recursos hacia la industria de la guerra, no es más que un reflejo de la existencia de una situación contradictoria y crítica que ha ocasionado, como se puede constatar, una mayor concentración de la riqueza y que está inhibiendo las oportunidades de millones de seres de producir y satisfacer plenamente sus necesidades básicas de alimentarse.

En este contexto, el análisis de la situación de los programas de campo 1980-81, nos indica que las mejoras sustantivas que se pueden recomendar, están fuera del ámbito de las actividades que se realizan en FAO, y se ubican dentro de la necesidad de incrementar sustantivamente los recursos para los programas de campo.

Es evidente que constantemente las actividades de campo que realiza la FAO son menores con respecto a la demanda de necesidades. Esto parece agravarse por la existencia de signos muy reales de una caída de nivel nominal de las actividades de campo de la FAO. Se estima que en 1982 se iniciará este descenso significativo. Es innecesario señalar las consecuencias de estas medidas, pues son de sobra conocidas por todos. Estimamos inconveniente que se niegue el apoyo hacia la agricultura de los países en desarrollo, principalmente el multilateral que tiene la ventaja de no estar ligado a compromisos o ataduras que, muy frecuentemente, se establecen tácitamente o no en los apoyos bilaterales.

La existencia de insuficientes recursos para los programas obliga a que las actividades de evaluación sean más estrictas y meticulosas, y que estén encaminadas a obtener una mayor eficacia en el uso de los recursos de los programas de campo. Otra consideración importante es que, por ningún motivo, las reducciones presupuestales afecten más a los programas de campo que a los gastos administrativos que ello lleva consigo. Es necesario que se incremente el número de proporción de expertos de los países en desarrollo para la ejecución de proyectos de campo, al menos que alcancen el objetivo establecido por la Asamblea General de Naciones Unidas del 50 por ciento.

En los últimos años, la proporción de estudiantes becados por FAO en los países en desarrollo ha disminuido. Consideramos necesario que se tomen medidas para cambiar el sentido de esta proporción. Estimamos conveniente fomentar aún más las actividades que realiza la FAO en promover la cooperación técnica, y en los programas de acción de organizaciones rurales. Es necesario que los programas de campo tomen en cuenta las recomendaciones de la Conferencia Mundial sobre Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural



en su diseño e implementación, particularmente en lo que se refiere a la participación sustancial de los productores, y de la utilización máxima de recursos locales.

Finalmente, deseamos que el proyecto de resolución de crear un Banco Internacional de Fitogermoplasma de interés agrícola dependiente de FAO, el cual detallo como sigue, y que ha sido apoyado por los países latinoamericanos y España, quedase reflejada en las actas de esta reunión, además de que, como lo señalase el Subsecretario de la Secretaría de Agricultura de México, será enviada al Comité de Resoluciones para su consideración.

A saber:

#### I.- Proyecto de Resolución de la Conferencia

### CREACION DE UN BANCO INTERNACIONAL DE FITO-GERMOPLASMA DE INTERES AGRICOLA DEPENDIENTE DE FAO

#### LA CONFERENCIA

#### CONSIDERANDO

que los Recursos Genéticos son Recursos Naturales limitados y perecederos, y por tanto son comparables a otras materias primas de importancia primordial.

que sin el uso de estos recursos en los centros de investigación agrícola aplicada, la mejora de variedades no sería posible.

que de estos recursos depende la alimentación mundial en el futuro

que los recursos fitogenéticos existen en concentración máxima en ciertas áreas geográficas.

#### TENIENDO EN CUENTA

que la aparición de nuevas tecnologías, la sustitución de variedades locales por variedades importadas, la colonización de nuevas tierras, los cambios en las técnicas de cultivo, etc., están provocando una rápida y profunda erosión de los mencionados recursos que pueden llevar a la extinción de un material de valor incalculable y que apenas ha sido utilizado.

que la FAO debe ocuparse no solo de la alimentación del mundo, sino también asegurar para las generaciones venideras un incremento en la producción y en la calidad de los alimentos y que ambas metas sólo son posibles a través de la preservación y utilización de los recursos fitogenéticos que son la materia prima necesaria para la mejora de las variedades.

que la conservación de semillas es el método más adecuado de preservar los recursos fitogenéticos de la mayor parte de las especies agrícolas cultivadas.

que los almacenes donde se conservan las semillas con esta finalidad se conocen con el nombre de bancos de Fitogermoplasma.

que la FAO se ha ocupado de estos recursos y promueve su recolección.

que la FAO ya cuenta con un servicio que se ocupa del intercambio de semillas.

#### DECIDE

que duplicados de tan valiosos recursos deben conservarse bajo la custodia de FAO y dentro de terrenos legalmente reconocidos como propiedad de Naciones Unidas garantizando con la adecuada legislación la disponibilidad y seguridad de los mismos a todos los países para el uso de generaciones futuras.

que debe llegarse a acuerdos internacionales vinculantes que reconozcan estos recursos como patrimonio de la Humanidad, asegurando legalmente su accesibilidad, uso y disfrute indiscriminado.

Que los puntos anteriores no son aspectos exclusivos sino necesariamente complementarios y como tales deben considerarse.

### SOLICITA AL DIRECTOR GENERAL

la creación en la sede de la FAO de un banco internacional de semillas ortodoxas de interés agrícola que estará bajo la custodia de la Organización y donde todos los países que lo deseen pueden depositar duplicados de su material, asegurando su salvaguardia, su utilización y su disfrute indiscriminado, tanto en el presente como en el futuro. Dicho banco deberá administrarse mediante un reglamento especial que garantice los derechos de los depositarios.

que localice fondos para financiar la creación y funcionamiento de este banco. Dichos fondos podrían proceder del presupuesto regular de FAO, otras organizaciones internacionales, países donantes, y/o otras fuentes de financiamiento.

que dicho banco se administre bajo la custodia de FAO, y dentro de una legislación internacional, para lo cual se solicita al Director General que convoque a todos los países a una Convención que para tales fines se designe. Esta Convención podrá celebrarse en las oficinas centrales de FAO en el transcurso de 1982.

K. CHOUERI (Liban) (Langue originale arabe): Lors de la Conférence Générale précédente, ma délégation a eu l'occasion de participer aux travaux de la Commission II et en l'occurrence à l'Examen du Programme ordinaire. Nous avons formulé alors certains commentaires et notre impression, aujourd'hui, est que le document qui nous est soumis a tenu compte des commentaires que nous avons formulés. Nous ne pouvons donc pas ici passer sous silence les efforts déployés par le Comité du programme au cours de sa quarante et unième session, car il a largement débattu cette question et il a étudié ce document dans le détail.

Nous nous déclarons d'accord avec les résultats auxquels a abouti le Comité du programme d'autant plus que l'examen de ce document a été d'un niveau excellent, que ce soit du point de vue de la présentation de ce document ou de son contenu. Le système d'évaluation actuel est un système efficace et peu coûteux, et c'est la raison pour laquelle ma délégation réitère son approbation à l'évaluation interne que nous considérons la meilleure.

Le document qui nous est soumis a regroupé différents programmes: la première partie en est consacrée à un examen analytique alors que dans la deuxième partie, il y a une extension des différents programmes de même qu'il y a une étude comparative entre le Programme ordinaire, les programmes de terrain et leur interaction.

Nous voudrions faire observer que si les évaluations deviennent trop nombreuses, ce sera contre-productif, car l'évaluation demande beaucoup de temps et d'efforts aux employés de la FAO. Nous connaissons les limites de toute opération d'évaluation, et quels que soient les efforts déployés par les experts et les experts-conseils à l'intérieur ou à l'extérieur de la FAO, les propositions de ces experts ne peuvent pas toutes être appliquées. D'autant plus, comme l'a souligné l'honorable délégué de la France, que certains projets sont encore en cours d'exécution " il est donc difficile d'en faire l'évaluation.

C'est la raison pour laquelle nous posons la question suivante: est-ce que la multiplication de ces opérations d'évaluation ne va pas être en fait une perte de ressources et de temps, ce que nous voulons tous éviter?

Monsieur le Président, l'écho de la voix des délégations qui ont demandé la compression des dépenses résonne encore dans cette salle. De même, M. West a souligné le coût excessif des opérations d'évaluation et de coordination. Son intervention est encore présente à notre esprit.

Enfin, nous voudrions réaffirmer notre appui au suivi de ce document.

J. NEUMANN (Czechoslovakia): As I speak in our Commission for the first time, let me congratulate you on your election to the chair.

I should like to inform you about the policy on soil resources in my country. Czechoslovakia is a country with little agricultural land, as a consequence of highly developed industry and a great density of population.

The average acreage of arable land per capita is 0.35. It is therefore necessary in our effort to achieve self-sufficiency in the basic agricultural products to use the soil with maximum efficiency.

As a consequence of rapid industrial and housing construction and transport networks, it has often happened that the area of agricultural land-in spite of strict legislative measures-has been reduced.

Therefore, a law on "The Protection of agricultural land" has been issued. This law lays down specific measures by which soil can be used for other than agricultural purposes. It also is based on the fact that the soil is a national heritage and thus it is the duty of all to protect it and to use it as far as possible for agriculture.

There exists, Mr. Chairman, a special Research Institute for soil sciences in Czechoslovakia, which is in permanent contact with the relevant divisions of FAO.

I would like to take this opportunity to express the interest of my country in further cooperation with FAO in the area of experts and consultants on soil, its classification and the assessment of land for agricultural purposes.

For this reason, we consider the document submitted as a very important one, and give it our full support.\*

P. VANDOR (Hungary): The World Soil Charter will be a milestone in the history of utilization of soils of the world and in international collaboration for better use and protection of the soils.

Hungary which has extended territories as well as fertile soils as well as soils with low fertility is interested in further programme of the World Soil Charter.

Hungary was one of the first countries which in the early sixties of the century adopted the Act of Land by the Parliament which limited the possibility of utilisation of agricultural land for industrial, urban and other exploitations. After this Act went into the practice the yearly reduction of the area of agricultural land was diminished-

In Hungary extended research and surveys were conducted for characterisation and mapping of soils in order to characterise their ability for different patterns of agriculture. Maps are available also indicating the limiting factors of agriculture soil erosion, soil salinity, etc. Studies and maps were prepared for prediction of hazards of environmental processes which may lead to deterioration and degradation of soils.

Prediction of salinity hazards of irrigation systems and methods for prevention of such processes were also elaborated.

In Hungary there are possibilities for organizing training courses and other studies particularly for experts of developing countries.\*

The meeting rose at 13.05 hours

La séance est levée à 13 h 05

Se levata la Sesión a las 13.05 horas

\* 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

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C 81/II/PV/9

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Twenty-first Session

COMMISSION II

Vingt et unième session

COMMISSION II

21° período de sesiones

COMMISSION II

NINTH MEETING  
NEUVIEME SEANCE  
NOVENA SESION

(16 November 1981)

The Ninth Meeting was opened at 14.45 hours  
R. Steiner, Chairman of Commission II, presiding

La neuvième séance est ouverte à 14 h 45, sous la présidence de  
R. Steiner, Président de la Commission II

Se abre la novena sesión a las 14.45 horas, bajo la presidencia de  
R. Steiner, Presidente de la Comisión II

II. ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMES OF THE ORGANIZATION (continued)

II. ACTIVITES ET PROGRAMMES DE L'ORGANISATION (suite)

II. ACTIVIDADES Y PROGRAMAS DE LA ORGANIZACION (continuación)

11. Review of the Regular Programme 1980-81 (continued)

11. Examen du Programme ordinaire 1980-81 (suite)

11. Examen del Programa Ordinario 1980-81 (continuación)

CHAIRMAN: I call the meeting to order and open the ninth meeting of Commission II. We will continue the debate on the Review of the Regular Programme 1980-81 with document C 81/8 as a basic reference.

As you will have noticed from the journal of the Conference; we are also expected subsequently to enter into debate on item 12, Review of the Field Programmes.

I thank the delegates for their understanding that we should move on expeditiously.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): I am most likely one of the last speakers on your list, and I have all reason to express our views in a very telegraphic style, even.

We first of all appreciate the good introduction of Mr. Ajazi. We feel it has been expressed by many delegations this morning that the document on the Review of the Regular Programme is a major improvement as compared with the renewed effort that we considered two years ago. We feel that it was definitely improved in both form and substance, and I am very satisfied also, as were many others, that the improvement was the result of the dialogue between this Commission, some other governing bodies at FAO and the Secretariat. I will just very briefly describe the improvements as we see them. First, we appreciate the extent of the coverage especially in Part Two, in the in-depth reviews. We were also satisfied with the improved presentation throughout the document, and we especially very much value the improvement in Part One.

There are many tables showing very clearly not only the source but also various aspects of FAO activities, like training, meetings, publications, backstopping and especially direct reports to the Member governments.

Of course, I could not go into details; as I have announced some other day, my delegation was privileged to be represented both on the Programme Committee and the Council, so we are dealing mostly with the form and with regard to the form and substance of future reviews.

We also feel there is still substantial room for improvement. I would very briefly indicate one or two or three basic lines that we feel would perhaps serve serious thought. For example, we feel that greater emphasis could be placed on using more thoroughly, for example, expert consultations, either panels or individual consultations, just to show more clearly both conceptual and technical details. Of course, we share the view expressed this morning that further attempts should be made to improve the assessment of impacts. Of course, as many speakers emphasized this morning, we also see substantial difficulties in certain cases even in the possibility of quantifying some very complex aspects of FAO's programmes and especially to assess in any quantitative terms the impact of the FAO programmes. As we found, I think, in the last Council, it was virtually impossible to assess the UN input, overall UN Input, in the case of a country, let alone the input provided by one especial agency, even one as large as FAO.

We also feel, like many other delegations, that further substantial expansion of the volume does not seem to us to be either feasible or desirable. Of course, many very interesting ideas and suggestions have been expressed in the course of the debate. Most of them I think address the issue of future improvements, both in substance and form. We share most of the views expressed. We see some merit in the suggestion to provide master charts here and there, even to show the mainstreams at the programme or sub-programme levels their main connections and interlinks inside and outside, but we doubt this very much. Perhaps it is only due to the lack of our imagination that all details which are enormously complex could be shown in that way.

Finally, may I only briefly reflect some of the ideas that have been suggested. After all, we feel it is the primary task of ours being here to extend ideas and to see what we agree upon. I think many delegations place special accent on research, and I fully share the view that research deserves utmost attention. May I again only remind you what I said on a previous occasion, that in-depth evaluation research activities of FAO, based on about fifty FAO-UNDP projects of research support

projects, will be prepared and documents will be prepared for such a review or reevaluation, if you want, even, and considered by the Committee for the next biennium, so I think we can see the merit of having research fully covered in the next performance report.

The point was also raised with regard to the Regional Offices, and may I also mention that agreement reached in the Programme Committee in the sense that the next performance report should provide more details showing to the extent possible the role, the place of Regional Offices, the method of their work, connections with the Country Offices and on the way they fit into the overall FAO structure.

Agreement was reached on the insistence of some members of the Programme Committee, and I would say if I want to be precise, two members, who felt that the whole area was still a bit obscure, and of course the vast majority of the Committee was of the view that such a review was not necessary, but finally, since the view was expressed, we agree that it should be done through the next performance report, and I think it has been accepted by the Secretariat.

Finally, we believe that the performance report, improved as we see it now, fits quite well within the overall evaluation structure of FAO. In view of what we said on Friday, I think, my delegation really does not see any need for a special sub-committee of this Committee to review or even evaluate the work of FAO. I will not go any further to repeat what I said the other day as to what was the position of my delegation. I think I explained that in details I want to make reference to the fact that a thorough review of conference structure, proceedings and its composition has been done by the standing committees and the Council, and after a very long debate I think the Council reached the conclusion that with certain small changes and modifications, the Conference structure and procedures should be retained, so even in that light we do not see any need or even technical possibility of making the conference structure which has become quite a bit complex become more complex by accepting the idea expressed in favour of a sort of sub-committee of this very body. We really do not see any reason for any such thing.

A. TRAORE (Guinée): Ma délégation se félicite de la qualité du document C 81/8 qui nous est soumis et apprécie favorablement la manière dont les différents points sont traités. Elle considère surtout avec intérêt le chapitre se rapportant à l'aménagement des zones de parcours, le développement de la pêche artisanale et la formation des cadres en matière de pêche.

Face au système d'élevage pratiqué en Afrique de l'ouest, ma délégation encourage vivement notre organisme, fort déjà des bons résultats obtenus en Afrique du Nord, à multiplier davantage ses actions portant sur l'amélioration des zones de parcours dans notre sous-région.

Dans le domaine de la pêche, nous avons déjà fait mention du rapport défavorable entre, d'une part, les ressources halieutiques et les besoins alimentaires de nos populations et, d'autre part, le niveau des produits de pêche disponibles.

A cet égard, la perspective de développement de la pêche artisanale en tant que précieux moyen d'exploitation des zones économiques nous réjouit à plus d'un titre.

C'est aussi pour cela qu'en exprimant notre satisfaction devant les résultats dont font état les paragraphes 3.15 et 3.16, nous nous joignons à ceux des délégués qui, avant nous ont attiré l'attention spéciale de notre commission sur la formation de cadres nationaux chargés d'exécuter sur place les travaux de pêche.

C. LAMBERT (Canada): Beaucoup a déjà été dit. Je ne voudrais pas répéter ceux qui m'ont précédé, qu'il me soit cependant permis de féliciter à mon tour le Secrétariat pour la qualité du document qui nous a été remis. Nous croyons que l'honnêteté des propositions qui y sont contenues servira à renforcer la confiance qui doit régner entre le Secrétariat et les Membres de cette deuxième Commission.

L'examen du programme ordinaire est fort encourageant car, comme cela a déjà été signalé, la présentation et le contenu se sont grandement améliorés. Nous invitons donc le Secrétariat à poursuivre dans cette voie. Comme beaucoup d'autres avant nous, nous reconnaissons les difficultés qui sont liées à l'évaluation quantitative des activités de la FAO. Nous reconnaissons aussi qu'à beaucoup d'égards, il est nécessaire d'innover dans ce domaine. Cela ne saurait cependant nous empêcher de nous attaquer à la tâche. Nous sommes au contraire convaincus que la FAO a toutes les compétences pour relever ce défi.

Dans cette perspective, permettez-moi d'apporter ici quelques suggestions, Il est nécessaire pour ce faire de revenir un peu en arrière sur notre ordre du jour.

Ma délégation ne s'est pas exprimée sur le document visant les objectifs à moyen terme lors de sa discussion. Nous croyons en effet qu'il était préférable de lier nos propos à l'examen du programme ordinaire.

Ma délégation croit en effet que dans leur forme actuelle, les objectifs à moyen terme sont, pour le moins, d'une utilité marginale. Vous vous souviendrez que lors du débat, certains ont proposé l'annulation de ce document; d'autres ont proposé son intégration au programme de travail et budget; nous croyons, pour notre part, qu'il y a lieu de conserver ce document séparé des autres textes, mais qu'il faut l'améliorer. Le caractère vague de la formulation des objectifs empêche d'en faire le document de travail essentiel qu'il devrait être. Il nous apparaît important que les objectifs de notre Organisation soient quantifiés, clairement situés et limités dans le temps, aussi bien que géographiquement. C'est ainsi qu'ils prendront une véritable signification.

Comme il a été rappelé dans la présentation du document C 81/8, l'examen du programme ordinaire s'appuie sur les objectifs à moyen terme. Ainsi donc pour être sérieux, notre examen doit, lui-aussi, reposer sur une base bien déterminée. L'examen du programme ordinaire en sera d'autant facilité et les résultats plus immédiatement utilisables pour corriger le tir, si besoin est.

Le deuxième point d'ordre général que je voudrais aborder repose sur deux affirmations qu'on retrouve dans le document. On indique, en effet, quelles difficultés rencontre le Secrétariat dans le recrutement du personnel et on en donne comme cause principale le principe de la répartition géographique.

Ma délégation souhaite rappeler ici qu'elle souscrit entièrement à ce principe mais qu'il ne doit en rien être celui qui prévaut sur les autres.

Nous voulons réaffirmer ici que le premier critère d'emploi doit être celui de la compétence, et cela pour le bien même de notre Organisation.

Nous serions donc reconnaissants au Secrétariat de nous apporter les éclaircissements qu'il jugera à propos.

De façon plus précise, le Plan sur l'agriculture (paragraphe 1.95 et 1.96) nous parle du choix à faire entre la participation et le soutien indirect. Le texte nous laisse penser qu'on préférerait le soutien indirect. Pour notre part, nous optons pour cette voie. Nous croyons que le rôle des agences spécialisées est précisément d'apporter ce soutien indirect, car il crée un effet multiplicateur qui, à moyen et long terme, bénéficie davantage aux bénéficiaires.

Au paragraphe 1.100 brève mention est faite d'un projet pilote où 15 équipes spéciales ont été constituées pour autant de pays, afin d'assurer une plus grande cohérence aux interventions de la FAO. Il nous intéressera de connaître plus tard les résultats de cette expérience.

Nous venons de parler de soutien indirect. Au paragraphe 1.101, on nous dit qu'à cause des pressions que subit l'Organisation pour le soutien indirect, on devra assister à trois développements: un choix plus sélectif des activités du Siège; les réponses aux demandes d'assistance devront être subordonnées à l'engagement de gouvernements nationaux dans ce secteur d'activité, et un plus grand usage des instituts nationaux et des consultants nationaux.

Nous tenons à vous dire, Monsieur le Président, que ma délégation souscrit entièrement à ces trois options qui sont ouvertes au Programme.

Enfin, un mot sur le chapitre douze. Nous sommes particulièrement sensibles à la justification qui nous est présentée dans ce chapitre regardant la communication au service du développement. En cela, nous devons différer avec une opinion émise ce matin. Nous avons tous trop souvent la tentation de contempler la fin et de ne pas nous préoccuper assez des moyens. Par ce Programme, nous réussissons à impliquer les populations dans leur développement, à établir un véritable échange entre toutes les parties concernées. Nous croyons donc que ce Programme est très important si nous voulons réussir la tâche qui est notre. Nous soutenons pleinement la Recommandation qui veut que l'aspect des communications soit inclus le plus tôt possible dans l'élaboration des projets.

Je termine enfin sur une dernière suggestion. Le Programme a maintenant deux parties: les grands programmes et les programmes qui interviennent dans chacun des programmes. N'y aurait-il pas lieu d'inclure une troisième partie qui serait, elle, plus géographique? Il nous serait peut-être alors permis de voir l'impact, le résultat que nos projets connaissent à l'échelle des régions et des sous-régions.



LE PRESIDENT: Je vous remercie, Monsieur le délégué du Canada.

Je suis sûr que le secrétariat a bien pris note de vos suggestions, faites à la fin de votre déclaration.

J'invite maintenant le délégué du Sénégal à prendre la parole.

S. AIDARA (Sénégal): Je vous remercie, Monsieur le Président, de me donner la parole à ce stade de nos discussions sur cette importante question.

C'est la deuxième fois qu'un tel document sur l'exécution du Programme de terrain est soumis à l'examen de la Conférence. Il faut reconnaître que par rapport au premier document, il y a beaucoup d'améliorations, et ceci est à inscrire à l'actif du secrétariat que ma délégation engage à poursuivre dans cette voie.

Nous estimons que l'évaluation interne du Programme de terrain et du Programme ordinaire doit être un processus continu d'appréciations. Ce n'est que de cette façon que le secrétariat, prenant bonne note des remarques des uns et des autres, compte tenu de leur expérience réciproque sur le terrain, pourra améliorer progressivement le travail de l'Organisation.

Ma délégation a écouté avec beaucoup d'intérêt les commentaires constructifs faits par les autres délégations. Je ne reviendrai pas sur ces commentaires, que ma délégation au demeurant approuve entièrement. Je voudrais simplement à cet égard remercier les pays développés, comme du reste les pays en développement, qui ont offert leur coopération pour un renforcement des échanges d'expériences dans les différents secteurs de l'agriculture entendu au sens large du développement rural.

Je voudrais citer la Corée dans le domaine de la pêche, la France dans le domaine de la recherche, et j'en passe. Je puis assurer ces pays que, pour notre part en tout cas, ces invitations ne tombent pas dans l'oreille d'un sourd.

Monsieur le Président, vous me permettez, avant de présenter un certain nombre de commentaires spécifiques, de faire une remarque d'ordre général.

Je voudrais d'abord parler de l'importance du Programme ordinaire et du Programme de terrain. Comme on le sait, ces deux programmes sont intimement liés entre eux. Le Programme ordinaire fournit une assistance directe, d'une part par le biais du Centre d'investissement qui couvre la Banque mondiale, les Banques régionales et le FIDA, et d'autre part par le biais du Programme de coopération technique. Il assure également un soutien technique et logistique à l'élaboration, à l'exécution, à la surveillance et à l'évaluation des projets de développement agricole dans les pays en développement. Trois milliards de dollars par an, voilà le Programme de terrain engendré par le Programme ordinaire, 2,4 millions d'investissement agricole en 1980 et 287 millions de dollars au titre des projets exécutés pour le compte du PNUD, ce sont là quelques chiffres qui nous confirment dans notre conviction qu'il faut renforcer le Programme ordinaire.

En ce qui concerne les points spécifiques du Programme, je voudrais insister particulièrement sur les Programmes d'action spéciaux. Je citerai en exemple trois programmes importants: le Programme de coopération technique, le Programme d'assistance pour la sécurité alimentaire et le Programme relatif aux zones économiques exclusives.

Tout d'abord, le Programme de coopération technique. Je ne m'étendrai pas sur les mérites reconnus de ce programme qui, depuis sa création, a obtenu un très grand succès par la promptitude et la souplesse de son action dans les pays en développement. Je ne citerai ici de chiffres que pour rappeler qu'il y a quelques jours le Directeur général nous a quittés pour aller signer une quarantaine d'accords dans le cadre du PCT. Voilà qui, à nos yeux, démontre l'efficacité de ce Programme qu'il faut poursuivre et renforcer.

Ensuite, le Programme d'assistance pour la sécurité alimentaire créé en 1975. Jusqu'à ce jour, si les chiffres dont je dispose sont encore valables, 44 pays ont demandé des missions à la FAO pour identifier et préparer des projets, en plus de l'étude de faisabilité du projet de réserves régionales des pays du CILSS (Comité inter-Etat de lutte contre la sécheresse au Sahel). Dans le cadre de ce programme, 57 projets ont été approuvés par le Directeur général pour une valeur d'environ 50 millions de dollars. Vous comprenez donc, Monsieur le Président, l'importance de ce programme pour lequel nous gardons espoir qu'il atteindra, pour la première fois depuis sa création, son niveau initial de 10 millions de dollars, grâce aux donateurs traditionnels tels que les Pays-Bas, la Norvège et la Suisse et grâce également à certains nouveaux donateurs, notamment l'Italie, le Japon, Autriche et la Belgique. Ce programme, à nos yeux, doit être donc maintenu. Mieux, il doit être renforcé.

Au titre de toutes les activités de la FAO sur le terrain, on mesure plus aisément l'importance des représentations de la FAO que nous souhaiterions voir renforcées. Vous l'avez deviné, je parle des bureaux régionaux de la FAO. Ces bureaux font généralement partie des structures de développement des pays et des régions bénéficiaires, et les pays eux-mêmes participent au maintien de ces bureaux tant sur le plan financier que sur le plan matériel. Toute suppression à ce niveau constituerait une grave amputation aux efforts de développement.

On dit très souvent qu'il faut procéder à une évaluation du rapport coût/utilité de ces bureaux. A cet égard, je voudrais rappeler qu'il appartient avant tout aux différents bénéficiaires de juger de l'opportunité et de l'efficacité de ces représentations dont l'impact et les répercussions sur le plan économique et social ne sont guère à notre avis, quantifiables.

Pour notre part, nous encourageons le Directeur général à poursuivre la politique de décentralisation qui a été décidée par la Conférence générale.

Enfin le Programme ZEE. Le programme global FAO d'assistance aux Etats côtiers en développement pour la gestion et la mise en valeur des zones économiques exclusives mérite de recevoir une place prépondérante, tout en ne négligeant pas la haute priorité qui doit être accordée au potentiel des pêches continentales et de l'aquaculture et à la promotion des activités de transformation.

A cet égard, la Conférence mondiale sur la gestion et le développement de la pêche, prévue en 1983, devrait répondre à l'attente des pays en développement.

F. D'ALMEIDA (Benin): Je voudrais, à l'instar des autres délégations adresser mes compliments au secrétariat pour la manière dont le document C 81/8 a été présenté.

Monsieur le Président, je ferai de très brefs commentaires sur un certain nombre de points, notamment en ce qui concerne le chapitre un, l'agriculture entendu de façon générale, et je pense que les problèmes de l'agriculture et des politiques alimentaires devraient pouvoir se lier de très près.

Le problème qui se pose actuellement à un certain nombre de pays les moins avancés comme le nôtre, c'est le problème des stratégies alimentaires. Nous pensons que si nous voulons promouvoir une stratégie alimentaire, il faudrait que les structures concernant l'agriculture, l'alimentation et la nutrition soient suffisamment prises en considération, de façon à ce que l'on puisse, au niveau de nos pays, asseoir une structure convenable. Nous aimerions, par exemple, que la FAO nous aide à étudier ce genre de structure qui puisse permettre une intégration parfaite entre l'agriculture et l'alimentation. Nous pensons que dans ce cadre des divisions comme la pêche et l'élevage devraient être encore plus près des questions alimentaires et nutritionnelles, de façon à ce que cela fasse un tout intégré.

S'agissant de la pêche, nous avons des problèmes d'ordre technique, pour la promotion de la pêche dans notre pays, puisque vous savez que nous avons aussi bien la mer que les lagunes. Or, nous souffrons de manque de protéines et nous pensons qu'il serait bon, sur ce chapitre de la pêche, qu'un accent particulier soit mis pour aider les pays d'Afrique à développer leur pêche, aussi bien maritime que la pêche de lagune ou d'eau douce.

En ce qui concerne l'élevage, nous donnons notre appui à l'intervention du délégué de la Guinée qui demande que l'on nous aide à avoir des aires d'aménagement pour mieux développer notre élevage. Nous pensons qu'au stade de l'évolution des techniques et des progrès accomplis dans les pays qui ont aussi des climats tropicaux et subtropicaux, ces progrès soient appliqués pour produire de la viande et du lait car l'importation du lait dans nos pays pour la nourriture des enfants revient très cher en devises.

Nous apportons notre appui à ce qui a été dit sur le chapitre des forêts, mais nous souhaiterions que l'on nous aide à faire du reboisement car étant très près des pays du Sahel nous en subissons les conséquences et nos problèmes sont aggravés par la fabrication de charbon de bois qui détruit nos forêts.

Je pense aussi qu'une attention particulière doit être apportée à la sécurité alimentaire. Si l'on met en place une stratégie alimentaire, c'est bien aussi pour couvrir cette sécurité alimentaire et il faudrait étudier un système qui permette de la valoriser au niveau national et au niveau d'un groupe de pays.

Dans le cadre du développement rural, et surtout en ce qui concerne les petits exploitants, nous pensons qu'il faudra, au niveau de la FAO, étudier la possibilité d'intervenir en matière de crédit agricole au niveau des petits exploitants qui représentent la grande masse de nos paysans. En règle générale, les différents pays qui ont institué des banques de crédit agricole prêtent à un taux trop élevé pour nos paysans d'autant plus que l'agriculture chez nous n'est pas encore payante.

Je voudrais donner mon appui à l'intervention du délégué du Canada en ce qui concerne la possibilité, dans le cadre de la formation et de l'utilisation des cadres, d'utiliser des consultants et des experts nationaux. Nous pensons de la même façon que lui en ce qui concerne la communication. Pour créer plus d'émulation et pour mieux voir la situation qui prévaut au niveau de chaque région, il serait peut-être bon aussi que dans le cadre de la présentation du Programme ordinaire on puisse voir au niveau géographique comment évolue le développement de différents pays.

Un accent particulier doit être mis sur la formation, en liaison avec la vulgarisation et la recherche agronomique, parce que nous pensons que ces trois éléments vont de pair, et dans la mesure où la formation peut aller de l'avant, on peut arriver à mieux cerner les problèmes de développement au niveau de la base. Il fut un temps où, à la FAO, un accent particulier était mis sur les programmes de vulgarisation. Cela peut être repris et financé par des organisations non gouvernementales ou à travers les fonds de la Campagne mondiale contre la faim. Nous constatons un petit relâchement au niveau de cette Campagne mondiale contre la faim. On en entend très peu parler. Madame Indira Gandhi, dans son intervention, a dit qu'il était dommage que l'on oublie cette partie des activités de la FAO.

Il serait peut-être bon de la réveiller et de reprendre les activités de la Campagne mondiale contre la faim pour permettre le financement d'un certain nombre de petits projets.

En ce qui concerne la représentation de la FAO dans les pays, il faut développer cette représentation.

Quant à la question de proposer un coordinateur au niveau des organismes des Nations Unies, chaque organisme des Nations Unies a sa spécificité, et le représentant du PNUD est le représentant du PNUD, ce n'est pas le représentant des Nations Unies. Je pense donc qu'il ne peut pas à lui seul être le porte-parole de tous les organismes des Nations Unies. Il est donc bon que dans le problème de la coordination des activités des organismes des Nations Unies, le représentant de la FAO demeure pour nous le conseiller agricole du gouvernement.

C'est pourquoi nous pensons que le choix de ces représentants doit être fait avec minutie. Il faudrait que l'on puisse avoir des représentants au sein des pays qui puissent véritablement conseiller nos pays et par conséquent avoir de l'expérience et avoir de l'assurance.

F.D.J. GAZZO (Perú): He revisado cuidadosamente los documentos que estamos discutiendo y felicito a la Secretaría por el magnífico contenido de los mismos. Me permito, sin embargo, al mismo tiempo hacer las siguientes observaciones y sugerencias. Quiero poner especial énfasis en la necesidad de reforzar hasta donde sea posible, el aspecto relacionado con las actividades de comunicación en apoyo al desarrollo.

Es harto sabido que en la mayoría de nuestros países en vías de desarrollo, existe el conocido divorcio entre las actividades de investigación y extensión, o sea la transferencia de tecnologías, que bien se denomina en el idioma anglosajón como el outreach. Hay una gran distancia entre los logros obtenidos por el investigador en el laboratorio y los que obtiene el agricultor en los apliques del campo.

Esto a mi manera de ver puede tener dos causas que hay que atacar, que hay que resolver: primero, la investigación no es hecha en los niveles que necesita el usuario. Es decir, que mientras la investigación está en mucho en nuestro país muy cerca del año 2000, el nivel productivo está a 2000 años antes de Jesucristo y la capacidad del agricultor todavía está a 2000 años de Jesucristo. Existen unos cambios para cubrir ambas realidades. En mi país, por ejemplo, en estos últimos 50 años que venimos realizando investigaciones, los rendimientos experimentales de cultivo de la papa, cultivo oriundo de Perú, oscilan entre 20 000 y 30 000 kg por hectárea: sin embargo, el promedio nacional no alcanza a más de 6 000 kg por hectárea.

La otra causa es que no haya difusión adecuada que sea fácilmente absorbida por los agricultores. En esto juegan un papel muy importante las Comunicaciones en apoyo al desarrollo. Debo mencionar de forma muy especial el éxito que tiene el Programa en Perú mediante el sistema de ayudas audiovisuales con el método de los video-cassettes, que nos ha permitido llegar a los agricultores de zonas muy deprimidas en su propio idioma, el quechua y/o el aymara. Este es un sistema que sirve tanto a los agricultores alfabetos como a los analfabetos, y permite además mostrar al agricultor todo el proceso de producción para su global comprensión. Como he dicho, este sistema que llega en mi país a las regiones más alejadas está compuesto de cassettes que se basan en circuitos cerrados de televisión y que son filmados y producidos dentro del mismo país con las realidades y las ventajas que existen en él. Cada circuito se trata de televisión y cuenta con un monitor que puede explicar al momento cualquier consulta que el usuario está viendo en el video que pueda tener. El sistema ha tenido tanto éxito, que mi Gobierno no obstante, las estrecheces económicas que tiene, ha dado una asignación fuera de presupuesto por encima del convenio de 500 000 dólares para extender su uso.

Tengo entendido que esta mañana el distinguido representante de Dinamarca cuestionó un poco las realidades de este Convenio, de este sistema. Quiero decir que un país de tales desventajas, de esas condiciones, este sistema ha trabajado muy bien, no hay que asustarse con la palabra video-cassette, porque tenemos una gama de más de 150 equipos que están hechos con aparatos muy sencillos y que pesan muy poco y pueden ser transportados inclusive por acémilas desde el nivel del mar hasta los 4 000 metros de altura. En Perú tenemos un cuerpo que se encarga de las reparaciones que hay que hacerles, pero puedo decir que en cinco años este equipo que donó la FAO, el PNUD, sigue trabajando con gran eficiencia. Si la hermana República de Dinamarca requiere de algún apoyo para obviar esos inconvenientes que crea pueda tener el sistema, Perú gustoso podría darlo. Perú además se ha ofrecido ya en base a esto como su centro de la comunicación audiovisual y en el nuevo Centro de Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural, que va a funcionar en la hermana República del Ecuador.

Otro problema que nosotros consideramos urgente resolver es el del crédito que debe ser oportuno y suficiente. A este respecto, pienso que debería establecerse extensamente el crédito supervisado, el cual debería ser administrado por las respectivas agencias de extensión y no por la banca. Estas agendas actuarían como verdaderos fideicomisarios, como profundos conocedores en agricultura saben que no pueden llegar unas partidas un mes después de haberse realizado la operación por alargarse el proceso.

Otro aspecto a enfocar es el de la comercialización rural, pues a menudo por las técnicas que aplicamos, se produce un incremento de producción en algunas de nuestras zonas rurales más alejadas y se encuentra con la ingrata realidad el agricultor de una falta de mercado para el incremento de su cosecha. Creo también que debería hacerse un esfuerzo para incrementar el uso de alimentos nativos y para lograr la transformación de algunos productos agrícolas perecederos en no perecederos a través de la agroindustria.

Es común, por ejemplo, que en mi país en los años agrícolas buenos, haya fuertes excedentes de papas. En estas circunstancias, las papas se deben vender muy por debajo de su costo o bien se malogran. Actualmente, para contrarrestar esto, en mi país se está elaborando la papa-seca, que era un antiguo alimento incaico.

Igualmente hay que conseguir el consumo directo de los alimentos, de ser posible sin intermediaciones. Me explico: el Perú fue el primer productor de harina de pesca (fish-meal), la cual era exportada para alimento de animales. Nosotros importábamos luego ese producto elaborado de estos animales alimentados con esta harina. Es decir, la carne, leche, huevos y a precios muy altos. Ahora hemos encontrado que es más fácil y económico que el habitante consuma directamente el pescado y sus proteínas, sin la intervención animal costosa. Desde luego, que esto tiene ciertas limitaciones en relación a la calidad de aminoácidos que conocemos.

Anteriormente era usual la crianza de ciertas especies animales a base de subproductos agrícolas. Hoy se los alimenta con productos que el hombre podría consumir directamente y evitar esa intermediación.

Nos interesa también señalar que, a través de la FAO, se deben estudiar más a fondo todos los componentes del ciclo de la comercialización rural, o sea poscosecha, almacenaje, conservación, clasificación, embalaje, venta a los mercados urbanos y a los usuarios directamente.

Concretamente solicito a la FAO dedique más esfuerzos y fondos a los aspectos mencionados en los Capítulos Diez (Mercadeo) y Doce (Comunicación en apoyo al desarrollo), a fin de llegar a soluciones efectivas de los problemas inherentes a estos aspectos.

Finalmente, sugiero, y esto un poco fuera del tema, que en los informes que se elevan sobre previsión de precios en los costos del transporte marítimo para varios cultivos, se mencionen los altos costos de los fletes de los puertos claves a los principales puertos de los países en desarrollo, ya que esto nos permite hacer proyecciones para ver en qué época es más conveniente importar o exportar.

A. AZEEZ (Maldives): The Maldives delegation considers the Review of the Regular Programme 1980-81 constitutes a further advance in the internal evaluation system of the Organization.

We appreciate the attempt to review the achievements of individual programmes within the overall objectives of the Major Programmes. And we like the section on the progress of the Special Action Programmes.

Part two - the indepth assessment of selected subjects - is also useful. We support the selective approach, since to attempt to cover too many programmes could only weaken the analytical content and quality of the document.

In both parts, the short sections on "Issues and Outlook" are of special importance. These sections raise some interesting points which provide the basis for discussion by this Commission.

My delegation therefore considers the format and content of the document thoughtful and constructive. The Performance Report can of course still be improved, for example, by comparison of key areas of achievements with the previous two years.

Some delegations have been advocating greater involvement of outside institutions, including the Joint Inspection Unit, and independent consultants in the evaluation of FAO activities.

Let me first say that, in the evaluation of FAO field projects, the donor agencies and Member Governments do take an active part. I believe also that nearly all project evaluation missions allow for at least one outside consultant.

With respect to the Regular Programme activities of FAO, we know very well that the Joint Inspection Unit has been extremely active. But the Council has remarked more than once that the findings and recommendations of evaluation studies prepared by the Joint Inspection Unit tend to be general and academic and do not reveal anything novel. So the operational utility of many of the Joint Inspection Unit's recommendations is often limited.

We do not believe that evaluation by external agents is invariably good, and evaluation by internal agents is invariably bad. External evaluation can also be subjective.

In our view, the quality of evaluation rests primarily with the availability of dependable information, the proficiency of the evaluator, and the methodology applied.

In fact, built-in self-evaluation is not only more cost-effective, but as the Joint Inspection Unit itself has pointed out in its Second Report, on Evaluation in the United Nations System, I quote - "its findings, developed by the managers responsible, are more likely to be accepted and acted on than those imposed by a policing process from outside, or by outsiders whose findings could be dismissed out of hand as the judgement of people unfamiliar with the actual conditions of the activity".

Finally, I would like to express the views of my delegation on one additional point. If evaluation is used only in a negative sense, to justify budget cuts and eliminating activities, this is neither the purpose nor the spirit of evaluation. Arguments for and against programme increases and cuts need to be discussed in the context of the Programme of Work and Budget and not within the framework of the debate on the Review of the Regular Programme.

M.M. MUKOLWE (Kenya): Many points have been covered by previous speakers. My comments will, therefore, be confined to Chapter 2 - Major Programmes.

My delegation is of the view that the attention given to the natural resources programme in 1979-81 should be continued, namely: smallholder irrigation management, balanced production under rain-fed conditions, protection of the environment and low cost energy generation and utilization through farmers' participation.

The crop production programme emphasizes food production. We also would like to see the activities in this programme strengthened. Our particular emphasis here is the stepping up of a programme for rain-fed rice production. Also traditional drought resistant crops need to be given special attention especially for arid and semi-arid areas. Tubers and root crops deserve priority. We wish also to emphasize the development of small farm mechanization and spare part sources for agricultural machinery together with the setting up of workshop facilities for repair and maintenance and training the farmers, hence transfer of technology.

Livestock disease control and feed development receive our emphasis. The development of sheep and goats production should receive more attention. We are happy with the integrated crop/livestock/fish production at the smallholder level and more effort should be directed in this area.

Research activity should focus attention on the real needs and priorities of developing countries.

We support the activities under the rural development programme including the evaluation of progress in agrarian reform and rural development and in conducting studies in rural poverty in line with the WCARRD.

My country has benefitted from FAO nutritional activities and these should be further strengthened.

Also under the major programme 2.1, we support all the 12 Special Action Programmes. We wish to put emphasis on the fertilizer programme and the International Fertilizer Supply Scheme, Food Security Assistance Scheme, Food Loss Prevention, Control of African Animal Trypanosomiasis and Seed Improvement and Development Programme. Special action programmes attend to our immediate needs and priorities and this is why we have said they should be increased.

My next programme to consider is the Fisheries Programme, 2.2. We would like to thank FAO for the assistance we have received in the development of our fishery resources. We wish to emphasize aquaculture, post harvest loss reduction, and the development of suitable fish equipment for small-scale fishing. The development of inland fisheries for rural communities also requires emphasis.

Finally, Forestry, major programme 2.3. Here our emphasis is on forestry for rural development. Community level fuel wood projects as well as farm woodlots deserve emphasis and here well planned agro-forestry would do for us. In cooperation with the Government, the International Council for Research in Agro-forestry (ICRAF) has established a Research Station near Nairobi and research programmes are now being laid down.

A. BOUZOUBAA (Maroc): Le rapport C 81/8, relatif au programme ordinaire, nous semble assez complet, je voudrais en féliciter le secrétariat. Ce rapport relate les différents programmes visant l'amélioration de la production à différents niveaux.

Ce programme s'insère d'une manière assez parfaite au programme qui vise les améliorations de la production et, ce faisant, le développement rural.

Il n'en demeure pas moins que le développement rural nécessite une action intégrée comprenant toutes les composantes pouvant accélérer ce développement.

Nous pensons qu'une action sur les structures de stockage et d'entreposage est de nature à faciliter l'approvisionnement des exploitants. Surtout que nous appuyons cette demande par les actions de démonstrations menées dans le cadre du programme FAO, à propos notamment des engrais, soit par des actions de vulgarisation menées de manière propre à chaque pays.

Nous pensons que cette infrastructure encouragera la production, et là, je citerai l'exemple des semences de pommes de terre qui nécessitent une hibernation avant leur utilisation. Certains secteurs ont une capacité de production très importante, mais l'infrastructure d'autres programmes limite cette production.

Nous pensons aussi que cette infrastructure permettra de régulariser le marché, et surtout le marché interne quand il s'agit de produits périssables. Nous demandons donc qu'il y ait une action spécifique sur ces structures d'entreposage et de stockage.

En matière d'évaluation, ma délégation est convaincue qu'il faut se limiter à une évaluation interne, parce que toute évaluation faite par des organismes externes nécessite un fonds très important, vers des programmes qui peuvent être orientés vers des activités de terrain, vers des programmes spécifiques.

En matière de formation, l'accent doit être mis sur la formation d'informateurs corame de nombreux délégués l'ont souligné.

H.K. CHHETRI (Bhutan): Like many other speakers my delegation also wishes to commend the valuable Review document, C 81/8 presented to us by the Director-General and we congratulate the Evaluation Service for this excellent job.

The tables and graphs presented in this document are useful. We feel that they constitute a valuable sector of the Review and they are a useful tool for reporting progress. However, there is a limit to what one can quantify and in most cases it may not be the really important information. How relevant is the technical assistance provided and how well does it meet the needs and priorities of the member countries? These are the kinds of questions one needs to ask, and to answer them there is no substitute for the considered and informed judgment.

The only kind of indicators that can be established to help the evaluators are qualitative and must be determined in the light of FAO's and the individual governments' overall priorities.

In future issues of the Review we would like more of the thought-provoking analysis such as presented in the in-depth chapters in part II, particularly in the sections on Outlook and Issues.

We feel that the Secretariat could be helped to make the document even better, of course not by imposing stringent rules regarding quantitative measurements of output, effects and impacts nor by spending more money on external evaluators, but by providing the Secretariat with policy guidance, remembering that quality is more important.

P. OLMOS MORALES (Uruguay): Aun bajo el riesgo de ser reiterativos deseamos expresar nuestra congratulación a la Secretaría en cuanto a la presentación de este documento que constituye el eje central como Programa Ordinario de nuestra Organización. En ese aspecto se han logrado avances destacables en cuanto a la presentación de este tema en anteriores Conferencias, y esto debe ser señalado.

Compartimos algunos de los aspectos señalados en la Introducción del Sr. Director General en cuanto a la conveniencia de la evaluación de la calidad del trabajo y de la evaluación del Programa Ordinario de la FAO.

Respecto del contenido en sí de los catorce capítulos que componen este documento C 81/8, deseamos efectuar algunos comentarios, particularmente referidos al Capítulo dos, en lo que tiene relación con los Programas Especiales de Acción. En ello vemos la mayor trascendencia del dinamismo de la acción de FAO, particularmente en todo lo que tiene que ver con la atención de algunos de los programas, como el de conservación y preservación de cosechas, los programas en cuanto a recursos naturales que, efectivamente, a nivel nacional y regional, han significado un aporte dinámico y constante renovación por parte de la Organización.

Con respecto al Capítulo cinco, referente a cooperación para el desarrollo, que ha sido una de las áreas en las cuales más se ha avanzado en los últimos años, reiteramos nuestro apoyo y nuestra firme conciencia de seguir desarrollándolo en lo referente al Programa de Cooperación Técnica, particularmente en lo que se refiere a cooperación técnica entre países en desarrollo. Ello ha constituido un avance muy importante dentro de las distintas regiones y, además, ha permitido evolucionar dentro de las posibilidades de asistencia técnica que pueda brindarse entre los países o de la Organización hacia los países o las regiones. En ese aspecto también merece destacarse y tener en consideración las actividades del Programa de Acción, pro Desarrollo de la Campaña Mundial contra el Hambre, en cuanto a todo lo que ha significado el apoyo y el desarrollo de pequeños proyectos de desarrollo rural y que han significado la participación efectiva de la Comunidad en los programas de desarrollo en diversas áreas del mundo.

Dentro también de este Capítulo cinco, reiteramos nuestra especial consideración al Programa de Representantes Nacionales, que ha significado también un aporte más significativo en cuanto a la función de enlace y conexión entre los distintos países y la Organización.

Por último nos interesa destacar los lineamientos y la trascendencia que surjan de la evaluación del Programa, en lo que respecta al mercadeo de productos agrícolas, tanto en alimentos como en materias primas. En ese sentido es conocido el problema de los países en desarrollo en cuanto a las circunstancias en las cuales se desarrolla el proceso de comercialización y mercadeo. Consideramos que dentro de esta área, la participación y el desarrollo de programas específicos dentro del Programa Ordinario, va a significar efectivamente un aporte y una superación en las condiciones de los países en desarrollo. También nos gustaría en ese aspecto, que dentro de lo que pueda ser tanto a nivel de los programas especiales o de los programas de cooperación técnica, pudiera analizarse dentro del enfoque de las situaciones de mercadeo y comercialización de algún producto básico que inciden en la comercialización interna e, incluso, en la externa de las cuales, una y otra, son interdependientes, a los efectos justamente de procurar mejores condiciones de comercialización en los mercados externos.

En síntesis, señor Presidente, reiteramos nuestra felicitación a la Secretaría por el documento presentado y consideramos que, como todas las cosas, supone una etapa en el progreso y el perfeccionamiento que puede realizarse dentro de esta área de evaluación.

J. KAHANGIRWE (Uganda): The Uganda delegation would also like to commend the Secretariat for an informative and balanced Review of the Regular Programme contained in C 81/8. There is no doubt that this Review is an improvement on the 1971 Review and we support its continued improvement.

There is one important area my delegation would like to see more clearly brought out in future reviews, and this is the area of the effects of the activities of national governments on FAO programmes. As Zambia pointed out, some government action, or even lack of actions, have some serious impact on FAO programmes. We would like to see a clear analysis of such national impediments to FAO programmes so that we, the national governments, can take remedial measures.

A related matter concerns the regional programmes which cut across borders. It is possible that the action or lack of action of one government in a regional programme impedes the success of the programme. This should all be reflected in the Reviews so that appropriate measures can be taken. Otherwise, the Uganda delegation accepts the 1980/81 Review of the Regular Programme as a useful and informative exercise.

Ms. S.M. MAIER (Netherlands): The Review of FAO's Regular Programme is an impressive piece of work which reflects FAO's activities over the past two years very clearly. We would like to commend the Secretariat for this. It does show that the programmes are increasingly being put within the broader context of rural development as a whole. The Chapter on Forestry deserves special mention in this connexion. We can only welcome this development, as it will render FAO's activities more effective in the longer term.

May I now turn to a short-term problem which is not too explicitly highlighted in the Review before us. There are day-to-day constraints food producers and consumers are being confronted with. Most of the Programmes described in the Review of course have long-or medium-term objectives, while as it is stated, they try to focus with insufficient effect on immediate means as well. The nature of the programmes is such that, according to our feeling, they are inadequately designed to respond to these day-to-day needs of the food situation. In this case I am specifically thinking of the recurrent crop shortfalls in certain areas. We are all convinced that relief in such circumstances should preferably be realized through securing next year's food production instead of again having to take recourse to food aid.

Having read the Review, the TCP would in our opinion provide a good mechanism to tackle these pressing restraints. The Review states that TCP features are to fill gaps, to provide bridging support and generally to play a catalytic role in relation to other forms of assistance. Of course, TCP with its limited resources is not in a position to supply substantial financial support to the producers' problems, but TCP could be of great assistance both to the recipient countries and the potential donors by anticipating upon the restraints and identifying the assistance, the total assistance, required. FAO has the cultural know-how at Headquarters as well as on the spot to identify these. Furthermore, it has the authority in and the confidence of the recipient governments to realize such identification. We have the feeling that in many cases assistance from the Technical Cooperation Programme together with an appropriate response from the donor side might remove the need for countries to ask for emergency food assistance.

In concluding, my delegation hopes that the next Review will reflect the absolute priority for food production within a context of rural development. This implies that some of the present fields of activity will become somewhat less prominent and we hope that the TCP will be able to provide the above-mentioned welcome short-term complement to FAO programmes aimed at food production improvement, which are necessarily more directed at food production improvement and the medium and longer term.

A.G. NGONGI NAMANGA (Cameroon): We join the other delegations which have spoken on this item in commending the Secretariat for providing us with a well-written and informative document. In a Review such as this, it is difficult to go into great length on any particular programme and sub-programmes. We also share the opinion already voiced by many delegations that this document would be much more useful to Member governments if some selected areas of the Regular Programme were to be reviewed in depth. Perhaps the Programme Committee could in future indicate areas to be reviewed for any given biennium.

As for the Review before us, we are happy to note the progress made in certain areas and the frankness with which the Secretariat has presented problems encountered in the execution of the Regular Programme.



We are particularly happy to see the strong emphasis on training in virtually all the programmes. Comments made by some delegates on the need to train trainers so as to increase the capacity of recipient countries to carry out their development programmes met with our agreement.

On the special action programmes, we strongly support the work of FAO on African animal trypanosomiasis. We note with regret that this programme has not received the level of financial resources it deserved from extrabudgetary sources.

Another special action programme calling for comment is the follow-up action to the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. We appreciate the support given to this programme by Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Netherlands and China. We hope many more donors will do the same.

We mentioned the programme on the Prevention of Food Losses in our general remarks on the Budget. This is an immensely useful programme and deserves all the support Member States can give to it.

We support the work going on in forestry programmes, especially the special-action programmes on forestry for local community development. Programmes on forestry source management for soil conservation and work on patterns of land use as they relate to shifts in conservation, especially in Africa, receive our support. My delegation wishes to commend the Director-General on the efficient manner in which the Technical Cooperation Programme has functioned. We wish to see this programme strengthened in the future and we join those delegates who advocate a stronger role for the FAORs in TCP.

Let me make some final comments on the FAO Representative Offices. The important roles FOARs have played in recent years cannot be over-emphasized. Many delegations have called for some form of evaluation of the FAORs and specifically the Regional Offices. We would also wish to see such an evaluation some day, but at this moment, when the offices are still being established, such an evaluation seems a little premature. Maybe we can have a preliminary review in 1983, but it is probably in 1987 that a meaningful evaluation can be presented to this Commission. At that time the structure of the FAORs would have been in place for some time and it would have had the opportunity to have handled a significant amount of workload on which an evaluation can be based.

NGA-MA MAPELA (Zaïre). Ma délégation s'associe aux autres délégations pour féliciter le secrétariat pour la qualité du document que nous examinons.

Nous voudrions souligner l'importance qu'il convient d'accorder à tous les programmes d'action de la FAO. Que ce soit pour le Programme international d'approvisionnement en engrais, le Programme d'assistance à la sécurité alimentaire, le Programme des pertes alimentaires, le Programme d'amélioration et de développement des semences, le Programme international du secteur des viandes, le Programme du développement laitier, le Programme contre la trypanosomiase animale africaine et tous les autres programmes d'action spéciaux, nous appuyons l'idée qui a été avancée par de nombreuses délégations, à savoir que des ressources financières abondantes devraient être consacrées pour le renforcement de ces programmes.

En ce qui concerne la lutte contre la trypanosomiase animale africaine, ma délégation tient à rappeler ici ce que nous avons déclaré lors de la première session de la Commission de la FAO pour la lutte contre la trypanosomiase animale africaine, à savoir que l'on devrait intervenir simultanément au niveau de tous les pays africains concernés pour exécuter le Programme d'action prévu pour mener cette lutte.

Pour ce qui est du Programme de la FAO de coopération technique, ainsi que l'ont dit d'autres délégations, nous estimons que toute évaluation de ce programme ou de tout autre programme de la FAO, dans un pays en développement, doit nécessairement tenir compte de l'opinion du gouvernement du pays bénéficiaire des activités de ce programme.

Ainsi, par exemple, pour avoir bénéficié d'une aide de la FAO dans le cadre du PCT, mon pays a constaté que le PCT est très efficace et doit être renforcé. C'est pourquoi ma délégation appuie le fait que les représentants de la FAO dans les pays peuvent approuver des projets pouvant être financés dans le cadre du PCT.

Ce que nous disons sur l'évaluation du PCT vaut aussi pour l'évaluation de tout autre programme de la FAO, que ce soit pour les bureaux de la FAO dans les pays ou des bureaux régionaux.

Comme vous le savez, et comme l'ont dit d'ailleurs d'autres délégations, une évaluation menée de l'extérieur entraîne la dépense d'énormes sommes d'argent que l'on pourrait consacrer utilement aux besoins du Programme ou projets à évaluer.

Pour éviter qu'à l'avenir on ne mette plus en doute cette nécessité d'utiliser l'évaluation interne au lieu de l'évaluation externe, ma délégation demande que le secrétariat prenne soin de souligner, dans le rapport de nos travaux, que la Conférence préfère l'évaluation interne à l'évaluation externe en ce qui concerne les activités entreprises dans les pays dans le cadre de la FAO.

Pour terminer, ma délégation fait siennes les déclarations faites par de nombreuses délégations qui ont soutenu et appuyé les activités de la FAO concernant les pêches et les forêts.

Nous appuyons également ce qui a été dit sur la nécessité d'éduquer des formateurs en matière d'alimentation et d'agriculture.

MAI LUONG (Viet-Nam): Je serai très bref en ne répétant pas les félicitations au secrétariat qui a préparé, pour notre Commission l'excellent et utile document de travail C 81/8.

Je voudrais seulement commenter un point du document sur l'activité de la FAO à propos du Programme de coopération technique, que nous avons beaucoup apprécié, tant en ce qui concerne l'objectif que l'exécution efficace au profit des pays bénéficiaires.

Le paragraphe 2 du chapitre cinq du document montre que le nombre de projets approuvés du PCT augmente d'année en année, depuis sa création, et que de nombreux pays, les plus gravement touchés et les moins avancés de l'Afrique et de l'Asie, ont pu bénéficier de cette coopération technique.

Le paragraphe 16 de ce document indique aussi les appréciations des gouvernements pour la rapidité d'exécution des projets du PCT et cite de nombreux exemples d'exécution parmi les pays bénéficiaires. Je voudrais joindre à cette liste d'exemples le résultat d'un projet sur le contrôle des semences accordé à notre pays parmi plusieurs autres. Ce projet a obtenu des résultats efficaces et très rapides contribuant à nous aider utilement dans la production et l'amélioration de semences si nécessaires pour nos cultures. Les résultats positifs de ce projet et le bénéfice que nos paysans ont pu en obtenir jusqu'à présent font que ce modeste projet du PCT devient maintenant un projet de production et de contrôle des semences assez important, avec l'aide du fonds du PNUD pour la troisième période 1981-85.

Pour terminer, je formule le souhait que le budget 1982-83 réserve une part plus importante encore aux fonds approuvés pour ce secteur d'activités si efficace de la FAO. Le PCT doit être renforcé et nous rejoignons l'opinion des délégués du Cameroun et du Zaïre qui viennent de parler à ce sujet.

En second lieu, je souhaite que les modalités sur l'approbation des projets du PCT se fassent encore plus rapidement pour répondre à l'objectif du PCT qui est inscrit au paragraphe 5.1: "Pour répondre sans délai à des demandes d'urgence de petits projets de brève durée émanant des Etats Membres".

Enfin, je formule le souhait que les informations sur les résultats concrets des projets du PCT, qui ont obtenu du succès dans les pays membres, soient régulièrement présentés dans la presse et les diverses revues éditées par la FAO dans le but d'une diffusion rapide des expériences parmi les Etats Membres.

M.A. MANSOOR (Yemen, People's Dem. Rep. of) (original language: Arabic): When looking at the Regular Programme 1980-81, we notice that it is a major contribution to FAO's activities. Of course, I will not repeat what has been already said about the high quality and the excellent tables which the Report includes, I will merely speak about fisheries.

A great number of developing countries are extending their exclusive Economic Zones to 200 nautical miles, and therefore these countries should be helped in their research activities in the fishing sector.

Obviously we need a great deal of money to carry out this programme. This is something that has been said on Page 62 of the Arabic text in Items 3.11, 3.12, 3.13 and 3.31. We would like to propose that the Organization gives the necessary advice, either directly or via magazines published in our countries to enable the developing countries to improve their performance in the field of fisheries.

It would also be necessary to improve technical monitoring in that field. They should improve fishing methods and environmental control. Obviously if we do not accord due attention to all this, our fish resources will drop and many shoals of fish may go to other areas. This will have a very harmful effect on our fish supplies.

Once again, I would like to thank you, Mr. Chairman, and the Secretariat for the excellent work that has been done.

E.M. WEST (Assistant Director-General, Office of Programme, Budget and Evaluation): It has been a very full debate with many substantive comments, but since we are all short of time I will confine myself to main groups of important points.

First of all, to deal with the format, we are very grateful for the suggestions which have been made, and I would say at once that we were very sympathetic before to the views of the Programme Committee on this, and in substance you have endorsed most of them. One thing I am convinced we could do in the next version is to cut out practically all that was said on objectives; unless there is some basic change in the objectives, we can take it for granted that the basic objectives have not changed. We can save a lot of space on that.

We can also make other adaptations to Part One in order to be more informative on those parts of the programme in which you have expressed particular interest.

We will consider the idea which was one of those put forward in a very fertile speech from the delegate of India, that is to see if we can produce some sort of overall table. I think it might be difficult to get it all into one table, because in the many tables in the programmes there are masses of detail on consultancies, and so forth. But we will look it over and see what we can do.

I do not think we can make any progress on the idea of making lists of various things, as suggested by the delegate of New Zealand. That would require a book in itself, and it would really tell you nothing. You could argue from here until next year on the details on that list without making any kind of valuable deduction for us or for yourselves about the effectiveness of a sub-programme or a major programme or the budget level. It would not be feasible or profitable.

There was another suggestion on format, about country-by-country data, which I will come back to in a moment.

There were suggestions about the machinery of evaluation. For a moment I was a little puzzled when it was suggested we needed a new Committee of this Commission. That has been basically answered by Yugoslavia and others, but this gives me the opportunity to remind myself as well as others who may not be so familiar with the process as I am, that evaluation is not something that is done every two years and suddenly results in this fat book. It is a continuing process that goes on not only in the Programme Committee but also in the Committees of Agriculture, Fishery and Forestry. There are documents produced for these Committees which they consider as the basis for their discussions of the programme material. This eventually results in recommendations which we take into account when formulating the budget. So, when you get to this large Commission and the crowded timetable, I do not think any other pieces of machinery could substitute for those I have mentioned or could result in any kind of consensus which could be used immediately here.

As regards methodology, there were some interesting points which I and my colleagues have taken due note of. I have already mentioned what we intend to do about Parts One and Two. There was a good deal of discussion about internal evaluation and so forth. A large number of delegations have pointed out the perils and the impracticalities of independent evaluation, if seen as a substitute for this process.

First, let me state it is not entirely a case of auto-evaluation, because in Part Two of the document we have the evaluation of the Evaluation Service which is quite separate from, and works independently from either the Technical Divisions, or myself on the Programme and Budget side. So we have auto-evaluation which is done by the people in the various divisions themselves; we have the Evaluation Service; we have the Programme Committee and the Council Committees; we have joint studies, together with UNDP so far, but we are thinking of the possibility of organizing similar joint studies with other specialized agencies with whom we have common interests and programmes. This might be interesting. If we can find another specialized agency working in the same or parallel field to ourselves who have the resources, we would very much like to do a joint evaluation with them which constitutes further out-side-look, as it were. We also have the JIU, which in many of its reports refers to what FAO is doing, but as has been indicated, not usually in a manner which is immediately useful. They do however follow our work fairly closely in a number of ways. Finally the possibility of some independent evaluation, when required, when necessary, when feasible, is also not excluded. We have had one independent evaluation of the TCP and in future we would quite possibly have a similar type on another subject, but it should be the exception rather than the rule, because otherwise we shall simply pay very large sums of money to external people with very doubtful results.

As the JIU themselves have said, internal evaluation is a much more productive process, generally speaking, as has been mentioned by a number of delegations with reference to FAO Representatives, certain things can only be judged by the countries themselves.

One interesting suggestion was made, which we will certainly look at with regard to the next report i.e. instead of examining a whole programme we should start from the other end, take a component of a programme, and examine the impact of that. I think that is a very interesting suggestion because it is only when you take one of the thousands of individual components in the programme that you can get a real measure of impact. So without trying to choose one that is too favourable or too unfavourable to us, we will certainly try and look at that in the next review. I am afraid however, that it will only lead to a demand for more details, and for doing this at a higher and higher level, but let us try it out, if we can.

In this connexion, I might say that since we are always looking for improvement, the Director-General has recently approved the extension of work planning to other departments- of FAO. So far, it has been applied only to the main technical divisions, but now the honour and the pleasure will also fall on other departments - not entirely to their enthusiastic response, but still, we will try to do it next time. This will aid the process of evaluation throughout the House.

I am afraid it will not lead to quantification. Here I feel that the distinguished delegation of Canada is preaching in the wilderness. I am sorry it is a wilderness, but there it is. I am afraid that extensive quantification just is not practicable, nor is the project approach suggested by New Zealand. We are not a sausage factory, nor is the Review of the Regular Programme the same as the Review of the Field Programmes. It is not split up into a series of finite packages of projects. As someone remarked critically on the Regular Programme of Work and Budget, much of our work is global; much of it is built up from series of individual programme elements that I have just been mentioning. While we do have a meeting or publication which is planned in the biennium and finishes in the biennium, we do not have neat packages concerning food production or rural development in which you can say the quantities are such, that the results are such, that it was begun on such and such a date and finished on such and such a date. If we were doing that, we would have to give up the process of rural development altogether.

So I am afraid I cannot promise, even with the best will in the world, much progress in the direction of quantification as applied to the technical programmes.

Turning now to the substance, we have had many comments of which note has been taken carefully by the Secretariat, I think this is the first time we have had a real substantive debate on the subject of evaluation. Some of the discussion was of course programmatic rather than evaluative, but this in itself is good because it comes in useful for the next formulation of the next Programme of Work and Budget. We will see that all those concerned receive a note of what has been said and they will be sure to take this into account in future.

There are too many points to comment upon in the main programmes - Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries. Mostly they were supportive. One, in the area of Economic and Social work, I thought at first was far from supportive. In fact, I saw our Global Early Warning System disappearing out of the window altogether. I thought this was strange because it was recommended by the World Food Conference; it was unanimously supported by this Conference; it has been expanded and improved in response to requests from all sides on this Conference. All have regarded it as a valuable programme. So I thought I must be wrong in the impression I got. Indeed, as I understood it finally, the suggestion was rather that we should go on extending it downwards, until we got to the district level and we were, collecting data at the district and area level ourselves. It is an attractive idea - one might say an ideal - but unfortunately we hardly have the resources for that. We would need careful coordination with the World Meteorological Organization if we were to get into the business of rain gauges.

A good deal of mention was made of training, and here perhaps we were at fault in not drawing attention sufficiently to the fact that training was considered intensively as a subject in itself a year ago at the Council, where the Council had before it a joint evaluation by the FAO and UNDP on agricultural training activities in the field and also information derived from our own internal survey of training activities. So we assumed that people would remember this. But, of course, none of us remembers things as long as a year later. We ought to have reminded ourselves as well as you of the information in those Council documents. On the other hand, I would not be able to agree that all our training is of no use and that all the seminars and publications we issue are nothing to do with training at the grass-roots level. On the contrary, I think we have demonstrated that they have become progressively directed towards the teaching of teachers down to the grass-roots level, including publications, which are in fact training materials, in vernacular languages.

Some very useful comments were made in the broad area of rural development support. I noted the unusual situation of a developing country offering technical cooperation with a developed country, in the area of using video cassettes. I hope to see that take place; and if we can use even the TCP for that purpose, we would be happy if Denmark would accept it.

Incidentally, on the subject of the TCP, I was very interested indeed to note the comments of the distinguished delegation of the Netherlands. That takes me to the general question of the criteria for the TCP. We were asked about the use of the TCP for programming missions and also in the Miscellaneous category. Programming missions are perhaps best dealt with under your next item, but I can say there is little or no provision under the Regular Programme for programming missions on the scale that we were expected to carry out in the last two or three years, in order to try to increase the share of agriculture, particularly under UNDP. One of the most useful ways in which we use the TCP is in fact to promote increased investment and technical assistance from the UNDP and other sources of finance through programming missions. Even so, only a very modest amount is being used for this. Those programming missions, incidentally, were organized by the Division that we have precisely for the purpose of introducing a country, sub-regional and regional approach into the broad technical disciplines.

We indeed have it in the Field Programme and Liaison Division headed by Mr. Beringer who is sitting right behind me.

As regards Miscellaneous, why has this apparently gone up, or why are there so many miscellaneous projects? Well, Miscellaneous is a bad word. It seems to suggest sundries, bits and pieces. But it is not that: it is a convenient name for projects which do not fall conveniently under the other main categories. They could perhaps be put under the other categories if we were inventive enough or imaginative enough.

But I can assure you that there is nothing very exciting about the fact that the miscellaneous category is the size it has been. Let me take for example a couple of critical miscellaneous projects: urgent measures against army worm, one month's duration, \$10,000; advisory services in water law, three months duration, \$15,000; formulation of hydro-agricultural projects, duration one month, cost \$2,000. These are hardly the stuff out of which great political forces can be levered; they are hardly the stuff out of which great embarrassment can be caused to the UNDP or anybody else. They are not the kind of things which call for armies of coordinators.

It was suggested that country-by-country data should be given, particularly on TCP. Well, as you see it is not going to excite anybody who would like to find out what is happening in a particular country or in a particular area. Certainly it is not going to enable you to take policy decisions about the future of the TCP. But I am afraid that to put country data of such a type into a document like the Review of the Regular Programme would not only be unfeasible in practice but would risk opening up a situation which would turn this Commission into an auction room; and surely that is the opposite of what is intended.

As regards FAO Representatives, we have listened attentively to what has been said and on this I would simply comment that while we appreciate the desire on the part of some to have further details, we do not fully understand the suggestion that was made by some that there needed to be an evaluation of their role and functions.

Their role and functions were decided not so long ago by the Conference; they have not changed, and indeed, the concerns that were previously expressed about their institution are not as pressing now as they were perhaps then.

I should like to dispel any idea that the FAO Representatives are concerned only with field programmes; of course not. They are concerned with the total policies and programmes of FAO under all funds. However, when delegates say that they would like more information, we would certainly update the information included in this document and make it more useful to the discussion of the substance of our work. Incidentally, my colleague promised you on Friday that a list would be circulated of the places in which FAO representation had been established, including those with double accreditation. This document, INF 23 is in process and will be available as soon as translated and printed. The average life of FAOR's so far has been about 18 months. This is hardly a moment to pull up the tree to see if the roots are growing. In any case, as many delegations have said today, the real test is whether they are useful or not, whether countries want them or not. And they certainly want them, as has been quite clear. Finally, it has been made quite clear in the budget that the Director-General is not considering expanding the number after the additions proposed for 1982-1983. These will complete this phase of establishment of the FAOR's.

So I do not think that this question is something which should be allowed to distort the whole purpose and nature of this Review document. We will, however, as I have said, update and improve the information on all subjects, as and when we can.

There was the question of the Regional Offices. Reference was made to the Programme Committee report. On the part of a number of delegations, there was a feeling that more information could be given about the impact of the regional offices or regional activities. We have taken note of this and we will certainly try to improve our presentation on those lines.

I must say that while from the programme point of view, we will find it interesting, from the budget point of view, I am rather scared, because I am sure that, particularly in relation to developments in the work of the regional commissions under pressures from the Joint Inspection Unit and the General Assembly, the conclusion will be that the FAO Regional Offices should be much larger and I do not see how I am going to be able to accommodate a great expansion on Regional Offices in the next Programme of Work and Budget. So you have been warned! If you really want this expanded review, be prepared for the consequences.

I see that I missed out one point on the FAOR's. One delegation drew attention to the passage in 5.87 in which it was said that in "most countries", cooperation with UNDP has been good and without any serious problems. The delegation said I think that they hoped it would be good in all cases. Well, to use a crude phrase, it takes two to tango, but I can assure him that on FAO's side, we are very prepared to believe that the UNDP Resident Representative is a man of supreme intelligence, extraordinary capacity and great friendliness. This is illustrated by the following story. One day a UNDP Res. Rep., an FAO Country Rep., and a WHO Rep. happened to be returning by ship to the country to which they had been posted. They had been on home leave. The ship unfortunately foundered, it was wrecked. They survived and found themselves on a desert island. They established themselves on the desert island; the FAO man found the food; the WHO man took care of their health; the Res. Rep. coordinated the two of them. This went on for some years and whilst they were healthy and well, they were getting rather bored and wondering what their future would be. However, one day a bottle was washed up. They opened the bottle and out popped a genie. The genie said "I have three wishes at my disposal, one for each of you". He said to the FAO man "What would you like to do?" The FAO man said "I would love to be in the Piazza Navona eating an ice-cream". He disappeared. The genie said to the WHO man "Where would you like to be?". He said "I would love to be on the Lake of Geneva watching the fountain" and he disappeared. The genie said to the Res. Rep. "What is your wish?" He said "I would like to have my friends back here with me".

It has been a very constructive and substantive debate. We are very grateful for the things that have been said and we shall take proper note of them.

S.P. MUKHERJEE (India): My delegation is most grateful to the FAO Secretariat and especially to Mr. West for providing the very lucid clarifications that I had sought in the morning. The suggestion which I had made was in appreciation of the excellent work being done by the FAO and not in criticism thereof. I have suggested that there be a review and evaluation committee but having been told and informed that this Council has got a number of committees on the same subject of evaluation, one on agriculture, another on forestry, still another on fisheries, another on food security, still another on commodity matters, and there are other committees like the programme and finance committee, my delegation would like to support the existing set-up and would not continue with the suggestion of a further committee of evaluation which would not be very productive but I think now would be rather counter-productive.

My comments on the early warning system were not in derogation of the work of the existing system but to make it more intensive and more extensive so that the early warning insofar as agrometeorological conditions are concerned could be more and more location specific. I understand there are limitations of resources but I thought if FAO could help the other countries, the developing countries to set up its own agrometeorological system, perhaps they could help, but nonetheless I appreciate the very useful work done by the early warning system of the FAO. As I said, the suggestions which my delegation made were made sincerely, with the intention of making the FAO a more effective world organization. We feel FAO is the symbol of mankind's hope for the future, hope for them who are going to bed hungry today that tomorrow will be a tomorrow of food and a dignified life. The hope will be for all human beings, irrespective of where they happen to have been born.

India has an inseparable and emotional link with the FAO. India is happy that FAO is following the anti-poverty and anti-starvation programmes and the development strategy which our own Prime Minister herself has been following. We in India are doubly happy that the FAO today has the benefit of the leadership of Dr Saouma who is known for his untiring and unrelenting effort to help the poor, the starved and the deprived. India has the fullest faith and confidence that under Dr Saouma's leadership and humanism, for the developing countries and its people, tomorrow will be much brighter than today.

I end by expressing the fullest and unreserved support to, and the confidence of my Government and the delegation, in the FAO, its programme, its Secretariat and its officers and most important in one of its ablest and most dynamic Directors-General in Dr. Saouma.

CHAIRMAN: I wanted to remove any doubts, after the jocular remarks of Mr. West, because one FAO Representative has disappeared. I am not too sure if he has returned to the island.' But in any case he will not be added to the 12 FAO Representatives that are in the next biennium, so they remain 12.

C. LAMBERT (Canada): Un mot seulement, Monsieur le Président. M. West a eu l'impression (et j'espère qu'elle n'a pas prévalu dans notre Assemblée) que dans nos propos nous croyions (pour reprendre son expression) que l'Organisation "fabriquait des saucisses"... si tel est le cas, vous m'en voyez désolé. Je respecte beaucoup trop l'Organisation pour la traiter ainsi. Je respecte aussi le jugement de M. West mais il me permettra de souligner que des évaluations quantitatives ont été faites pour des sujets aussi divers et aussi peu terre-à-terre en un sens que la santé, l'éducation et la culture, et nous croyons que des méthodes similaires peuvent s'appliquer à nos activités dans le domaine de l'alimentation. Enfin, je suis certain qu'il reconnaîtra comme moi que la quantification n'est pas synonyme d'arithmétique.

En ce qui a trait au désert, je peux l'assurer que nous ferons tous nos efforts pour faire fleurir le désert.

LE PRESIDENT: Monsieur le délégué du Canada, je puis vous assurer que j'ai bien compris votre première remarque, tout à fait dans le sens que vous venez d'expliquer. This brings us to the end of the debate on item 11, Review of the Regular Programme, 1980-81. We had 43 countries participating in the debate, many delegates expressed appreciation on the type of evaluation carried out on a continued basis by FAO of its own Regular Programme as it was presented in document G81/8. The delegates also commended FAO for having improved significantly on the format of the review compared with the first review presented two years ago. Quite a number of delegates stressed the importance of linkages between projects and the need of integrating actions and projects within the wider scope of programmes. Quite a number of delegates confirmed FAO's right approach to operate increasingly in collaboration with and through national institutions. Trained trainees in turn would train farmers, as the delegate of China said. A number of valuable suggestions to improve even further on the Review of the Regular Programme posed analytically as well to Mr. West that he has already indicated the direction of improvements and modifications that he intends to undertake following that debate.

12. Review of Field Programmes, including:

12. Examen des programmes de terrain, notamment:

12. Examen de los programas de campo, en particular:

12.1 Agricultural Investment and Development Assistance for Food Production and Rural Development

12.1 Investissement agricole et aide au développement pour la production vivrière et le développement rural

12.1 Inversiones agrícolas y ayuda al desarrollo para la producción de alimentos y el desarrollo rural

I would now like to turn to the next item on the Agenda, item 12, Review of Field Programme, sub-item 12.1, Agricultural Investment and Development Assistance for Food Production and Rural Development. The debate on item 12 will be opened after we have had the opportunity and the benefit of an introduction given by Mr. de Meredieu.

J. de MEREDIEU (Sous-Directeur général, Département du développement): Comme vous l'aurez constaté, le point 12 de l'ordre du jour couvre en fait trois sujets qui, tout en étant apparentés, sont néanmoins différents.

Le premier, que nous appellerons le point 12 proprement dit, est celui de l'examen des programmes de terrain; le point 12.1 se réfère à l'étude de l'assistance au développement; le point 12.2 aux coûts de soutien.

Avec votre permission, j'aimerais commencer par le second de ces points, parce qu'il est d'une nature plus générale.

Le point 12.1, assistance au développement, production alimentaire et développement rural, fait l'objet du document C 81/28 et du corrigendum C 81/28 Corr.1.

Ce document constitue le rapport que la Conférence, dans sa résolution numéro 6/79, a demandé au Directeur général de soumettre à la 78ème session du Conseil, puis à sa 21ème session.

Le présent rapport est une version révisée et mise à jour, pour tenir compte des commentaires qui ont été formulés par le Comité du programme et le Comité financier, puis par le Conseil, voici un an.

En fait, ce document C 81/28 couvre deux questions principales: l'une vise l'ensemble de l'aide officielle au développement de l'agriculture. Cette question est couverte par les paragraphes 5 à 12 et 18 à 23, ainsi que par les tableaux 1 et 2. C'est là un problème important que votre Commission n'aura pas, je crois, l'occasion de considérer à un autre moment, mais que la Commission I a également été appelée à traiter, dans le cadre de l'étude sur la Situation Mondiale de l'Alimentation et de l'Agriculture.

L'autre question couverte par le document C 81/28 est celle de la coopération entre la FAO et le PNUD, qui fait l'objet des paragraphes 13 à 17 et 24 à 38, ainsi que des tableaux 3 et 4. Vous retrouverez dans ces paragraphes certains des arguments qui sont développés au chapitre I du document sur l'examen des programmes de terrain.

M. Mahajan, qui siège à ma droite sur cette tribune, sera à votre disposition pour répondre aux questions que vous pourriez poser sur le document C 81/28.

Le deuxième grand sujet, qui rentre dans le cadre du point 12 de l'ordre du jour, concerne l'Examen proprement dit des Activités de Terrain de notre Organisation et fait l'objet du document C 81/4 et des corrigenda 1 et 2.

Comme cela a été le cas de l'Examen du Programme Ordinaire que vous venez de discuter, ce document a été préparé en tenant compte des commentaires formulés par la dernière session de la Conférence, j'espère que vous conviendrez que nous avons fait tous les efforts nécessaires pour décrire les difficultés rencontrées en toute objectivité.

Ce document a été revu en détail par le Comité du programme et le Comité financier, qui ont bien voulu apprécier son contenu, comme cela apparaît dans leurs rapports (C 80/4, paragraphes 2.73 à 2.90 et 3.113 à 3.126).

Les rapports de ces deux Comités ont été endossés par la 80ème session du Conseil, comme vous le montrera le paragraphe 43 de son rapport, qui n'a pas encore été distribué, mais qui le sera vers la fin de la semaine.

Sans entrer dans le détail, je voudrais appeler particulièrement l'attention de la Commission sur le chapitre I du document C 81/4 qui décrit en détail la situation des ressources sur lesquelles nos programmes de terrain sont financés et, en particulier, les problèmes concernant le programme FAO/PNUD.

Comme je l'ai déjà mentionné au cours de la discussion du chapitre 3 du budget, il existe un problème sérieux en ce qui concerne l'ensemble des ressources du PNUD. Je n'y reviendrai pas maintenant, mais peut-être votre Commission souhaitera-t-elle entendre à cet égard le représentant de l'Administrateur du PNUD, qui est avec nous en ce moment.

Je voudrais, pour l'instant, déclarer à nouveau, au nom du Directeur général, qu'il appuie pleinement les efforts que M. Morse, l'Administrateur du PNUD, déploie pour obtenir des ressources supplémentaires, plus conformes aux besoins et aux objectifs de ce grand programme.

Je dois dire, par contre, très franchement, qu'il nous est un peu plus difficile de comprendre deux autres aspects de l'évolution du programme FAO/PNUD, qui semblent indépendants du niveau absolu de ce Programme.



Le premier se réfère à la diminution de la part de l'agriculture dans l'ensemble des ressources du PNUD, qui a décliné de 34,8 à 30,4%, et à la diminution de la part de la FAO, dans ces mêmes ressources, qui a décliné de 31% à moins de 25%, comme vous le montrerez le paragraphe 13 et le tableau 3 du document C 81/28.

Il nous semble qu'une telle diminution, qui ne constitue pas un phénomène accidentel et que nous avons constaté de façon très régulière au cours des huit dernières années, n'est guère compatible avec la très grande priorité que de nombreuses réunions mondiales récentes ont donnée à l'agriculture et au problème vivrier.

Le second problème concernant plus particulièrement les programmes FAO/PNUD est celui de l'irrégularité dans le temps des allocations du PNUD à la FAO, qui est décrit aux paragraphes 1.6 à 1.9 du document C 81/4, ainsi qu'au graphique 2 de ce même document, qui a été mis à jour dans le corrigendum pour montrer nos meilleures prévisions pour l'année 1981. Il ne s'agit encore, bien entendu, que de prévisions, car l'année n'est pas terminée.

Il va sans dire que nous serions heureux de connaître les vues de la Conférence à l'égard de ces deux problèmes, et de recevoir ses directives pour nous aider à poursuivre le dialogue que nous entretenons avec le PNUD, sur ce sujet. M. Forbes Watt, qui est à ma droite, et moi-même, sommes à votre disposition pour répondre aux questions que votre Commission pourrait désirer poser concernant le document C 81/4.

Finalement, le troisième sujet qui apparaît dans le cadre du point 12, est celui qui est inscrit à votre agenda sous la rubrique 12.2: "coûts de soutien" faisant l'objet du document C 81/INF/16. Je ne ferai pas de commentaire à cet égard, car je comprends que, si vous aviez des questions à poser à ce sujet, c'est M. West qui serait heureux d'y répondre.

CHAIRMAN: I am very grateful for those introductory remarks because we need in addition to the excellent documents that we have already at our disposal this sort of guidance. But I would like to add another word here. We should during the course of today, tomorrow and Wednesday bear in mind that we have three different subjects which I would suggest for the sake of a rational debate we should keep separate. As Mr. de Meredieu said, we will have the Review of the Field Programmes as contained in document C 81/4. That will be one of the major documents that are linked to document C 81/4 indicated in the Journal of the Conference. The subject of support costs we will discuss separately, I expect either tomorrow afternoon or on Wednesday, but as a separate issue for debate. A third one that will follow subsequently in the System of Interest to FAO, which some delegates may feel also has linkages with the two subjects which I mentioned before. I would suggest that for an orderly procedure of the debate and for rational use of the time we now open the debate on the Review of Field Programmes, the documents as listed in the Journal of the Conference for today, and leave support costs as a separate item for debate when we have concluded the debate on the Review of Field Programmes. The debate is now open.

CO. KELLER-SARMIENTO (Argentina): Conforme a su pedido y a su sugerencia, que me parece acertada, efectuaré mis comentarios en torno al documento C 81/4: Examen de los programas de campo 1980/81, y trataré de concentrar mis observaciones en algunos aspectos que considero de interés destacar. En primer lugar, debemos tener en cuenta el dato importante que significa la disminución de la asistencia técnica de la FAO financiada por el PNUD. Este es un hecho que lamentamos, pero creo que escapa a las posibilidades de este Comité el modificarlo.

Lo que sí debemos aceptar es que como consecuencia de ello, es necesario mayor apoyo a las actividades de fondos fiduciarios así como la disponibilidad de fondos proporcionados, en condiciones de favor, por instituciones de financiación para nuestro programa de campo.

Como punto de interés general, cabe señalar, a la apreciación de mi delegación, los métodos de las nuevas dimensiones en la ejecución de proyectos dentro de los programas de campo de la Organización. El cada vez mayor uso de las capacidades de los países en desarrollo en la cooperación técnica, tal como se expresa en el capítulo IV, ha sido objeto de fuerte apoyo en los foros de las Naciones Unidas, y creemos que la FAO está acentuando con sabiduría esta saludable tendencia, que sin duda presenta un positivo efecto multiplicador de beneficios, y es un elemento esencial hacia la autosuficiencia colectiva de los países en desarrollo. Tenemos la certeza de que esta nueva orientación se efectúa sin sacrificar calidad ni eficiencia. Dentro de la modalidad adoptada por el organismo para enfocar esta nueva orientación, vemos que la FAO puede efectuar una tarea importante al identificar sectores de cooperación, conforme las respectivas capacidades de los países en desarrollo.

En este sentido, creemos importante consolidar la utilización de directores nacionales y vemos que esta tendencia se está afirmando, conforme descrito en el párrafo 4.10 de nuestro documento. De todos modos, estimamos conveniente que se extienda este concepto a que cuando uno no pueda emplear un director nacional, se oriente, a igualdad de méritos, a la selección de uno proveniente de países en desarrollo. Vemos también con satisfacción la evolución favorable del porcentaje de utilización de los expertos de campo, contenidos en el cuadro primero, provenientes de países en desarrollo, que se incrementa anualmente, pero que aún constituye sólo el 43 por ciento del total, aunque esto implique un crecimiento del 12 por ciento desde 1973. Como usted recordará, el objetivo fijado por la Asamblea General de las Naciones Unidas es de, por lo menos, el 50 por ciento de utilización de expertos provenientes de países en desarrollo, en proyectos dentro del sistema de Naciones Unidas.

Un pequeño comentario, volviendo atrás en la consideración del documento, al primer gráfico del documento; en página 2, vemos con preocupación la disminución progresiva de la proporción disponible para recursos del Programa de Cooperación Técnica, programa al que hemos otorgado el más amplio apoyo. Un motivo de preocupación para mi delegación es asimismo la disminución de las asignaciones externas para proyectos de campo de la FAO para América Latina. Tal como se describe en el cuadro segundo de la página 10, en el texto en español, el porcentaje del bienio 1980-81 para nuestra región, ha bajado del 15 al 11 por ciento, mientras que en algunas otras regiones ha aumentado considerablemente.

Con respecto a las relaciones entre la cooperación técnica y las inversiones, sabemos que además de los vínculos con la asistencia técnica, un creciente número de proyectos ejecutados por la FAO contribuyen a la ejecución de proyectos sobre inversiones. El párrafo 1.67 nos indica que 320 proyectos FAO/PNUD de asistencia técnica tuvieron vínculos identificables por un valor aproximado de 6 500 millones de dólares durante el período que va de 1975 a 1980. Lo que me llama la atención es que la mayor parte de estos recursos, tal como se indica en el Cuadro 4, parecen ir orientados hacia el rubro Montes en un 26 por ciento, que parecería ser un sector de menor urgencia e importancia que el de los cultivos, al cual tan solo se ha dedicado el 24 por ciento, y desarrollo rural el 18 por ciento. Tal vez la Secretaría nos pueda ampliar algo más sobre esta circunstancia, aunque en el párrafo 1.68 se menciona un proyecto de excepcional magnitud en un país, en el sector forestal.

Queremos destacar nuestra apreciación por el Capítulo II - Evaluación de los programas de campo de la FAO de 1980-81. Este es un ejercicio fundamental; implica también la posibilidad de efectuar una autocrítica honesta para procurar mejorar el enfoque de los problemas, y si cabe, mejorar la acción de la FAO que, como sabemos, es siempre perfectible como todas las cosas humanas.

La metodología sugerida en el documento nos parece adecuada, aunque tal vez ésta también pueda implementarse más satisfactoriamente en el futuro a medida que se vayan descubriendo nuevos métodos o nuevas posibilidades.

Un comentario sobre la última parte del Capítulo IV, en el párrafo 4.28 se menciona la movilización de distintos apoyos financieros provenientes de distintas fuentes para fomentar la cooperación técnica entre países en desarrollo, por parte de la FAO. Estos esfuerzos deben incrementarse mediante una acción consistente y permanente por parte de la FAO. En este sentido, creemos conveniente que se efectúe exhortación a las Oficinas Regionales a efectuar un nuevo esfuerzo, en este sentido, para identificar sectores específicos de cooperación dentro de cada una de las regiones respectivas.

Finalmente, vaya nuestro aprecio y nuestro agradecimiento a la Secretaría por los útiles e interesantes gráficos contenidos en el documento C 81/4 que sintetizan muy bien nuestra problemática en esta cuestión.

H. MAURIA (Finland): I will try to be very short because of the time constraints which you mention, Mr. Chairman, and therefore I intend to comment only on one specific issue, which is the clear sign of a drop in the real level of FAO field activities pointed out, for instance, by the Director-General in his foreword to document C 81/4. Further in the text of the same document it is said that after record levels of field activities in 1980, there will be a decline of considerable magnitude in coming years. This will be of course a deplorable development because of the basic significance of the field activities and also because of the efficient way the field activities seem to be implemented by the FAO.

Briefly, we can draw a few rather hard conclusions out of these facts. One may be that the effectiveness of the project implementation must be utterly emphasized. Further, the priority regarding the distribution of projects to countries should be sharpened so that an even higher share of FAO-assisted projects should be placed with the least developed countries.

Further, the scope of external financing from various available sources should be utterly pursued. This would have impact on the cooperation with international financing institutions, as for instance with the World Bank and other regional development banks. We are aware that the FAO-World Bank Cooperative Programme is already functioning very well, so there may be possibilities to widen this cooperation.

The role of the FAO Investment Centre will be even more pronounced in the future regarding FAO investment activities. Finally, we hope indeed that FAO will be able to obtain even stronger support through the various trust fund arrangements which seem to have met with approval from so many donor countries so far.

With regard to the involvement of governments in FAO field activities, it is evident that ever-expanding involvement of recipient governments in field projects will be of utmost importance to the field activities in general.

T. AHMAD (Pakistan): May I first on behalf of my delegation convey appreciation of the lucid introduction of Mr. de Meredieu, which is in his usual style. We appreciate the document for its high quality of information which has been presented in the most concise but articulate manner, and the frank and candid manner in which the problems concerning the field programmes have been highlighted.

Generally speaking, we share the Programme Committee's concern with the bleak prospects of the resources for the field programmes, particularly the cyclic variations for the UNDP allocations to FAO which affect the efficiency and delivery of the FAO/UNDP programme.

More particularly, I wish to restrict my comments just to Chapter Four, new approaches to field project implementation, because we feel this is a very important direction in which the field activities are going which is of vital importance to developing countries, particularly those who are seeking self-reliance and self-sufficiency.

We welcome not only the subject matter for the Chapter, but also the new dimension which is geared towards enhancing self-reliance in developing countries in building up their infrastructure and their technical and administrative capabilities, so necessary for meaningful development in the field of agriculture.

Greater use of the capabilities of developing countries would be a greater incentive for these countries to develop their technical and managerial expertise. We would wish this to be accelerated as far as possible.

Unfortunately the progress in this connexion is not as satisfactory as we would like it to be. As the delegate of Argentina pointed out - I would only refer to one aspect, that is the example I would take of Table 1 on page 81 which shows during the period of nine years from 1973 to 1981 the percentage of FAO experts from developing countries rose from 31 percent to 43 percent, a mere increase of 12 percent, which on a yearly basis works out to only 1.3 percent.

We recognize this to be a promising trend, but we think it is not strong enough, and at this reported increase the modest target laid down by the United Nations General Assembly of 50 percent would be achieved in 6 years. We wish this to be accelerated, and the 50 percent target laid down by the United Nations General Assembly to be achieved by the next biennium. This would mean only 3 1/2 percent increase annually over the next two years, and this would be a great step forward in this direction.

My delegation strongly suggests this target of 50 percent should be achieved in the next biennium.

I will now very briefly comment on the follow-up of the WCARRD, because we will come to it in more detail in discussing Document C 81/23. Briefly referring to paragraph 4.38 on page 87 of the document under review we notice it has been said that the influence of WCARRD will permeate all of FAO's field activities. We appreciate the efforts of FAO in this direction, and are aware of the complexities and difficulties of this approach, but we would still be happy if there was a time-frame for these objectives - if no specific date can be given, at least a target of a few years in which the WCARRD approaches will permeate all the activities of FAO. I would suggest the time-frame should be four years. Within this target of four years FAO should attempt that the WCARRD approach should permeate all the activities of the FAO.

W.A.F. GRABISCH (Germany, Federal Republic of) (original language: German): According to your decision, Mr. Chairman, I shall now speak only to Document C 81/4 and the two corrigenda; sub-items 12.1 and 12.2 I shall discuss tomorrow. Now in my delegation we feel that altogether we are faced with a rather good and clearly laid out document. This document addresses not only the FAO Secretariat but above all the recipient countries. We would like to hear from those how they assess the field programmes. It is the developing countries in the first place which should derive the greatest benefit from this, or in other words, they should have support to step up their agricultural production and rural development.

My delegation is very glad that during the period covered by the Report a broader assessment of the field projects was made. According to the assessment by the FAO Country Representatives of 366 projects supported by UNDP and 81 projects which were financed by trust funds, this is a total figure of 447 projects, a general improvement in most performance factors has been noted in the document, paras. 2.8, 2.9.

There are fewer projects than in 1978-79 which were assessed as poor. According to paragraph 2.7 the ranking order has been changed, so that the results of those two biennia can only roughly be compared.

On page 27 of the English version of the document we have a footnote. This explanation does not satisfy us but perhaps the Secretariat can tell us why the questionnaires of the FAO Country Representatives have not the same ranking order as in 1978-79.

In paragraph 2.5 there is no indication that the FAO Representatives, had consultations on the assessment with the UNDP Representatives. My delegation feels that this as it goes without saying was not mentioned specially. However, in this connexion we are interested to know whether in respect of the 366 projects supported by UNDP there is also an assessment by UNDP, and if so, what are the results of this assessment?

Furthermore, we would like to know in how many of the 447 projects, the FAO Representatives were concerned in the identification, planning and implementation.

According to paragraph 2.22 there were indications that government involvement of the recipient countries continues to be the weakest point in project efficiency, although there seems to be some improvement. I dare say there are other answers to this than those which have been listed in the document.

The statements also seem to us to be important, in 2.41 and 2.42 that delivery problems continue to affect decisively the efficiency of field projects which impede these in some areas. My delegation is glad that the assessment of projects on the basis of assessment reports has been strengthened.

From the statements in Chapter Two, sub-Chapter C, we gather that the 79 projects which were assessed between October 1978 and January 1981 had a lower ranking with regard to their efficiency than those projects which were assessed by the FAO Country Representatives. Taking into account that among the selected 79 projects we have a considerable number of so-called problem projects, nevertheless the result of the assessment is that one quarter are considered poor which is unsatisfactory.

At this stage of the debate, I would like to mention two other matters. First, my delegation is glad that in this biennium about 43 percent of all extra-budgetary expenditure of FAO was largely connected with the development of food production; and secondly we underline what was stated on page 92 of the document "it is essential that FAO and others concerned make all-out efforts to assure the maximum efficiency of field projects".

I. BARBOSA (Portugal): Seulement quelques mots très brefs sur l'activité de la FAO sur le terrain, C'est avec plaisir que je rappellerai toute l'assistance que la FAO a apportée à mon pays. Depuis 1977 nous avons bénéficié de l'aide pour les projets PNUD/FAO, le dernier en 1980, et les autres actuellement en cours de préparation. Ces projets englobent drainage et conservation du sol, production et technologie oléicole; développement forestier, lutte intégrée, vulgarisation agricole, stockage des céréales, crédits pour la pêche, alimentation et nutrition, programme coopératif européen pour l'échange de ressources phylogénétiques.

Il faut signaler particulièrement un projet intégré "Banque mondiale/FAO", actuellement en cours d'exécution dans la région nord-est du Portugal englobant l'agriculture, les travaux publics, l'éducation, l'hydraulique agricole, les infrastructures de base et la santé avec pour objectif la transformation profonde d'une des régions les moins développées de mon pays.

Nous regrettons que les perspectives futures en matière d'assistance technique aux pays bénéficiaires soient préoccupantes, comme il découle de ce qui est affirmé dans le document C 81/4, document bien élaboré, comme tant d'autres qui nous ont été distribués pour cette conférence.

Nous comprenons ces préoccupations, qui sont partagées par les pays bénéficiaires surtout alors que l'on constate précisément un déclin dans ce secteur, en n'ignorant pas la décision 80/44 du PNUD.

Toutefois, ceci ne veut pas dire que nous ne continuons pas à compter sur les actions que la FAO met en oeuvre sur le terrain, dans de nombreux cas avec plein succès.

A.H. EL SARKI (Egypt) (original language: Arabic): The document we have before us, C 81/4, is a satisfactory one. I would like to refer to paragraphs 1.35 - 1.38 in connexion with expertise and field projects concerning small-sized and short-term projects.

We would also like to congratulate the Organization on the modern technology for the field projects which are being implemented in the developing countries. In paragraphs 1.45 - 1.52 we can see that the dependency of developing nations is increasing in organizational, administrative, and technical fields.

The delegation of my country would like to praise the efforts made by the Organization in terms of investment. Paragraphs 1.53 and 1.54 mention this particular matter. The field programmes of the Organization should be based on investment, and we agree that technical assistance in some cases does give rise to spectacular results, and investments sometimes are very considerable, especially when dealing with multilateral or bilateral capital.

Despite the record level of assistance offered by FAO to developing countries, the possibility of lesser funds for the field programmes means that we need to support the rural programmes specially from UNDP.

We support the activities of the Organization in the light of the new dimensions of technical assistance. This is made very clear in paragraphs 4 and 5, and we must be able to help developing countries when implementing such projects. One should encourage governments in the management of these projects. This is something that we can see in paragraphs 4.6 to 4.11 which is concerned with national directors because the chances of success of such projects in which the beneficiary governments intervene is much greater compared to the actual drop in the cost of such projects. This is especially true in those countries where the qualified cadres are available.

My delegation would like to support the efforts made by this Organization in using national institutions for setting up field programmes; this can be seen in paragraph 4.21. We should encourage this in developing countries where we actually have institutions which have technical cadres, as may be seen in paragraph 4.24.

We are also satisfied with efforts made by the Organization which offers developing countries new ways and means to obtain technical assistance and cooperation in this field. I think country representatives could encourage that tendency.

WANG SHOU RU (China) (original language: Chinese): The Chinese delegation would like to thank the Secretariat for the document which is very concise and clear. Please allow me to express some views on this item.

The document has given a brief account of the useful work since 1980 undertaken by the Director-General of FAO and the Governor of the UNDP. We appreciate the measures taken for strengthening cooperation between FAO and UNDP. We believe, with the spirit of cooperation, the two important organizations will play with their professional competence their respective roles in more effectively assisting developing countries to implement their plan of agriculture and food production.

Developing countries must first of all rely on their own efforts in the development of agriculture and food production. Yet, the catalytic role of assistance from the outside cannot be neglected. Therefore, we express our concern over the flow of resources of official assistance aid to agriculture.

As for the conclusions on the assessments of field projects, we would like to emphasize one point only. From our own experience we feel that the key factor for the success of a field project lies in the fact that it must be the real need of the country's development of agriculture and food production, and a component of its national plan for economic development. Only then is it possible to make external resources and technology serve the country's purpose to guarantee the implementation of the project according to the planned objectives and schedule, so as to gain the desired economic benefit.

We hold that the new approaches to Field Project Implementation specially set forth in the document are of great significance. In project implementation, it should be encouraged to make best use of the competence of the recipient country to enable the government to directly carry out the project of technical assistance especially with the national personnel participating in project organization and management. In countries where conditions permit, it should also be encouraged to employ national experts and technical forces, so that they could accumulate their own experience and expand their technical force. In this connexion, we hope FAO will make full use of all resources available to strengthen the training of project management personnel from developing countries. At the same time we hope that FAO will continue to play its role in technical assistance, make full use of its technical competence to support the developing countries in their efforts to develop agriculture and food production, raise their absorbing capacity of using effectively financial aids and strive for new orientation of promoting international technical assistance.

As mentioned in the 21st paragraph of the document C 81/28, at present some projects' procedures and approaches are complicated, and thus are time consuming and add to the burden of recipient countries. The approaches taken for elaborating assistance plans should have greater flexibility to apply to countries with different levels of development and under different conditions. By so doing, it will certainly raise the efficiency of field projects and speed up the progress of projects in agriculture and rural development.

The meeting rose at 18.00 hours

La séance est levée à 18 h 00

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 81/II/PV/10

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Twenty-first Session

COMMISSION II

Vingt et unième session

COMMISSION II

21° período de sesiones

COMMISSION II

TENTH MEETING  
DIXIEME SEANCE  
DECIMA SESION

(17 November 1981)

The Tenth Meeting was opened at 10.00 hours  
R. Steiner, Chairman of Commission II, presiding

La dixième séance est ouverte à 10 h 00, sous la présidence de  
R. Steiner, Président de la Commission II

Se abre la décima sesión a las 10.00 horas, bajo la presidencia de  
R. Steiner, Presidente de la Comisión II

II. ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMES OF THE ORGANIZATION (continued)

II. ACTIVITES ET PROGRAMMES DE L'ORGANISATION (suite)

II. ACTIVIDADES Y PROGRAMAS DE LA ORGANIZACION (continuación)

12. Review of Field Programmes, including: (continued)

12. Examen des programmes de terrain, notamment: (suite)

12. Examen de los programas de campo, en particular: (continuación)

12.1 Agricultural Investment and Development Assistance for Food Production and Rural Development (continued)

12.1 Investissement agricole et aide au développement pour la production vivrière et le développement rural (suite)

12.1 Inversiones agrícolas y ayuda al desarrollo para la producción de alimentos y el desarrollo rural (continuación)

B.J.AL-QADOU (Iraq) (original language Arabic): On examining document C 81/4, the Review of the Field Programmes, we noted that the Secretariat made considerable efforts in preparing this excellent paper. It gives an overview of Field Programmes for the 1980-81 period in a very fair and frank manner, and also pinpoints what the Organization did in the implementation of these programmes and describes the difficulties that arose in the course of their implementation, whether these difficulties were due to a lack of local medium-level staff, a lack of inputs, or for other reasons.

The document was also very frank talking about the outcome of the project evaluation reports.

The document says in para. 2.48 "that roughly one-third of the projects have had only a very weak level of transfer of skills, and that 40 percent of the projects appear to be poorly designed."

It is also pointed out in paras. 2.51 and 2.52 that the planning of the projects was inadequate and was the weakest link. Design was in all cases the weakest link, which underscored the importance of making greater effort to improve the design of large, multidisciplinary projects at the formulation stage - in other words it was necessary to clearly define the procedures which will have to be followed by the Organization in order to be able to cope with these weaknesses and overcome them; particularly this was not only stressed in the Review of the Field Programmes, but was also referred to at other points of the report.

Does this mean that more time and more funds will be put in for the inception of the design stage and preparation? Will that then be enough to obviate such problems in the launching and undertaking, which for the recipient countries will mean that they will get more funds and more time so as to overcome the difficulties which will arise in the course of the implementation of the project particularly if you take into account that the developing countries have a crying need for these financial resources, these funds, and time and effort.

If this applies to the major projects what is the picture going to be for the small ones? We feel that the proposal to have the Organization participate in all cases, particularly at the initial preparatory planning and design stages of the project, is perhaps not enough because the nature of the intervention of the Organization and the level at which the Organization intervenes has not been clearly defined.

I still have a few other points, and these will take the form of questions.

I have something more to say about our area, the Near East. How can the Secretariat explain the drop in the share of the Near East Region in Field Programme Projects. We know these projects were 24 in 1978-79, and for 1980-81 they were only 19 as compared with 24 for the previous period, whereas the region, as you know, does comprise developing countries which are deserving of more attention.



We would want for this drop in the number of projects not to reflect in any way whatsoever a waning interest or importance on the part of the Organization in development of the agricultural sector in that part of the world.

My second question deals with the Near East Region, which enjoys a special status as to projects financed from the Trust Fund. I would like to know what are the Organization plans for allocating a greater importance to such projects? How does FAO intend to take part in these project assessments to avoid the negative effects of past mistakes.

Thirdly, as far as my country is concerned: we found a backlog in the sending out of experts to participate in the design and execution of certain projects. The delay in the arrival of these experts is costing us a lot because the financial resources thus frozen could have been allocated to other activities. We request the Secretariat to give the necessary attention to this particular point.

My fourth and last point relates to the memorandum of understanding that was signed with the Organization last week. This agreement is a new framework for the implementation of projects funded by the Trust Fund and it helps us scrutinize all the delays that were brought about in the implementation of the projects. We would like this whole procedure to be further broadened so that it will be possible to have this new form of cooperation. It is a new experiment, and our whole interplay and relations with the Organization could be assessed and evaluated at some later stage.

In closing, let me reiterate my thanks to the Secretariat for the very high quality of this document.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): La delegación de Colombia se va a referir al documento C 81/4 que es verdaderamente rico en elementos que permiten no sólo evaluar los niveles y las tendencias del Programa de campo de la FAO, sino también hacer recomendaciones para mejorar esas actividades.

Pensamos que en nuestro informe se debe señalar la preocupación que causa la perspectiva de considerarle disminución de las actividades de campo en los años venideros. Sobre todo, después de que en 1980 esas actividades alcanzaron niveles excepcionales, que habían alentado a los países en desarrollo, países que con esa disminución están viendo frustradas sus esperanzas de una continuación creciente y positiva del trabajo de Campo.

Esa lamentable disminución contrasta con los esfuerzos de la FAO por mejorar la eficacia y consolidar el impacto de los programas de campo.

Una vez más será necesario recomendar que en todo ese proceso se tenga en cuenta particularmente los intereses y necesidades de los países en desarrollo, a fin de que éstos sufran el menor perjuicio posible.

Pensamos que es necesario reconocer las mejoras que se han logrado en la ejecución de los proyectos realizados por la FAO y en el papel que en esa mejora han desempeñado los funcionarios propios representantes de nuestra Organización en los países.

La carencia de recursos externos es uno de los principales problemas que afecta el aumento de la producción en los países en desarrollo. Por ello, será necesario que en el Programa de Labores y Presupuesto se asignen mayores recursos para el Centro de Inversiones, con el objeto de fortalecer la cooperación con las diversas instituciones de financiación, que vienen basando sus planes de preinversión, en buena parte, en el apoyo del Centro de Inversiones de la FAO. Esto estaría de acuerdo con la orientación que en los últimos años han tenido las actividades de campo de la FAO hacia la inversión.

Debe preocuparnos la disminución en las entregas por parte del PNUD, que sigue siendo la principal fuente de financiación de los programas de campo. Del 80 por ciento en 1973 ha pasado al 60 por ciento en 1980. Afortunadamente, hay cierta compensación por los fondos fiduciarios y la contribución de los bancos y otros fondos para asistencia en preparación de proyectos, todo lo cual es necesario para los países en desarrollo que generalmente carecen de recursos y de conocimientos necesarios para identificar y preparar proyectos viables.

Las fluctuaciones en las asignaciones y entregas del PNUD vienen causando notables perjuicios a los países y también a la FAO. La reducción forzosa de los presupuestos de proyectos en curso, a veces muy significativas y arbitrarias, afecta el desarrollo de los países que han confiado en la ejecución total y adecuada de un buen proyecto. Por su parte, la FAO tiene así problemas de personal, mayores costos administrativos y más gastos generales. La víctima final es el país beneficiario.

La importancia de salvaguardar los intereses de los países beneficiarios se hace más imperativa ante el hecho de que, según parece los recursos del PNUD, para el tercer ciclo de planificación de 1982 a 1986 van a ser inferiores por lo menos en un 25 por ciento al monto previsto por el Consejo de Administración del PNUD.

Además, la parte de ejecución que venía correspondiendo a la FAO en la asistencia técnica total costada por el PNUD ha seguido disminuyendo. En los últimos diez años esa participación de la FAO ha descendido del 30 al 24 por ciento.

Las preocupaciones continúan porque la participación de la FAO también sigue disminuyendo en la ejecución de proyectos financiados por el PNUD, con sectores plenamente identificados correspondientes a la agricultura. En diez años del 85 por ciento esa participación ha disminuido al 76 por ciento.

Clara y enfáticamente los representantes de gobiernos debemos transmitir al PNUD nuestra inquietud por la disminución de la participación de la FAO en ejecución de proyectos definitivamente agrícolas que corresponden al campo especializado de la FAO.

El PNUD conoce bien y debería respetar adecuadamente la experiencia, los conocimientos y la gran capacidad operativa de la FAO, elementos positivos que los países en desarrollo reconocen en favor del desempeño de nuestra Organización.

La disminución de la participación de la FAO se ha desviado a la propia Oficina de Ejecución del PNUD y a otras dependencias del sistema de las Naciones Unidas. Consideramos que todo ello es inconveniente; que produce duplicación de servicios y resta eficacia. Será necesario apoyar a la FAO, porque es indiscutible su función guía y su gran liderazgo en este campo.

En cuanto a los fondos fiduciarios, nos parece excelente que los criterios de los donantes se hayan acercado cada vez más a las prioridades y programas generales de la FAO. Esto permitirá un mejor uso de esos fondos fiduciarios con mayores beneficios para los países receptores.

La importancia de los programas de campo de la FAO está representada esencialmente en los 1 780 expertos dedicados a la ejecución de 2 200 proyectos.

Del cuadro 2, capítulo 1, tomamos nota de que esas labores de campo han ido aumentando para África y Asia y el Pacífico, y disminuyendo para América Latina y el Cercano Oriente. Sin duda, esto corresponde a las diversas condiciones de la situación mundial en distintas regiones del mundo. Sin embargo, quisiéramos pedir que esa disminución regional ojalá se fuera produciendo gradualmente, sin excesos, en forma ordenada y coherente para evitar grandes perjuicios a los países de esas regiones que aún necesitan de la asistencia técnica.

La delegación de Colombia opina que debe estimularse la expansión de las actividades de campo dentro del marco del Programa de Acción Especial para el Desarrollo y Ordenación de la Pesca en Zonas Económicas Exclusivas.

Ojalá que continúe el apoyo de los Fondos Fiduciarios a este Programa Especial. En el campo del ZEE la FAO tiene un sector propicio para ayudar a los países en desarrollo a que se preparen a hacer el mejor y más productivo uso de los recursos del mar, en espera de que se firme la Convención que algún día habrá de surgir de la Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre los derechos del mar.

Nos parece muy bien que sigan disminuyendo los expertos residentes a largo plazo; expertos de alto nivel, por períodos breves, o consultores, podrán ser más útiles, ya que la mayoría de los países en desarrollo han superado la etapa de asistencia técnica tradicional, hoy desplazada por numerosos factores.

En general, contamos en nuestros países con expertos nacionales que pueden complementar muy bien esas actividades de los expertos de alto nivel a plazo breve.

Nos parece acertado que la FAO venga concediendo, dentro del marco del acuerdo con el FIDA, apoyo técnico a ese Fondo y a los demás organismos de financiación.

El FIDA ha estado desafortunadamente ausente hasta ahora en esta Conferencia; sin embargo hemos visto en el orden del día de hoy, que al final de la mañana un representante de este organismo intervendría en la Plenaria; ojalá que nos dé buenas noticias sobre la reposición de los fondos del FIDA que nos preocupa muy sinceramente.

A la delegación de Colombia le complace que recientemente se hayan concluido las negociaciones para reanudar la cooperación con el Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo. Nuestro BID venía trabajando bien con la FAO. Esperamos que ahora se reactivará esa colaboración para beneficio de los países de América Latina y del Caribe.

En el Capítulo dos, al evaluar los proyectos de campo por países, los representantes de la FAO han hecho consideraciones interesantes. El Cuadro I refleja el mejoramiento general que se ha obtenido en la ejecución de los proyectos. Casi todos los factores, con algunas excepciones a las cuales nos referiremos después, han contribuido a mejorar el rendimiento de la ejecución de proyectos de campo. Sobre-sale el PCT en esa evaluación. Más del 70 por ciento de los proyectos PCT estaban bien concebidos y facilitaban la labor complementaria.

Sobre la conveniencia de vincular las actividades de un proyecto, con las posibles actividades complementarias de desarrollo en el país, apoyamos el criterio flexible que habrá de seguirse, particularmente en los proyectos de larga duración.

Será necesario, dentro de lo posible ir adaptando los objetivos de los proyectos a los cambios que se puedan producir en las prioridades y estrategias nacionales. Desafortunadamente la participación de los gobiernos sigue siendo el punto más débil del rendimiento de los proyectos. La delegación de Colombia piensa que es indispensable hacer un llamado encarecido a los gobiernos beneficiarios.

El grado de participación de los gobiernos, la manera efectiva cómo se realice esa participación, el desempeño del personal homólogo, el suministro oportuno y eficaz de materiales y servicios, son factores insustituibles en la buena ejecución de todo proyecto. También deberemos pedir a los gobiernos que al hacer las peticiones de proyectos, traten de ajustar cuidadosamente los objetivos de esos proyectos a la capacidad y a los recursos del propio país, ya que proyectos con objetivos demasiados ambiciosos, generalmente resultan un fracaso, especialmente para el país beneficiario.

Con su venia, señor Presidente, haré algunas breves consideraciones sobre el Capítulo cuarto, porque estamos de acuerdo con lo manifestado por nuestro colega de Argentina en la intervención de ayer tarde, sobre el hecho de que, a la luz de las nuevas dimensiones es satisfactorio registrar el hecho de que todos los proyectos de campo ejecutados por la FAO se encuentran bajo la dirección general del gobierno beneficiario.

Es positiva también la acción de la FAO en favor del incremento de designar nacionales de los países beneficiarios, como directores de los proyectos. Todo ello contribuye al propósito saludable de la FAO de estimular a los países en desarrollo para que administren directamente sus actividades técnicas. Esa mayor responsabilidad nacional, si es debidamente utilizada, traerá notables beneficios a los países receptores.

Dentro de ese orden de ideas, debemos apoyar el hecho de que “en el presente bienio la FAO haya ampliado el uso de expertos nacionales en los proyectos de campo”. En general, hay que estimular la tendencia en la FAO a seguir ocupando más expertos de países en desarrollo en las actividades de campo.

El Cuadro I del Capítulo cuarto, indica que del 31 por ciento en 1973, los expertos de países en desarrollo, han aumentado el 43 por ciento en 1981. Ha sido un 12 por ciento más; esperamos que en el bienio 82/83, esos expertos de países en desarrollo serán más de la mitad, superarán el 50 por ciento. Así la FAO cumplirá lo establecido por la Asamblea General de las Naciones Unidas, en relación con la decisión de que el 50 por ciento de los expertos propuestos por los organismos especializados, procedan de países en desarrollo.

La delegación de Colombia concede también mucha importancia al incremento del uso de las Instituciones Nacionales, en la ejecución de los proyectos de campo. La Conferencia actual deberá insistir en la decisión de nuestra Conferencia anterior acerca de la llamada “discriminación positiva” en favor de las Instituciones Nacionales de países en desarrollo.

Sobre las Compras en los Países en Desarrollo, está bien que la FAO haya venido aumentando el volumen de las compras en esos países. Aquí también hay que aplicar la misma “discriminación positiva”, naturalmente cuando puedan obtenerse equipos iguales en cuanto a su calidad y precio. Los Directores de Equipo de la FAO y los Directores Nacionales de los proyectos tendrán facultades y conocimientos para avanzar en esta materia.

En esta forma, señor Presidente, la delegación de Colombia ha expuesto algunas ideas sobre los programas de campo de la FAO, con la esperanza de contribuir a fortalecer la excelente labor que nuestra Organización viene realizando.

Esperamos que alguna de nuestras consideraciones puedan ser incluidas en el Informe, porque opinamos que cada vez será más necesario procurar que, como se está logrando, las actividades de campo produzcan reales y positivos beneficios a los países receptores del Tercer Mundo.

D. BETI (Suisse): Etant donné que le programme ordinaire et les programmes de terrain sont dans la pratique étroitement liés, il est difficile de prendre position sur le contenu du document C 81/8 et sur le document C 81/4, sans s'exposer au risque de se répéter. Aussi, ma délégation a-t-elle choisi de ne pas s'exprimer sur l'examen du programme ordinaire, non pas parce qu'elle n'attache pas d'importance à cette partie des activités de la FAO, au contraire, mais plutôt, pour faire gagner du temps à notre Commission, d'une part, et parce que les remarques que je vais faire d'autre part, concernant précisément les deux programmes, mais sont plutôt centrées sur les activités de terrain de la FAO.

Inévitablement, dans le cadre de ce débat sur les programmes de terrain, je toucherai aussi des informations qui figurent dans les documents C 81/8, et je vous prie de bien vouloir m'en excuser.

En ce qui concerne les programmes d'action spéciaux de la FAO, la Suisse figure parmi les six principales sources de financement extra-budgétaires de ceux-ci. Depuis plusieurs années déjà elle contribue à la mise en oeuvre des programmes d'assistance à la sécurité alimentaire, de prévention contre les pertes de récolte, d'amélioration de la production de semences, ainsi que de formation de gestionnaires de projets. Les contributions sont accordées sous forme non liée, régie qui est par ailleurs valable pour quasiment toute l'aide au développement accordée par la Suisse.

A titre d'information, je peux ajouter qu'une part essentielle, voire prépondérante de l'aide de mon pays, est consacrée au même domaine de développement.

C'est dire l'importance que nous attachons à l'amélioration de la situation dans les pays en développement, précisément dans ces domaines qui entrent dans les principaux objectifs de la FAO.

Quant à la mise en oeuvre concrète des projets faisant partie de ces programmes spéciaux, nous avons lu avec intérêt ce qui figure dans les documents. Si vous me permettez de m'exprimer au moyen d'une image, je dirai que nous nous sommes trouvés, en lisant ce document, dans la situation du délégué qui a laissé à son conjoint le soin de lui préparer le sac de voyage pour se rendre à un meeting. Arrivé à destination, il constate que le sac a bien été préparé avec habileté et amour; il y découvre énormément de choses, toutes rangées de main de maître, mais certaines placées dans le sac de telle façon qu'elles sautent aux yeux, alors que d'autres sont plutôt cachées. Une bonne partie des objets dont il a besoin se trouve dans le sac, certains mêmes en double ou en triple, toutefois, quelques-uns non moins indispensables font défaut. Bref, le pauvre délégué est obligé de courir à gauche et à droite pour se procurer ce qui manque dans le sac, la brosse à dent par exemple, alors qu'il ne saura que faire des objets que le sac contient en double, le rasoir notamment. Dans quelques cas, il devra même téléphoner à son conjoint pour lui demander de lui envoyer d'urgence dans un petit sac complémentaire, certains objets qu'il ne peut pas se procurer ailleurs.

En résumé, reconnaissant la qualité des deux documents C 81/4, et C 81/8, la quantité de renseignements qu'on y trouve, ainsi que les progrès faits quant à leur élaboration, qu'il nous soit permis d'ajouter qu'à notre avis, on n'a pas pêché par excès d'autocritique, et ici, nous pouvons parler en connaissance de cause, puisque nous participons directement à la réalisation de plusieurs programmes d'action spéciaux.

En fait, dans la réalité, nous avons rencontré dans l'exécution des projets faisant partie de ces quatre programmes, et particulièrement du programme d'assistance à la sécurité alimentaire et de celui de prévention contre les pertes de récolte, un certain nombre de problèmes dont j'aimerais résumer les causes en trois points.

Premièrement, nous sommes conscients qu'il n'est pas facile pour la FAO de venir à bout de ce que j'appellerai les individualismes de chaque pays donateur. Chacun a ses préférences quant aux pays bénéficiaires, ses particularités quant aux caractéristiques des projets, ses exigences quant aux modalités de mise en oeuvre, et j'en passe.... La Suisse ne fait pas exception. Cependant, qu'on veuille bien nous croire, nous ne demandons à la FAO que ce qui nous est demandé sur le plan national. Nous ne sommes pas plus exigeants à l'égard de la FAO que nous le sommes envers nous-mêmes.

A ce sujet, nous sommes en contact permanent avec le Secrétariat de la FAO. Des solutions viables et acceptables de part et d'autre ont déjà pu être trouvées; des progrès ont été faits. Mais il ne fait pas de doute que notre soutien financier aux programmes d'action spéciaux ne pourra être maintenu que dans la mesure où la FAO pourra satisfaire à nos exigences sur le plan de l'exécution opérationnelle et administrative des projets.

Le deuxième point est ce que nous pensons précisément en ce qui concerne l'exécution opérationnelle et opérative des projets par la FAO. Si nous avons pu constater des progrès, et nous aimerions le reconnaître ici publiquement, il n'en reste pas moins que des améliorations sont encore nécessaires et doivent encore être possibles. Je ne m'étendrai pas sur ce point, car il s'agit de questions d'ordre plutôt technique que nous avons régulièrement l'occasion de discuter directement avec les services compétents de la FAO.

J'aimerais seulement à ce propos mentionner que, dans ces discussions nous reconstruisons, dans les collaborateurs de la FAO, des partenaires ouverts et compétents, toujours disposés à rechercher avec nous des solutions appropriées aux problèmes qui se posent.

Le troisième point est le suivant: des mesures d'ordre technique et de formation, soient-elles très bien conçues et parfaitement exécutées, restent souvent à mi-chemin en ce qui concerne leur efficacité et leur impact sur le développement, si elles ne sont pas accompagnées, voire précédées, de mesures d'ordre politique et social. Il est évident que ni le pays donateur, ni la FAO, n'ont de prise sur ces dernières mesures, et il est juste qu'il en soit ainsi.

Pour terminer avec les Programmes d'action spéciaux et leur réalisation, il est hors de doute que nous, pays bénéficiaires, pays donateurs et FAO, sommes dans le même sac. Plusieurs délégations, notamment celle du Sénégal hier, ont souhaité le renforcement de ces Programmes d'action spéciaux. Ce souhait, nous pouvons le partager, dans la mesure où il s'agira non seulement d'une augmentation quantitative et financière, mais également d'une amélioration qualitative et à tous points de vue. Nous sommes, quant à nous, disposés à participer aux efforts en vue d'atteindre cet objectif.

En ce qui concerne le Programme de coopération technique, j'aimerais rappeler la position de principe ainsi que l'attitude pratique et pragmatique de la Suisse à ce sujet. Elles sont reproduites dans le verbatim n° 6 de notre Commission. Je me permets de féliciter à ce point et de remercier le secrétariat pour la précision minutieuse, je dirais presque suisse, avec laquelle notre déclaration de l'autre jour a été reproduite. Nous avons déjà souligné les aspects positifs que nous reconnaissons au PCT. J'y ajouterai, après la lecture du document C 81/4, le fait qu'en 1980 51 pour cent des fonds alloués par le PCT ont bénéficié aux pays les moins avancés et le plus gravement touchés auxquels nous accordons une attention particulière et également nos activités bilatérales.

En ce qui concerne les informations fournies dans les documents, nous les trouvons riches en détails, intéressantes et souvent significatives. Nous regrettons, par contre, comme plusieurs délégations qui se sont exprimées avant nous, que les données fournies restent essentiellement dans ce qui est quantifiable, voire chiffrable. Nous savons qu'il n'est pas facile d'apprécier de façon satisfaisante le vrai développement atteint par un projet, du fait que ce développement ne se manifeste généralement pas de manière complètement chiffrable. Nous pensons toutefois que la FAO peut faire mieux dans cette voie. Nous aimerions alors encourager la FAO à poursuivre dans cette direction, ainsi que M. West en a exprimé l'intention dans sa déclaration.

Dans le débat sur le Programme de travail et budget 1982-83, nous avons formulé deux demandes précises au sujet du PCT. Monsieur de Mèredieu, dans sa déclaration de vendredi dernier, a répondu à l'une des deux. Nous pouvons accepter cette réponse. Quant à la deuxième question, la lecture attentive de la déclaration de M. de Mèredieu figurant dans le verbatim n° 7 ne nous a pas révélé d'éléments de réponse. Le délai d'à peine un jour imparti au secrétariat pour satisfaire à notre demande était bien trop court, nous en convenons bien volontiers. Nous aimerions simplement ici rappeler cette demande: il s'agit de la deuxième question formulée à la page 9 du verbatim n° 6. Si nous tenons beaucoup à recevoir cette réponse dans les meilleurs délais, ce n'est pas seulement parce qu'une question exacte que nous pensons avoir le droit de poser ne devrait pas rester sans réponse précise, c'est surtout - contrairement à ce que semble penser le secrétariat, tout au moins si nous interprétons de façon correctes les propos tenus hier à ce sujet par M. West - parce que nous estimons que nous avons besoin entre autres de ces éléments d'information pour mieux voir l'ensemble du problème et établir une base plus complète et transparente, notre politique à l'égard d'un programme aussi important que le PCT.

En ce qui concerne la décentralisation et les représentants de la FAO, ici encore, pour ne pas nous répéter, nous aimerions rappeler notre position qui est reproduite dans le verbatim n° 6.

Quant aux trois questions précises que nous avons posées dans le cadre du débat sur le Programme de travail et budget 1982-83, la première a reçu sa réponse par la liste des pays qui bénéficient déjà d'un bureau de représentants de la FAO. Monsieur West nous l'avait promise hier, et nous venons de la recevoir. Nous l'en remercions et aimerions lui dire combien nous apprécions cette

disponibilité qui est apte à relancer le dialogue entre les différents partenaires participant à cette Conférence, dialogue que nous voulons le plus ouvert et le plus franc possible et auquel nous tenons autant que tous les autres participants.

Quant aux pays qui doivent en principe bénéficier des services des douze représentants FAO supplémentaires prévus dans le Programme de travail et budget 1982-83, nous comprenons que, pour les raisons évoquées par M. de Mèredieu, la liste ne nous soit pas fournie avant l'aboutissement des négociations en cours.

Par contre, la réponse donnée à notre deuxième question, il nous serait difficile de l'accepter comme définitive. Il est évident que le renvoi quelque peu superflu au paragraphe 5.86 du document C 81/8 que le secrétariat nous a suggéré en guise de réponse ne saurait nous éclairer sur un seul des éléments contenus dans notre question. Ici encore nous attribuons le manque de précision dans la réponse donnée à la brièveté du délai imparti, car nous admettons volontiers que les représentants du secrétariat sur le podium ne puissent pas disposer ad hoc dans leurs dossiers de tous les renseignements qui leur sont demandés. Nous comptons sur l'esprit d'ouverture démontré hier par le secrétariat, et notamment par M. West, et sommes certains qu'aucun effort ne sera ménagé pour procurer à tous les membres ici présents les renseignements que nous avons demandés.

Il en va bien entendu de même pour la troisième question que nous avons soumise concernant les représentants FAO.

Pour terminer sur ce sujet, encore un mot particulièrement à l'adresse de nos partenaires des pays en développement.

Les déclarations de ma délégation devraient, me semble-t-il, avoir fait toute la lumière sur notre attitude essentiellement positive à l'égard de l'établissement du réseau des représentants de la FAO. Aucun doute ne devrait plus planer sur ce point. Nous prenons note avec satisfaction de la déclaration unanime des pays en voie de développement en faveur de la présence d'un représentant FAO dans leur pays. Nous admettons également qu'ils soient, en tant que bénéficiaires, les juges privilégiés des avantages que leur offrent ce représentant FAO. Si nous demandons néanmoins à être mieux renseignés à ce sujet, et nous pensons que nous sommes en droit de le faire, cela est dû notamment à une certaine frustration de notre part, car en tant que pays développé nous ne pouvons bénéficier des avantages d'un représentant FAO. Ce n'est donc que par une information aussi concrète, précise et complète que possible que nous pouvons participer à cette expérience fort importante sur le plan de l'organisation d'une institution comme la FAO, et également une expérience dont nous pourrions profiter pour notre coopération bilatérale.

C'est le but des questions que nous avons posées et nous attendons les réponses avec beaucoup d'intérêt.

Ma délégation se réserve le droit de revenir sur d'autres points à un stade plus avancé du débat.

G. ERICSSON (Sweden): On behalf of the Swedish delegation I would like to begin our comments on document C 81/4 with a little more general statement on the relation between the Regular Programme and the Field Programme. The Field Programme presents the important direct FAO contribution in the medium and long term to overcome hunger and malnutrition and to support a balanced development of the rural areas in developing countries. With this view in mind the role of a large proportion of the Regular Programme, as distinct from FAO mandatory functions directed towards all member countries, is to pave the way for and to support field programme activities in developing countries, multinational as well as bilateral. It is encouraging to see how this part of the Regular Programme has during the last biennia been deliberately directed to fulfil more efficiently this role, with the Special Action Programme, in priority areas functioning as a bridge between the Regular Programme and field activities.

It goes without saying that a biennial comprehensive review of field programmes is an important exercise to allow an objective and candid analysis of the planning and implementation of field activities and to evaluate their performance and to give us as member countries an opportunity to discuss the further directions of the work of this Organization.

We would like to congratulate the Secretariat for the clear and concise document before us, which presents an excellent basis for discussion of the FAO field activities and for conclusions on what measures to take to make them even more efficient.

In the following I would like to comment briefly on some more specific issues brought forward in the document.

In Chapter 1, Section A, figures are presented which show that the FAO part as well as the overall allocation to agriculture, forestry and fisheries of the UNDP funds is still declining. Given the FAO's competence and mandate within the UN System and the obvious need for even greater allocation for the development of these sectors the trend is disturbing.

In the second document before us now, C 81/28, Development Assistance for Food Production and Rural Development, an analysis is given of the reasons thereof. It also gives information on the steps taken by the Director-General as a follow-up of Conference Resolution 6/79. Further, the document indicates that the prospects may seem a little bit brighter when looking at the third UNDP programming cycle.

We commend the Director-General and the Secretariat for the initiatives which have been taken to change the trend.

Our government is prepared to increase the allocations to rural development and to least developed countries, as stated by our Minister of Agriculture in the Plenary session. On the other hand, we have found in the bilateral cooperation among our partners a preference to use flexible Swedish funds for industrial projects or other more spectacular projects within the modern sector of the economy. The importance of the developing countries themselves giving priority to the agricultural sector in a broad sense and at an appropriate technological level must also be underlined.

During the period of declining UNDP funds, Trust Fund Contributions have been increasing, but as stated in the review, it is more difficult to forecast Trust Fund allocations, which make a steady flow of UNDP Funds all the more important in order not to disrupt the machinery for planning and implementation of field activities.

Before leaving Document C 81/28 I would also like to stress what is said in paragraphs 21 and 22 on new approaches to aid programming, for instance, less restrictions on local and recurrent cost financing and on the shifting of allocations among projects and project components, more of programme or sector support, more attention to rehabilitation of older projects and lastly more of gradual building up of the projects/programmes from what is already existing in regions rather than introducing new methods. We believe that such approaches have a special relevance under present economic circumstances.

As can be seen from Section F in Chapter one - I am now back to C 81/4 - FAO activities in support of investment have increased during the last two biennia. The broadened cooperation with a number of financing institutions is strongly supported by our delegation and we also appreciate the follow-up of UNDP projects with investment potential. In our bilateral cooperation, we do not make any clear distinction between technical assistance and investment. In the multinational development cooperation, where the funds are coming from different sources, it is important to establish close links with the two. We therefore strongly endorse what has been said in paragraphs 1.64 to 1.66 in Section G of Chapter One.

In the introduction to Chapter Two, Assessment of Field Projects, it is stated in paragraph 2.3 that the bulk of field activities, in terms of manpower and funds, takes place within relatively large-scale projects with support duration of up to three or four years. Such projects, it is said, very often present considerable problems in planning and implementation. Most of such problems are complex and interrelated. From Swedish experience a flexible attitude is required. New and unexpected problems may arise that must be dealt with continuously on the basis of an integrated overview of problems. This requires a long-term perspective. To that effect, Swedish aid policies have explicitly taken into consideration the fact that major rural development projects will require continuous supports over a minimum of 10 years. We have also experienced that the more successful rural development projects are those of long duration, projects that have started on a small scale and then have continuously expanded, into activities conducive to solving problems that may not have been evident at the outset of the project.

The assessment of field projects has been made against six performance criteria, and for each of these criteria, a number of big projects has been scored on a scale of 1 to 5, representing a ranking order of poor/satisfactory/good. This has proved to be a useful approach, and it is quite impressive that FAO managed to assess the multitude of very different projects in a uniform manner, thereby giving an overview of achievements and problems which form a basis for further analysis of problems and difficulties identified as common.

However, this ranking system may be even more useful if the performance criteria also include some notion of target groups, that is, small farmers, landless, unemployed, etc. This could be seen as one step of incorporating WCARRD principles in the design and evaluation into field programmes.

Section D of Chapter Two summarizes the conclusions drawn from the assessment and gives practical proposals how to improve project formulation and design of field projects, proposals which are also relevant for the work within bilateral agencies.

And then I am coming to my last point, New Dimensions, which are dealt with in Chapter Four. Let me first say that we feel strongly that the FAO has been in the forefront among UN Agencies in the support of these new approaches and we commend the Secretariat for early recognition of the need of changing the mode of operations to promote self-reliance by transferring responsibilities for planning and implementation of field projects to the recipient countries themselves. The paragraphs of reference here are 4.6 to 4.9. To save time, I am not going to repeat what is stated in them but just give our full support to even more deliberate efforts to introduce these changes in the operation of field projects. Even if the concept is accepted within FAO, it has, as is also stated in the document, still a long way to go until they are brought into practice.

It has only been possible to touch upon a few of the constructive proposals and views expressed in the Review of Field Programmes. I will conclude this statement by reiterating our satisfaction with the document and the presentation by the Secretariat.

P. BOURGOIS (PNUD): Je vous remercie de l'occasion qui m'est donnée d'intervenir sur l'examen du programme de terrain.

La documentation, ainsi que les interventions faites, montrent bien le rôle central que joue le PNUD en matière de coopération technique dans le système des Nations Unies.

En 1980 les fonds que le PNUD a alloués à la FAO pour l'exécution de projets s'élevaient à 195 millions de dollars, soit près de 55 millions de plus que le budget régulier de l'organisation, et un peu moins que le double des sommes que la FAO a mobilisées comme fonds fiduciaires et autres arrangements multi-bilatéraux. Les chiffres du PNUD pour 1981 seront probablement du même ordre de grandeur, et le programme aura à peu de choses près fourni le montant d'assistance qui avait été prévu pour le cycle de programmation 1977-1981. Ceci était mon premier point.

Ce qui est préoccupant, c'est que, pour la deuxième année consécutive et très probablement pour l'année à venir, les ressources - li sont essentiellement les contributions volontaires des gouvernements - n'ont pas atteint le taux de croissance de 14 pour cent qui continue d'être l'objectif du Conseil du PNUD.

Et là je vous demanderai de considérer les nombreux chiffres, pourcentages et projections que j'ai lus avec circonspection, non qu'ils soient faux, - les chiffres sont ceux du PNUD - mais ils cherchent à prouver et cela dans une toile de fond qui semble se vouloir sombre. Ici on prend des dollars ajustés au taux d'inflation, là des dollars fin 1980, ailleurs des dollars de novembre 1981, ou on extrapole sur cinq ans les chiffres décevants d'aujourd'hui. C'est probablement inévitable, mais il faut se souvenir à tout moment que l'on parle de dollars qui varient et de contributions surtout en monnaies nationales.

Pour un programme de 700 millions environ, ces variations sont très importantes. Ainsi, entre décembre 1980 et novembre 1981, les contributions - les mêmes contributions - ont perdu quelque 70 millions de dollars. Le PNUD n'est pas le seul affecté. Evidemment pour des raisons différentes, les chiffres donnés par le Directeur général dans sa déclaration liminaire sur le budget régulier courant de la FAO indiquent que pour un programme établi à 440 millions de dollars, il dispose en fait, au taux actuel' de 366 millions. Je pourrais citer le PAM, l'UNICEF, le FNUAP, etc. affectés par les variations des taux de change, sans même parler de l'inflation. Il en serait de même, en fait, pour des fonds fiduciaires de la FAO exprimés en dollars ou en coûts réels.

Si j'insiste, c'est que la documentation peut donner l'idée que le PNUD est à présent en crise financière. Ce n'est pas le cas, le PNUD a des réserves, et grâce à un système d'informations financières moderne, peut ajuster à tout moment allocations et dépenses.



Comme l'administrateur en a informé les directeurs exécutifs des agences, les projets approuvés pourront être exécutés conformément aux budgets approuvés. Le PNUD honorera ses engagements concernant les projets approuvés.

Une préoccupation sérieuse pour les ressources à venir, mais une situation financière saine était mon deuxième point. Il est donc difficile de comprendre les références faites à la nécessité de "terminer" les contrats de quelque 3 à 400 experts. Si cela veut dire que leur contrat prend fin comme prévu dans les projets, c'est compréhensible, mais si cela veut dire qu'il a fallu mettre fin à des contrats prématurément, quelle est l'explication, puisque les fonds sont là? Inutile de dire qu'au PNUD nous sommes très préoccupés par de telles déclarations, mais cela peut être dû à une traduction en anglais "terminated" de ce qui a été dit en français. En fait, nous serions désireux d'éclaircir ce point.

Ce qui est préoccupant e'est la mobilisation des ressources nécessaires pour l'avenir immédiat. Le Conseil du PNUD avait prévu de doubler le volume d'aide exprimé en dollars pour le nouveau cycle 1982-86 par rapport au précédent. Cela signifie une augmentation annuelle et une cumulation des contributions de l'ordre de 14 pour cent.

En fait, nous abordons le troisième cycle avec des contributions substantiellement au-dessous de ce volume qui est nécessaire pour programmer à 100 pour cent des CIP approuvés. Le conseil a fixé le niveau de programmation, pour le moment, à 80 pour cent. Mais de là à dire que pour les cinq ans du cycle de programmation il ne sera pas possible d'atteindre l'objectif prévu originellement serait trop pessimiste. Ce serait ignorer les efforts que déploie l'administrateur pour redresser la situation. Et, à ce propos, je dois mentionner en particulier les efforts qu'il fait pour qu'enfin soit reconnue l'importance de consacrer une part accrue à l'assistance technique dans l'aide au développement. Il met l'accent à ce propos sur l'assistance en matière de production alimentaire et de développement rural. La décision prise par le Conseil, l'année dernière, l'éclat donné cette année à l'appel des 50 prix Nobel, la visite récente de l'administrateur au Parlement européen, reflète l'action énergique entreprise par le PNUD sur ce thème.

Quand on se réfère aux difficultés de mobiliser les ressources requises, il ne faut pas - et e'est là mon message - jeter le manche après la cognée. Au contraire, il faut ne ménager aucun effort pour que donateurs traditionnels et potentiels réalisent que la désaffection que certains semblent montrer pour le multilatéral véritable aura des conséquences graves, non seulement sur les programmes courants, mais surtout à moyen et à long terme sur le développement économique même. Ceci était mon quatrième point.

Prenons maintenant la question du pourcentage des ressources du PNUD consacré à des projets exécutés par la FAO. Je crois qu'après ce que je viens de dire il n'y a pas de doute que le Secrétariat du PNUD et le Conseil aimeraient voir une plus grande part du programme consacrée au renforcement de la production agricole et au développement rural. Mais nous devons reconnaître la souveraineté des décisions des gouvernements. Il serait erroné d'affirmer que, parce que les approbations des projets sont la responsabilité du PNUD, il est responsable de la part qui va vers la FAO. Non, les projets doivent être tout d'abord préparés et approuvés par les gouvernements.

Considérant la modicité des ressources du PNUD, il ne peut être exclu que ces mêmes gouvernements tiennent compte des autres ressources qui sont à leur disposition par des fonds fiduciaires ou autres. Il est aussi possible qu'en raison de l'accroissement très rapide de ces fonds, une attention particulière ait été donnée dans le développement des projets pour ces fonds. Je sais, par expérience personnelle, qu'il faut un temps considérable pour développer des projets correspondant aux désirs des bénéficiaires et des donateurs. Même si cela a été le cas, l'avenir n'est pas aussi sombre.

J'attire votre attention sur le paragraphe 37 du document C 81/28. L'ampleur de la réallocation des ressources du PNUD pour le troisième cycle vers les pays ayant des revenus par habitant de moins de 500 dollars ne peut être minimisée. Près de 80 pour cent des ressources pour les CIP par pays y seront consacrés. La liste des 65 pays comprend tous ceux ayant un déficit alimentaire. Nombre d'entre eux voient leurs CIP plus que doublés. Il serait surprenant qu'ils ne consacrent pas une part plus importante de ces CIP à des activités dans le domaine de la FAO.

La brièveté du paragraphe que j'ai mentionné couvre sans doute, en fait, un élément essentiel du redressement de la part de la FAO dans les activités du PNUD, mais aussi du travail considérable qui devrait être fait pour une utilisation optimum des ressources mises à la disposition de ces pays, et cela même en tenant compte des contraintes présentes portant sur les ressources.

Dans ce contexte, les 3 pour cent en 1980, 2 pour cent en 1981 des activités dans le domaine agricole qui vont à l'OPE sont seulement à mentionner pour référence, d'autant plus qu'il s'agit essentiellement de projets mis en oeuvre par des institutions telles le CIMMYT ou le Groupe consultatif en matière de recherche agricole Internationale auquel participe du reste la FAO.

Je reconnais que l'allocation de certains projets pluridisciplinaires est parfois difficile et suscite des critiques de l'une ou de l'autre des organisations concernées; ceci est typique par exemple dans le domaine de l'eau, malgré les nombreuses réunions interagences qui se sont penchées sur cette question. La plus récente vient de se tenir à New York, je n'ai pas encore les résultats.

Le point suivant portera sur les remarques dans la documentation concernant les variations dans le volume d'approbation de projets au cours des deux cycles de programmation. Il y a certainement un problème. Cela, lit-on, affecte négativement la bonne mise en oeuvre de l'assistance fournie. Au vu des courbes qui nous ont été montrées, j'ai d'abord pensé que c'étaient des courbes de contributions. En fait, il est difficile de dire si l'effet de dent de scie, regrettable, est dû au système de programmation ou au fait qu'en 1975 et de nouveau en 1980, les contributions n'ont pas atteint les prévisions. Il est possible que la combinaison de ces deux facteurs ait joué.

Il faut noter que le système de programmation continue, maintenant adopté, devrait entraîner une amélioration, mais le problème essentiel qui demeure à résoudre est celui des ressources.

Enfin, plusieurs références ont été faites aux relations entre les représentants résidents et le représentant de la FAO. Comme l'a clairement indiqué le Directeur général dans sa documentation, ces relations ont été définies par la lettre qu'il a signée conjointement avec l'administrateur, et nous nous en félicitons. Le reste, ce sont des relations humaines, et, Monsieur le Président, si je peux ouvrir une parenthèse pour commenter sur la petite histoire que nous a racontée Monsieur West hier, j'ai été quelque peu surpris par sa conclusion, car je croyais qu'il allait nous dire que, le représentant de la FAO ayant pu enfin réaliser son souhait de rentrer à Rome, quand il est arrivé il s'est fait sérieusement gourmander pour abandon de poste. Car n'y a-t-il rien de pire que de voir le système des Nations Unies représenté dans un pays par un seul représentant, et cela par le représentant du PNUD?

Je passe maintenant à une question plus sérieuse, car il est certain que c'est dans les relations humaines que devra se développer une coopération harmonieuse entre nos représentants. Je sais qu'il n'est pas de bon ton ici de mentionner le mot "coordination", qui irrite l'épiderme ou provoque les sourires, et pourtant nos représentants doivent faire plus que coopérer entre eux; ils doivent être à même de présenter aux gouvernements qui, eux, ont la prérogative de coordonner, des avis harmonisés. C'est bien le sens des remarques de S.E. Madame Gandhi, quand elle a insisté sur la nécessité d'une approche multidisciplinaire pour le développement.

Je crois que ces remarques montrent combien au PNUD nous attachons d'importance à l'action des institutions du système des Nations Unies. Certes, la coopération technique et ses modalités de mise en oeuvre sont en pleine évolution pour répondre aux besoins des pays en développement, qui eux-mêmes évoluent. Il est probable que les modifications inévitables qu'entraînent ce que le PNUD appelle les "nouvelles dimensions" - exécution des projets par les gouvernements, rôle du personnel national dans les projets, la CTPT - n'ont pas encore pleinement été ressenties. L'important est que ce système s'adapte avec dynamisme. Mais pour le moment, des ressources accrues sont nécessaires. Tout ce qui est dans la documentation et tout ce qui a été dit, prouvent qu'une augmentation de ressources pour une assistance réellement multilatérale est essentielle. Les autres assistances doivent être additionnelles pour le système des Nations Unies, puisque la multilatéralité est sa raison d'être. La mobilisation de ces ressources pour le PNUD n'est pas un problème du seul PNUD; c'est - et cela est clair - le problème de nous tous. Pour vous qui connaissez l'action que nous poursuivons, il est important que vous disiez que l'augmentation des ressources du PNUD est indispensable, que ce soit partie intégrante de vos conclusions, et cela au moment même où l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies examine, elle aussi, les activités de ce programme. Le meilleur exemple de l'harmonisation qui doit exister dans ce grand système des Nations Unies, ne serait-il pas que les secrétariats au siège, nos représentants au niveau des pays et les organes intergouvernementaux, parlent avec le même son de voix, pour le développement économique et le progrès social.

Ceci est mon espoir et ma conclusion.

E.M. WEST (Assistant Director-General, Office of Programme, Budget and Evaluation): In the same humorous spirit I should like to reply to the representative of the UNDP that the FAO representative did not abandon his post and did not get hell as he suggested he should have had. What he left was a desert island to which he was never assigned. The significant thing is he did not say that the UNDP Resident Representative preferred to stay on his desert island.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): First of all a word of thanks to Mr. de Meredieu for his very lucid presentation of the documents that are now before us.

Referring first to the Review of the Food Programme document I have to say that in our view it continues the remarkable tradition of well prepared, frank assessments of the various aspects of field activities, not necessarily only those carried out by FAO, but at the same time providing us with an overview showing, for example, in clear terms the composition of the IDA and whatever is necessary for our first consideration of the FAO field activities.

We feel the material is well-organized in four chapters, Current Trends and Outlook; Assessment of Field Projects - which is a permanent assessment of all such reviews; then Food Crop Production and Improvement; and specially welcome, a chapter on so-called New Approaches.

I will not dwell too much overall on the IDA floor, not because the issue is not important, there is no question of that, but we feel our views have been expressed here and elsewhere in clear terms, and we only hope that this very important issue will be given very much prominence in the forthcoming global negotiations.

I have only a single concern, that the agriculture share still continues to decline overall for the IDA and is still lagging far behind the internationally agreed estimates.

Here perhaps I could express some regret it has remained stagnant for some years at a very low level, and especially I have in mind the achievement of developing countries in increasing food production in the last decade. When we read they achieved 2.2 or 2.3 percent it becomes clear, to our minds at least, that the support to their own efforts has been at the level which we have all agreed it should have been, then perhaps those countries could have achieved a growth rate very near to 4 percent, which we all agreed was the real minimum.

Turning to UNDP as the still basic centre, which the UNDP representative himself said, of funding for FAO field activities, I would just repeat three main concerns.

The primary concern is of course with the overall bleak prospects for overall UNDP resources in the next programming cycle if the present trends are allowed to continue. It is indeed alarming to see that under this assumption the next cycle funds could be much as 20 percent less than in the present one, in real terms of course.

We are equally concerned with the share of agriculture in UNDP resources. Here there is a conflict between theory and practice, and in theory I fully agree with what most of the delegates have said, and especially what was said by the UNDP representative. Yes, governments are responsible in the final analysis in deciding the type of project they want UNDP to finance, but in the course of very complex and usually fairly lengthy negotiations between the various parties, and first of all government and UNDP representatives, the influence of the other side of UNDP and agencies to a lesser degree, is very highly emphasized. We therefore hope that the action taken by the Director-General and the very positive response by the Administrator of UNDP and the UNDP Council, as well as the fact that the Director-General recently addressed the UNDP Resident Representatives orally to draw their attention to the really burning food issues, will give fruitful results. We merely wish to place on record our satisfaction with the action taken by the Director-General with regard to Resolution 6/79 and as I have already indicated, we are equally satisfied with the positive response from UNDP and its Administrator. We very much hope that the UNDP Governing Council and the Administrator will continue, as the UNDP Representative especially emphasized, their efforts and will spare no efforts to achieve the 14 percent annual target in the next programming cycle.

We must be concerned with the regular irregularities in the flow of UNDP allocations in the course of a cycle which certainly have a negative impact on the efficiency of FAO and other agencies in general, in the field.

On the other trust funds I shall be very brief. We see prospects that are not as bleak as in the case of UNDP but still we do still see some cause for concern. As we have all realized, I hope, the problem with all FAO action programmes is the lack of resources, and there is no exception. It may be worth stressing again that the lack of resources continues to exist despite the fact that the international community on many occasions, in the United Nations General Assembly as well as elsewhere - I have in mind the WCARRD Conference, the FAO Conference Special Resolution 6/79, WFC Meetings and many others - agreed, and even in many instances specified FAO action programmes and that they required full support. Despite these facts and some indirect support also of IBS, the level of resources continues, as I have said, to be very low and certainly not adequate, in fact highly inadequate, for the activities, that we agreed should be carried out.

We can only hope that the Conference will continue the same action initiated through Resolution 6/79 and will express in strong terms indeed its concern and will urge governments to take all possible steps to increase in general their contributions to the UNDP and to support as soon as possible FAO action proposals.

Turning now to the assessment of projects, we very much value this part which is a permanent one of the review of Regular Programmes. We realize that, though the method is slightly different as compared to the one applied in the last Review, we still have at least some indications of the progress achieved. We specially see the decrease in the number of projects ranked as poor and subsequent increase in the category of satisfactory projects. To a certain degree we are concerned with the first tendency with regard to transfer of skills and we feel that it needs to be very carefully studied.

With regard to the assessment based on the project evaluation missions, we are aware that the purpose of those missions is to call first of all to identify and as far as possible to solve the problems in the field; and secondly to draw the necessary experience and thus improve future programmes and implementation of the projects.

On TCP, though perhaps FAO representatives may have been somewhat biased, still the rank attached to the TCP efficiency is so high that we feel it needs to be stressed again.

Coming now to Chapter Four, which as I have already indicated, we value very highly because it presents some very challenging ideas, I agree with my friend from Sydney that we are aware that FAO has been in recent years in the forefront in all these respects that we now consider as new approaches or new dimensions. There is no question that we are reasonably satisfied with the progress achieved and especially I would like to stress the quite remarkable progress achieved with regard to the experts from developing countries. We are also aware of the progress achieved in the use of national institutions and work done in support of TCDC activities, but in these last two respects we think that we are still at the beginning and perhaps, in the course of the next biennium and subsequent biennia, we shall be able to make much visible progress. Indeed I think that as we indicated in both our Plenary speech and in my first intervention in this Commission this is perhaps the only way to produce lasting effects the way to approach in a less traditional, less classical way, technical assistance and especially give the highest prominence to institutional support projects. It applies equally to the FAO training activities financed out of the Regular Programme.

J. NEUMANN (Czechoslovakia): I wish to inform this meeting about our contribution to co-operation and to the aid to developing countries in the field of periodical organization of training seminars which are held in our country in the frame: FAO/UNDP Programmes for specialists from the developing countries. This year we have prepared a seminar on the woodworking industry with special orientation to projecting and control of integrated woodworking plants. This seminar, held at the Forestry and Wood University in Zvolen for a month was attended by 25 specialists from the English-speaking countries of Africa and Middle East. The theoretical and practical parts were well-combined and the participants visited Czechoslovak forest establishments where they could see modern farms of forest management, as well as some progressive plants of the woodworking industry, including plants for the production of fibre boards and fibre cement boards which were interesting for many specialists from developing countries. During the trips, attention was paid to the problems of wood chemistry. This seminar is intended to be organized either every year or every other year, in accordance with the technical and pedagogical requirements of FAO Centre.

I also wish to note, Mr. Chairman, that we do not intend to confine our efforts related to the training seminars only to the field of forest and wood; we can extend our offer to cover other fields as well.

In the first place, this applies to animal production/protection of the health of farm animals which now has a priority position in the plans of our organization. Therefore we are preparing a seminar on selected problems of veterinary medicine with special regard to the problems of the tropical regions of African countries. This training course is to be held in the summer at the University of Veterinary Medicine in Brno which has all prerequisites needed for fulfilling the mission of such a seminar.

Another seminar is being prepared on the problems of the biological fixation of nitrogen. This theme was chosen in keeping with the attention paid at present by the FAO to the problems of land fund and its further improvement. Our special plant production research institutes and the University of Agriculture in Prague are involved in the preparations for the seminar.

Finally, the close co-operation with the Joint FAO/ECE Timber Committee resulted in the requirement for organizing a training course on the mechanization of the production of forest seedlings which is planned to be held in 1983. During this course we intend to familiarize participants with our advanced forest seed production technology and progressive practices.

R.W.M. JOHNSON (New Zealand): My colleagues in New Zealand have read the document under consideration and have provided the following comments:

One of the major concerns which emerges from the paper is the problem of diminishing resources and the consequent restriction of activity. The effectiveness of investment in projects must be critical in the allocation of these resources. Discipline in selection can only be achieved when there is a reasonable assessment of likely cost effectiveness of that particular investment. There is obviously a greater and greater need to reassess the value of ongoing commitments and to examine quite critically the likely impact of potential developmental opportunities.

As far as new initiatives are concerned, it is not clear whether they replace previous commitments or whether they merely broaden the already very wide area of involvement which is a feature of FAO activity. We suggest greater attention should be paid to restriction of activity and to selectivity in involvement directing the diminishing flow of resources into those particular projects which have potential for positive progress.

As far as internal evaluation is concerned it is pleasing to note the attempts which have been made to analyse performance. In this respect, it is noted that factors over which FAO has some control, that is project design and delivery, tend to perform best. On the other hand, government involvement does not rate so well. We suggest therefore that this factor requires further attention, perhaps along the following lines. Are there available alternative approaches or strategies which could be developed for the countries concerned? Are there factors operating other than the critical shortage of trained manpower? What is the position with regard to the supply and quality of counterparts? Could long-term manpower strategies be developed further? And finally, could criteria be developed for assessing the capability of local contributions and performance?

May I briefly return to the topic of project evaluation which is also relevant to this topic. I believe a metaphor like a "string of sausages" hardly conveys the correct impression of the ranking procedures we seek. I believe we are looking at a kind of infant industry type argument in our aid programmes. We are providing aid to stimulate or catalyse the process of agricultural development. Without this extra assistance nothing would happen; with it some take-off of development or change is initiated.

We could think of development investment as the seed of a legume plant. FAO assistance is equivalent to the innoculant without which the plant will not commence growth. Once the plant is established the plant produces its own nitrogen supply and the outside aid can be withdrawn!

N. J. DORENBOS (Netherlands): Document C 81/4 describes in a clear way FAO's field programme. The text does not call directly for very controversial issues to be raised, neither for comments on progressive new ideas. This is not meant to be a criticism, but rather a conclusion that the report 81/4 is a reflection of a continuous programme development.

Some specific remarks seem appropriate: firstly, a possible stagnation of the aid funds channelled through FAO. Secondly a UNDP mini crisis or should I say a slowly evolving UNDP crisis before us. Thirdly, and also very important, a reduction in the FAO personnel engaged in projects of 3 to 5 years duration. As regards this latter, it must be noted that in the report a seemingly 'low key approach' is taken. On the other hand it is also noted that increasing use is being made of expertise available in the recipient countries. The word self-reliance seems appropriate in this respect.

We wonder if it is correct to observe that within FAO there is a tendency towards increasing the use of short-time, highly qualified consultants, in spite of the more customary 3 to 5 years project approach? For instance, it is stated on page 29 in the report "small scale projects form a large part of the operational programme and which involve short and discreet interventions with clear and immediate objectives". Also the small scale, short duration projects seem to score higher marks than other projects. In case this trend continues, this may or even must lead to some kind of policy change within FAO's operation division. It would be interesting to hear in which way FAO will tackle this new dimension, both policy-wise and in terms of personal structuring.

We feel that inadequate mention is made of the subject of project evaluation. There is no mention of what in fact was missing at the project identification stage. Therefore using an expression by an FAO Representative on page 31 "stretched to the limit in coping with a massive aid programme, necessitating a constant stream of missions, consultants and advisers". This calls for additional comments.

May I turn to TCP now. Of course with its limited resources available TCP is not in a position to supply substantial support to all and every project and to give it a healthy start. However, it is refreshing to note the idea that also now FAO Representatives have the possibility of acting quickly on unforeseen problems and also are able to start small-scale activities with ex-post evaluation. A similar approach is used by the Netherlands for the Embassy where also their ambassador is also able to use a sort of oil can to start such type of activity and I must say our experience has been very rewarding. That is one aspect. But we feel also TCP could be of great assistance by participating upon the restraints and identifying the type of total assistance required. For instance, pre-project activity for large-scale projects could be seen as one of the benefits in which TCP becomes more and more involved. This would not only apply to multilateral projects but also here may be a function for the support of bilateral activities as the Netherlands has recently experienced in the field of fertilizer with Nepal. Again it goes without saying that the FAO Representative, having the authority and the confidence of the recipient countries, must play an important role also again in this identification stage.

J.L.F. BUIST (United Kingdom): You have asked us to discuss two rather different subjects together and inevitably this means longer statements if each is to have full weight. I will begin by looking at the wider horizon dealt with in Paper 28 and its first corrigendum and then go on to questions about the field programmes.

Paper 28, for which we were grateful, concentrates perhaps understandably on questions of direct interest to FAO but it is important to set them in the wider context of aid from all sources to renewable natural resources development. We are glad to see from the correcting paper issued that aid to agriculture is still rising fast. Last year it topped \$ 10 billion for the first time. I realise that the figures are only preliminary, and for the reason I shall come to they do not tell the full story. But they are nevertheless encouraging and I would not share the pessimism of the Yugoslav delegate who I think described such flow, as stagnating.

Now no one could fail to be struck by the growing weight in the total of the multilateral lending agencies. Their total aid commitments surpass \$ 17 500 million every year and their commitments to agriculture alone exceed \$5 billion. So it is important that their work should have the full backing of all members, especially at a time when most of them are again seeking fresh resources for new commitments.

As the British Alternate Governor for the Inter-American and Asian Development Banks and the African Development Fund, I am perhaps preoccupied by this question. In all of these institutions aid for renewable natural resources is their first priority, ranging from 30 percent or so to over 46 percent last year for the African Development Fund. Indeed, it is hard to imagine how the developing countries investment needs in agriculture could be met at all without the World Bank, the Regional Banks and Funds and IFAD. So I have some suggestions about how this Conference might encourage these institutions in their work. First, we should clearly call for urgent confirmation from those concerned of the replenishment arrangements for IFAD as these stand after informal discussions on the fringe after the recent IMF/IBRD annual meeting. I share the view of the Colombian delegate on this.

Secondly, all who are members of these bodies, including the more advanced developing countries, should consider how they might help further to enlarge their resources and to concentrate them on the poorest countries. There are two ways of doing this. First by contributing actively as donors; some non-regional developing countries do this, along with us, in the African Development Fund, and some regional developing countries intend to do the same with the next Asian Development Fund; second by refraining from, making calls on scarce concessional resources in these institutions and I am glad to say that the better-off African and Asian countries, and indeed even India, refrain accordingly in their two regional institutions and there is the same possibility in the Inter-American Development Bank. These efforts make it easier for us and other traditional donors to play our own part. In addition, thirdly, there is plenty of scope for expanding co-financing in a more organized way towards agricultural and natural resources development with new donors and their agencies, where these cannot belong to, or do not wish to join, these institutions. Again the African Development Fund leads the way here. But we should like to see more interest among surplus oil producing countries in longer-term regular arrangements with the Asian Development Bank. This would incidentally help to compensate for the natural variations in agricultural commitments of these agencies of the newer donors which are shown in the documentation.

I said earlier that the tables we have understate the aid which goes to agriculture. That is particularly so for the bilateral DAC donors, many of whom, like ourselves, provide non-project or programme assistance. This is of course available for use in any sector. We should like this Conference to invite recipient countries to devote an adequate share of their non-project aid and indeed of their general external borrowing in support of their agricultural investments.

Turning now to the UNDP, we share the concern of the Colombian and other delegations about FAO's part in the contracts which have been financed by this Institution. But there is some encouragement to be found for FAO in that its share of the total project expenditure has remained pretty steady over the last four years at about 24-25 percent. However, FAO is clearly losing business to direct contractors and we fear that this is because it is not as competitive as it should be. It is also true that as agriculture is so important FAO ought to have more than a quarter share of the total. But the explanation for the relatively low priority given by individual countries to the FAO projects in their IPFs is not far to seek. As the UNDP observer has reminded us, it is the governments who decide this and they take into account other resources available to them. Among those resources is of course the TCP. The bigger the TCP the more likely it is that a country will turn away from giving FAO proper ranking in its UNDP Indicative Programme. Why should governments bother setting aside UNDP money for FAO when they know that they can get their schemes financed from the TCP? From this point of view the faster expansion of the TCP, for which several delegations have called, could actually threaten FAO's extra budgetary activities, and as less than 70 percent of the TCP will go to the poorest regions, Africa and Asia, whereas they can expect 80 percent or more of the UNDP, one should be cautious about encouraging a trend which could actually result in FAO losing more on the swings than is gained by its developing country members on the roundabouts.

On the question of the UNDP resources I have much sympathy with the appeal of our Yugoslav colleague and the UNDP observer for greater efforts to reach the target increase of 14 percent a year. As I have said before, increases in budgets for executing agencies like FAO may unfortunately constrain what we can do to help raise the budgets of other agencies, including the UNDP which should be the central focus of all technical assistance in the UN System. We were reassured by the UNDP observer's firm statement that money was available for all existing approved projects and thus that there was no need for premature termination of the contracts of experts financed from that source.

More generally, we are glad FAO is represented full-time on the UNDP inter-agency task force. We hope that this will help both organizations to work more effectively together in the future. We ourselves endorse the multi-disciplinary approach as usually, though not always, appropriate and we think it gives the best likelihood of successful design and planning to which the delegations of Iraq and Colombia have rightly drawn attention.

I turn now to the Programmes and I will comment chapter by chapter on the Review. On Chapter 1 we, like the Swedish delegation, are glad to note the growing emphasis given to the Field Programmes. Although there have been fluctuations in FAO/UNDP operations, the actual delivery of expenditure seems to be much smoother than the sharp movements in allocations.

The regional distribution of external allocations for FAO field projects given in Table 2, paragraph 1.26, seems satisfactory to us, and especially the increased allocation for Africa from 34 to 37 percent. But we would like to ask the FAO Secretariat if this is really adequate in view of the serious situation that has developed in that continent and which has already been discussed in this Conference.

The balance of allocations to the natural resources sub-sectors, which are set out in paragraph 1.28 and 1.29, seem satisfactory. But it is not clear how these allocations were made. Are they in response to demand from the developing country or as a result of a previously planned FAO exercise? We think that FAO may find it necessary and should be encouraged to select priority areas within the natural resources sector so that maximum value is obtained from the resources available.

On Part E this section is necessarily brief but extremely important as it incorporates technical advances between developed world technology and the developing countries. It would have been useful to have cross-referenced data on the various subject areas mentioned, since this would help to reduce possible duplication of work between donors and aid agencies.

We fully support the FAO/World Bank Cooperative Programme, as this ensures maximum cooperation and a higher level of planning for field programmes and projects.

Now for Chapter 2. This chapter does not pretend to give a detailed assessment of field projects. It admits that any overall assessment must necessarily be selective and that some subjectivity cannot be excluded. So despite the fact that assessments have been made on six standardized performance factors set out in paragraph 2.7, we wonder whether more accurate results might not be obtained by external evaluation of a limited number of projects using much more rigorously defined criteria. I found the suggestions of the New Zealand delegation very interesting on this and hope that they will be followed up closely by the Secretariat.

Like the delegate of Iraq we are encouraged by the frankness of the criticisms expressed particularly in government involvement in the projects and in follow-up in project delivery problems. We feel the assessment based on project evaluation reports which is set out in paragraphs 2.43 to 2.78 has gained more value from being carried out by external assessment teams. The conclusions in paragraphs 2.68 to 2.78 address themselves to the critical difficulties faced by donor agencies in ensuring government support and suitably qualified staff as well as the problems caused by an overrigid definition of projects and the inability to adjust them to changing circumstances. We accept the findings and we wish to draw attention particularly to the difficulties caused by lack of local support in the field.

Turning now to Chapter 3 on Food Crop Production and Improvement, the Twentieth Conference recommended, as I recall, that some detailed case study should be included in future reviews. We are sorry that this has not yet been done and that we must therefore wait until the next Conference before a similar paper to this is produced. Proper evaluation of the individual elements in the programme is vital. So we would like to see detailed case studies and suggest that the Council could see them at an earlier date than the next Conference. I would like to know how the studies are planned and when they are expected to reach fruition.

We support the general approach set out in paragraphs 3.5 and the four main categories of action suggested. The statements appearing in these sections are very realistic. They make an effort to assess the importance of different kinds of cooperation. They do refer repeatedly to the need for follow-up action and the need for local inputs, which we welcome.

The Secretariat have indicated their intention to concentrate activities in the future on more specific and narrowly defined activity, for instance training of trainers, rather than just training programmes per se. So we are puzzled to find, for instance in Chart 7, that 37 percent of the projects in 1980-81 dealt with general crop development, whereas only 18 percent dealt with the much more specific area of crop loss prevention. We should like to see a shift of activity towards more precisely defined areas of work of this kind. We have some doubts whether general crop programmes covering a wide variety of cereals crops, such as the 31 percent of activity covered in Chart 8, are really in the best interests of either FAO or those that it is assisting.



Finally on Chapter 4, this clearly recognizes the need for developing countries to play a large part in their own development. We shall continue to support greater use of their own capacity in technical cooperation work. We welcome in principle the concept of direct government execution of technical assistance projects in appropriate circumstances; but wherever this approach is agreed we believe that most careful account should be taken of the actual capacities of the receiving governments when planning the project. The developing countries sometimes face a special problem when their own experts are recruited, either for local service or for service in other developing countries. This can leave a technological and management gap in the country of origin.

ISKANDAR DZAKURNAIN bin BADARUDDIN (Malaysia); My delegation would like to commend the Secretariat for the excellent review of FAO's operational activities as contained in document C 81/4 and questions relating to the financing of these activities as contained in document C 81/28. We support the approach priorities of the field programmes as put forward by the Director-General. However, we would like to make some brief general comments regarding it. The international community has continued to accord priority to agriculture and rural development, but as stated by the Director-General in his foreword to document C 81/4 it is very disturbing that after record levels of field activities reached in 1980 the prospects are that it will decline considerably in the coming years, partly due to the lowering of levels of resources to FAO's field programme and partly due to the restricted flow of development assistance both from UNDP and other sources. There is no doubt that FAO field activities have benefited many developing member countries in their effort for increasing productivity. While FAO is making all efforts to find possible ways of increasing the effectiveness of field programmes, the negative prospects for the field programmes is of greatest concern to all of us. The slight increase for agriculture in the following programme cycle will be insufficient to meet the demand for agricultural development in the future from the developing countries.

The Review of Field Programmes indicates that continued support is required for FAO to carry on with the programmes and activities which are useful and necessary for the continued development of this sector. Developing countries look to FAO for assistance and guidance, knowing that FAO has the competence and the backstopping required for the planning and implementation of multidisciplinary programmes that are characteristic of agricultural development today. There is every justification that these programmes and activities be given the necessary support. A decline in the Organization's ability to support these efforts of the developing countries due to the lack of resources would definitely retard the development process of these countries.

We therefore support the appeal made by the Director-General, as contained in paragraphs 39 - 43 of Document C 81/28. As mentioned by many distinguished delegates before me, my delegation feels that as regards Field Programmes, developing nations should be strongly encouraged each to use their own nation's approach to project implementation. In using the national reserve for project formulation and implementation, the Organization is helping directly the developing member countries in building up their self-reliance in the managerial, technical and administrative capabilities required for the process of developing. My delegation is therefore very pleased to note the success of this approach and hopes that experience in its implementation could be used in other developing member countries. They could even utilize this expertise in their own TCDC Programmes.

Another encouraging aspect of the Field Programme implementation is the reorientation of its modalities and contents towards the integrated rural development approach. My delegation feels that only through such reorientation would projects be able to complement and strengthen the development process, which covers a wide spectrum of disciplines and is supported by various activities. We are pleased to note also the FAO's continued determination to give direct support to countries which adopted the rural development approach in their food and agricultural development programmes.

The assessment made on FAO's Field Programmes indicates a number of weaknesses. However, my delegation is confident that, aware of these weaknesses, FAO would make the necessary improvement based on the experience gained. We therefore subscribe fully to some of the findings of the assessments and hope they will serve as a guidance in all future field programmes.

As we mentioned earlier in our intervention, assistance towards the effort of improving and accelerating food production especially in developing countries should be increased.

Efforts by organizations like the FAO must be strengthened to carry out the field programmes successfully, especially those related to food and agricultural development. It is for this very reason that my delegation gives its support to the activities of the field programmes so that they will continue to improve in efficiency and effectiveness.

Ms. C. McASKIE (Canada): Due to the lateness of the hour, my delegation would like to confine its remarks for the moment to document C 81/4, the Review of the Field Programme, and come back this afternoon with comments on C 81/28,

First of all, my delegation would like to commend the FAO for its work in the field, not only as described in the document before us but as seen personally by myself and by other representatives of my Government. FAO projects have a generally high reputation amongst donor agencies, and FAO experts are well thought of by recipients and donor countries alike. Canadian development assistance personnel receive considerable cooperation from the FAO, both in the field and at Headquarters. FAO is known to our own aid agency as very cooperative, opening its doors in Rome to provide information which helps us in our own project preparation and in cooperating in the field. This, as we see it, is FAO's proper role as an executing agency for governments through the Trust Funds Programme and for the UN Development System through the central funds of the UNDP and as a professional and specialised agency providing advice on food and agriculture programmes where required and not as a funding agency in itself.

We support the emphasis on training in the document under discussion and the emphasis on the increased involvement of national personnel. Investment in the past by donors and recipients has tended to emphasise capital assistance. It is now recognised, however, that it is the development of human resources and the investment in human capital which will be the critical factor in development. In this connection we note that 30 percent of expenditure on UNDP-funded projects, however, is related to the purchase of equipment. This we would recommend as a maximum, as the emphasis of the programme must remain on technical assistance. We believe that this will be a topic of discussion at the next Governing Council of the UNDP, as this is a problem experienced by all agencies.

On the link between technical cooperation and investment, my delegation would like to add a word of caution. There are a great many pre-investment projects which have been concluded in the UN System which are still waiting for investors for the main project itself. Agencies must be careful in entering into such projects to ensure that follow-on financing is assured. My delegation has read with interest the table on page 81 on the number of field experts currently in posts. I see that in 1981 there are 1,800 experts in the field. Information not given on how many of these are UNDP-funded, but as UNDP funds two-thirds of the Technical Programme, according to Chart 1 on page two, I hope I am safe in assuming that at least 1,200 if not more of the experts are UNDP-funded. We were informed last week that the current funding situation of the UNDP would result in the loss of 400 FAO experts. It would seem from the figures I have quoted that if contracts last on average two to three years each, then it would be normal practice for several hundred contracts to terminate every year. My delegation would be grateful, therefore, for clarification on this point, particularly since the Observer from the UNDP himself raised the same question. There is, obviously, some confusion in the minds of delegates on the comment that was made earlier.

While we are looking at the Field Programme, it is worth commenting on the support of FAO field administration. I would like to add my voice to all those governments who have supported the work of the Country Representatives of the FAO. What has not been mentioned, however, is the administrative support and the Offices for those FAO Representatives. As stated by my Minister in his statement in Plenary, my Government supports the General Assembly Resolution 32/197 which passed by consensus and which recommended that steps be taken to unify the Country Offices of the various UN development organizations and agencies. Why should both the FAO and the host government, which makes a substantial contribution to the cost pay for separate offices when one single set of offices could house the representatives of all agencies along with the UN Resident Coordinator at some considerable savings and hopefully increased efficiency of communications? Some aspects of coordination can save money rather than cost money.

Finally, I would like to turn briefly to the chapter on Assessments and Evaluation of Field Programmes. Evaluation of the Regular Programme was covered in yesterday's debate, but as pointed out by Mr. West, there is of course a difference in approach between evaluation of General Programmes and evaluation of specific projects. We are therefore pleased to note the information provided in document C 81/4, Chapter Two, which is evidence of the increasing importance placed on evaluation by the FAO. We must not allow ourselves to become complacent, however. It is our belief that field activities lend themselves to outside evaluation in addition to the internal procedures already being followed, and in this connexion I would like to support the comments made by the delegations of New Zealand and the United



Kingdom. In addition, the next stage of course is how the results of such evaluation are fed back into the system itself. Without such procedures, evaluation can be meaningless and we welcome in this respect the comments in the latter part of Chapter Two.

M. A. M. IBRAHIM (Sudan): First of all, I wish to offer my heartiest congratulations to the Secretariat. They have provided us with an excellent document here, C 81/4. I have a few remarks to make on Chapter One of that document.

My delegation is highly satisfied with the number of field programmes carried out in 1980 and the level of funds allocated for programme delivery. My delegation would have liked the volume of delivery of field projects financed by extra-budgetary resources to have increased in the course of the coming year because of the importance of Field Programmes in developing countries.

Paragraph 1.12 of this document, says that a decline is expected in late 1981 and during 1982. The reasons here are the reductions in the resources that UNDP allocates to the projects. We think that any reduction in these resources will obviously decrease the Organization's role as regards its assistance for developing countries, and for all these reasons our delegation wholeheartedly supports the delegate who said that there would be disastrous consequences if this reduction in UNDP funds allocated to the implementation of such projects is carried out.

Turning to 1.19, the FAO Cooperative Programme in the Near East region, as our country was one of the beneficiaries of this Programme, we have already indicated our satisfaction with the way in which this Programme was carried out. We would like to thank all the brother countries who have financed the Project which was carried out in conjunction with them. The cooperative programme should be expanded and supported by the necessary funds it needs in order to continue to play its vital role in assisting agricultural development in our area.

In paragraph 1.20 on the TCP, I am sure all acknowledge its successful achievements, all delegates have expressed their satisfaction with the results achieved by the TCP. For that reason we ask that the TCP continue with more and more funds at its disposal.

We would also say that the Government of Sudan wishes to thank the FAO and the Director-General for the very speedy response by the Organization to all the aid requests during various natural disasters affecting Sudan.

Turning to 1.35 and 1.36 on the question of staff, the personnel component, we think that the allocations here will be reduced, we welcome this but if we turn to paragraph 1.39, it refers to equipment purchases, and we think we need to increase the allocations for this item.

Now we go to paragraphs 1.53 to 1.63. The Organization has played a very important role as regards investment. This is particularly important for developing countries which need this foreign capital flow, which is vital to their requirements.

The FAO Investment Centre which has entered into a close relationship with the financing agencies is playing a key role, as we see it, from the developing countries' angle.

At the end of last October a mission from the FAO Investment Centre came to the Sudan to prepare a project to be financed by IFAD. Here and now I can say my country is particularly grateful to IFAD for the assistance it has given to the Sudan and the allocations that have been granted.

Turning to Chapter Four of this document, the New Approach in the implementation of field Programmes my delegation wishes to support all the measures taken in this respect in assisting the developing countries in the implementation of their objectives for development.

I believe that the Organization gives great importance to this, and I would also say we wish to support the efforts undertaken by the Organization to resort more and more to national staff in the implementation of these programmes.

D.H.J. ABEVAGOONASEKERA (Sri Lanka): My delegation wishes to compliment the Secretariat for the lucid and brief presentation of the Review of Field Programmes contained in document C 81/4.

It contains a very useful in-depth analysis of the field programmes in FAO which covers nearly two-thirds of the total FAO programmes.

The implementation of the Field Programme involves three parties - FAO, the financial organizations, and the beneficiary. It is the degree to which these three parties cooperate which will determine the quality or extent of the achievements. Any shortfall in interests and resources would therefore affect the success of these programmes. The present Review has quite rightly based its analysis on these considerations.

We notice that the choice of topics listed in the document is both important and relevant to the context in which we should discuss the Field Programme.

For example, in Chapter Three on Food Crop Production and Improvement weightage has been given to crop production and livestock development. They are appropriate and in keeping with the priorities given to this sector by developing countries.

In the chapter on Assessment of Field Projects the role played by the FAO country representatives has to be appreciated. This is a new role for them, and we have no doubt their comments would be useful and should be taken note of by FAO, the financing agencies and the recipient governments.

Of course, the most important aspect of any evaluation exercise is the assessment of the impact of these programmes on developing countries. As has been suggested by some of my colleagues, by concentrating on a few common areas where development needs are most acute, progress should be made in the future to enable this review to be more complete and useful to Member Nations.

In the chapter on financial resources available to Field Programmes, we notice that a gradual reduction in resources is forecast. The impact of such a trend on FAO's work needs no comment.

We also find that the share of UNDP in agriculture has dropped from 34.8 percent to 30.2 percent from 1972 to 1979, and also the share of agricultural projects in the total UNDP commitment has dropped from 85 percent to 74 percent.

I do hope that we will not be made to infer that the importance attached to agriculture by the UNDP is declining. We are hopeful, however, that the current food and agriculture situation in the world will enable those in a position to do so to demonstrate their goodwill and intentions.

R. GARCELL (Cuba): La Secretaría nos ha dotado, entre otros, Sr. Presidente, de tres documentos muy importantes, el C 81/3, el C 81/4 y el C 81/8, los cuales necesariamente se relacionan entre sí.

Al abordar en esta Comisión el C 81/4, llamamos la atención en algunos aspectos que resultan preocupantes. En primer lugar, nuestra delegación observa la disminución que se manifiesta en la principal fuente de financiamiento de los programas de campo, me refiero al PNUD, que ha disminuido su participación en los últimos siete años, lo cual en términos absolutos significa una variación de 120 millones en 1973 a 77 millones en 1980, a precios constantes de 1975.

Nuestro país reconoce la necesidad de muchos pueblos de África.

En la medida, señor Presidente, que los aportes del PNUD disminuyan en forma relativa y absoluta, esa disminución se registra con mayor intensidad en América Latina, que ha pasado a una participación del 11 por ciento en el bienio 1980-81, en lugar del 15 por ciento que registró en el bienio 1978-79.

Nuestra delegación, señor Presidente, apoya la política consistente en que los Programas de campo no sólo se limiten a los resultados operativos de los proyectos, sino que simultáneamente abarquen el estudio y apreciaciones de los resultados relativos al desarrollo rural integral, siendo ésta una forma de aprovechar al máximo la presencia de los expertos de FAO para coadyuvar a mejorar las condiciones ambientales de los campesinos y pobladores rurales conforme a la Conferencia Mundial de Reforma Agraria.

Los objetivos de los programas de campo deben ser bien concebidos, prácticos y medibles y evitar la experiencia que refleja el párrafo 2.33, cito: "Proyectos generales y vagos".

Nos satisface observar que a lo largo de todo el documento C 81/4, la FAO describe crítica y autocriticamente los inconvenientes que aún tienen las ejecuciones de los proyectos, entre los que cito: a) Errores iniciales de concepción; b) Metas, a veces excesivas, y en otras ocasiones metas vagas e inconcretas; c) Falta de adaptabilidad de los proyectos a las verdaderas condiciones locales y nacionales; d) Falta de apoyo a los gobiernos, etc.

Confiamos en la labor cada vez más satisfactoria que viene realizando la FAO para solucionar los inconvenientes tan complejos que se presentan en la ejecución de los Programas de campo.

Para terminar, señor Presidente, nuestro país es partidario decisivamente de que sean los propios países en vías de desarrollo los más indicados para determinar y decidir en que invertir los aportes de la FAO y rechazamos las vías de una evaluación externa, que ha sido expuesta por algunos pocos países donantes de nuestra Organización.

P. GUERIN (France): Ma délégation s'associe pleinement aux remerciements adressés au Secrétariat par toutes les délégations qui m'ont précédé pour son excellente présentation du document C 81/4. Ce document a effectivement le grand mérite d'aborder franchement les difficultés rencontrées à la fois par la FAO et par les pays bénéficiaires. Il donne des informations précieuses sur un certain nombre de points et notamment sur les activités extra-budgétaires de l'Organisation.

Le financement des programmes de terrain mis en oeuvre avec le concours de l'Organisation, est en constante évolution, nous le constatons. Les financements extra-budgétaires prennent ainsi une place prépondérante dans les activités menées par la FAO.

Les programmes de terrain atteignaient en 1980, 280 millions de dollars environ; ils seront en 1981 proches de 295 millions de dollars soit un total de plus de 580 millions de dollars pour 80-81. Par rapport au précédent biennium, ces mêmes programmes de terrain sont en augmentation puisqu'il y a deux ans le total s'élevait à environ 420 millions de dollars.

Cette évolution en dollars courants constitue tout de même un progrès significatif, et la perspective d'une plus grande priorité donnée à l'avenir à l'agriculture et au développement rural, et grâce aux appels lancés, notamment par le Directeur général, en faveur de cette priorité, devrait permettre à cette tendance croissante de se poursuivre.

Parmi les composantes des ressources extra-budgétaires, le programme PNUD/FAO tient toujours une place de choix. S'élevant à 167 millions de dollars, par rapport à 131 millions de dollars en 1979, il est donc en augmentation sur la période passée.

Ma délégation tient à indiquer à ce propos que la contribution française au PNUD pour 1982 sera en progrès de plus de 26%. Cela répond à l'appel qui a été lancé tout à l'heure par l'observateur du PNUD, et cela constitue la manifestation significative des intentions exprimées par le Gouvernement français lors de récentes rencontres internationales.

Quant au fonds fiduciaire, nous constatons que depuis 1974, il suit pratiquement un processus de doublement tout les trois ans. Il faut sans doute voir dans ce progrès sensible la volonté des pays donateurs d'affecter directement à des opérations sur le terrain les ressources nouvelles qu'ils sont en mesure de dégager.

J'en viens maintenant à différents points abordés dans ce document.

L'évaluation de l'introduction dans la mise en oeuvre des projets des nouvelles dimensions de la coopération technique est encourageante. La tendance à confier davantage l'exécution de projets ou de partie de ceux-ci aux bénéficiaires, institutions ou organismes sous-régionaux, apparaît bonne, même si, de ce fait, le rôle apparent de la FAO s'allège; car en fait la FAO aura rempli une grande partie de sa mission en donnant aux pays bénéficiaires la capacité de prendre en main eux-mêmes leurs responsabilités.

Le contenu des projets a également changé depuis quelques années. Les experts de substitution en mission de longue durée diminuent en nombre car se multiplient les missions d'appui très diversifié pour des tâches spécialisées. Cela nous semble également aller dans le bon sens.

La composante "investissement" joue par ailleurs un rôle croissant. Le PCT prépare souvent l'intervention du PNUD et du Fonds fiduciaire. Ces derniers permettent la réalisation d'opérations de pré-investissement qui catalysent ensuite les ressources d'institutions et d'organismes financiers.

Cet effet multiplicateur correspond tout à fait, nous semble-t-il, à ce qu'attendent de la FAO les Etats membres, tant bénéficiaires que contributeurs, mais l'apport extérieur d'investissements ne prend sa pleine efficacité que si du côté du pays d'accueil, tous les éléments nécessaires à la mise en oeuvre et au succès sont réunis. En matière de développement rural, la valorisation des ressources humaines est l'essentiel. Cette action ne peut pas toujours être traduite en termes chiffrés, mais il nous semble que l'impact global pourrait cependant en être évalué.

L'évaluation des projets qui sont présentés avec beaucoup de franchise, je le reconnais et j'en suis tout à fait content, laisse apparaître encore des lacunes dans la conception et la définition des projets. Ceci me paraît assez grave, car les efforts entrepris en matière de formation - et nous sommes très favorables à cette orientation prise par l'Organisation - donc ces efforts de formation de concepteurs, d'animateurs de projets, n'ont peut-être pas finalement été suivis des résultats escomptés. Ne serait-il pas possible d'évaluer les retombées de ces efforts de formation, de voir quels sont les obstacles qui font que les cadres formés par l'Organisation ne puissent pas, dans leur pays, donner leur pleine efficacité? D'autres délégations l'ont dit avant moi, mais je crois que c'est un problème important.

Il y a aussi des difficultés, semble-t-il, dans l'exécution des projets. Cela devrait être plus facile à réparer. A cet égard, le rôle des représentants locaux de la FAO n'est certainement pas négligeable. Une évaluation de leur action est néanmoins souhaitable. Elle sera possible sans aucun doute pour le prochain rapport, puisque la période de mise en place pour certains d'entre eux sera alors suffisante pour juger de leurs efforts.

Quant au Centre d'investissement, qui joue un rôle essentiel et efficace dans les dispositifs d'ensemble de la FAO, je me demande pourquoi il n'est pas davantage utilisé pour la préparation de certains projets, notamment des projets du PAM. Le PAM fait un excellent travail, et loin de moi l'idée de le critiquer, mais il n'a pas toujours les moyens - je crois qu'il le reconnaît lui-même - de préparer correctement les projets au plan technique. Le Centre d'investissement pourrait jouer un rôle dans ce sens, car il ne faut jamais manquer l'occasion d'utiliser l'aide alimentaire pour l'intégrer dans les projets de développement. Cette approche cohérente est indispensable pour asseoir la production, notamment la production vivrière, sur des bases solides. N'oublions pas non plus que l'aide alimentaire peut permettre de dégager en monnaie locale des financements qui viendraient compléter des financements extérieurs. C'est un problème qui est d'ailleurs évoqué dans ce document.

Pour terminer, il me paraît nécessaire d'insister sur les Recommandations exprimées lors des dernières Conférences internationales, celle de Nairobi sur les énergies nouvelles et renouvelables, et celle de Paris sur les pays les moins avancés. Ces Recommandations soulignent l'importance, en vue d'une meilleure cohérence des actions de la Communauté internationale, de mettre en place des concertations appropriées au niveau des Etats bénéficiaires, par la création de sortes de tables rondes regroupant les différents donateurs bilatéraux et multilatéraux. La FAO, dans les domaines de sa compétence, peut trouver dans ces instances une occasion nouvelle d'affirmer sa vocation d'animateur. Les efforts de ses équipes peuvent avoir, dans ce processus de concertation, la chance d'être multipliés, et elles pourraient également bien sûr faire bénéficier de l'universalité de leur expérience les autres donateurs dans l'intérêt premier des pays bénéficiaires.

Dans le même sens la FAO gagnerait, nous semble-t-il, à se rapprocher encore davantage des organisations régionales existantes et à en favoriser les activités sectorielles sur des thèmes précis. Par exemple pour les pays sahéliens groupés au sein du CILSS: - une action en faveur d'un système d'informations statistiques amélioré, pour l'évaluation des stocks vivriers nationaux publics, privés ou villageois - une étude destinée à une gestion rationnelle des ressources forestières, seraient de la plus grande utilité.

A ce propos, le dispositif décentralisé de la FAO sur le terrain devrait être plus souple et ses moyens répartis en conséquence pour une meilleure efficacité opérationnelle. C'est ainsi que le bureau de Ouagadougou, en Haute-Volta, pourrait voir sa vocation élargie et ses moyens renforcés. Cette ville est en effet le siège de nombreuses institutions régionales, outre le CILSS que j'ai nommé, en particulier de la Commission Economique pour l'Afrique de l'Ouest, dont le rôle dans l'élaboration d'une politique agricole commune au niveau de la région peut être capital.

A. ACUÑA (Panamá): Haremos algunas puntualizaciones, avanzada ya la hora del debate, sobre el documento C 81/4: Examen de los programas de campo 1980-81, que discutimos en estos momentos. Mi delegación confiere a este tema su justa dimensión en cuanto a lo positivo que son las evaluaciones de los niveles y tendencias de las actividades operativas de esta Organización. El documento nos presenta el creciente progreso que ha alcanzado la FAO en cuanto a eficiencia e impacto cada vez mayor de los programas de campo en los países. Este es un hecho de trascendental importancia, y no debemos permitirnos, en ninguna circunstancia, su deterioro.

Consideramos indudablemente de gran importancia la estrecha colaboración entre los Gobiernos Miembros y la FAO, con el propósito de lograr un progreso constante y estable. En esta estrecha colaboración, sin lugar a dudas, ha venido a desempeñar un papel cada vez más creciente e importante, la política de descentralización de la Organización a través de los representantes de la FAO en los países. Estamos conscientes, que el conocimiento real de los problemas de cada uno de los países por parte de estos representantes, constituye una solución rápida y adecuada de los mismos. Países actualmente beneficiarios de estos representantes pueden dar fe de nuestra aseveración. Es por esta consideración que la delegación de Panamá considera pertinente señalar lo peligroso que es el hecho de que los niveles de las actividades de campo lleguen a correr peligro en los años venideros. Nos resulta pues difícil aceptar pasivamente esta situación, ante la gravedad del problema de la producción alimentaria mundial, y en especial, en los países en desarrollo.

Consideramos que no está de más insistir en este peligro, y por otra parte creemos oportuno recalcar la positiva y correcta orientación de las actividades de campo de la FAO hacia la inversión. De igual manera, consideramos satisfactorio el progreso en la aplicación de los conceptos aprobados por la Conferencia Mundial sobre Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural; aspecto éste que debatiremos más adelante en otro tema del programa, y sobre el cual, aceptamos desde ahora que tenemos mucho que hacer.

En estos dos últimos temas, Panamá viene presentando un creciente interés, como lo demuestran las actuales solicitudes de asistencia que se están formulando en esta Organización así como la presentación de unas próximas solicitudes. Deseamos recalcar que a la delegación de Panamá le preocupa grandemente la notable reducción que se viene realizando en los fondos del PNUD destinados al sector agrícola. A pesar de las necesidades y prioridades por todos reconocidas, se considera una reducción real de un 30 por ciento. A este respecto, quisiéramos recordar a esta Comisión que la Conferencia Regional de la FAO para América Latina, celebrada en La Habana en 1980, hizo un llamamiento al PNUD para que realizara un programa regional de proyectos concordados entre el PNUD y la FAO.

La reducción contemplada para el nuevo ciclo de programación pone en grave peligro la posibilidad de realizar los proyectos regionales prioritarios de los gobiernos de nuestra región. También quisiéramos referirnos al hecho de que la parte de ejecución que corresponde a la FAO en asistencia técnica proveniente del PNUD ha seguido disminuyendo e insistimos en este hecho. Esto es lamentable, si tenemos en cuenta la competencia y el mandato que el sistema de las Naciones Unidas confiere a la FAO, y como bien expresa el documento, no existe ni dentro ni fuera del sistema de las Naciones Unidas ningún organismo ni ninguna empresa que tenga la amplitud de conocimientos y experiencia operativos que posee la FAO, para ocuparse directamente de los temas implicados, en los países en desarrollo.

Vemos y señalamos con marcada preocupación que en el cuadro N° 2 del documento sobre la distribución regional de las asignaciones externas para proyectos de campo de la FAO, la asignada para América Latina bajó de un 15 por ciento en el bienio 1978-79 a un 11 por ciento en el bienio 1980-81.

Mi delegación si bien acepta y respeta porque comprende las prioridades regionales, abogamos paralelamente a este hecho, que se mantengan como mínimo los niveles logrados, y consideramos que éstas son las consecuencias negativas de presentes y futuras escaseces de recursos. Especial referencia queremos hacer al punto b) del capítulo III referente a la Extensión, Enseñanza y Capacitación. En la declaración de nuestro Ministro de Desarrollo Agropecuario a la Plenaria, señaló cuatro lineamientos básicos de política del sector público agropecuario panameño, y dentro de ello, hizo alusión a este tema puntualizando, al respecto, que debía utilizarse la experiencia acumulada mundial y nacionalmente, respetando los perfiles culturales de nuestros países, de tal manera que se pudiera implementar un sistema que permitiera adoptar tecnologías adecuadas en consonancia con las necesidades alimentarias tipificadas en una canasta básica familiar.

Queriendo señalar además, en este tema y en base a la experiencia vivida, que dentro del tema de la extensión, la enseñanza y la capacitación, se le preste creciente atención al importante aspecto que tiene que ver con las actividades de las comunicaciones de apoyo al desarrollo, pareciéndonos muy importante lo señalado por el distinguido representante de Suecia sobre una más larga duración de los proyectos de desarrollo. Y lo consideramos así porque en la práctica llegamos a comprobar, en no muchos casos, que por una falta de adecuada y previsible duración, no llegan a consolidarse proyectos de este tipo.



Y por último para terminar, con marcada preocupación esta delegación ha escuchado la propuesta de que se hagan evaluaciones externas. Nos ratificamos en lo que expresamos en nuestra primera intervención en esta Comisión II, en el sentido de que la mejor evaluación que se le pueda realizar a los programas de la FAO, a cualquier programa, es y debe ser fundamentalmente con la activa participación de los países beneficiarios, y no por medio de evaluaciones externas, porque de ser cierto, no le hallamos realmente ningún sentido a este tipo de evaluación.

J. DAHL HANSEN (Denmark): Like other speakers before me, I want to congratulate the Secretariat with the documents before us - C 81/4 and C 81/28. Document C 81/4 provides a comprehensive picture and good analysis of the field programmes carried out by FAO in the period 1980-81 biennium and offers an excellent basis for discussing the field activities of FAO in the developing countries.

We attach great importance to these activities and I think this is evidenced by the fact that we are one of the largest contributors to FAO's trust fund programmes. The total disbursements under our cooperative programme with FAO for the period 1970-80 has been approximately \$50 million. The disbursement for this year will amount to a little more than \$6 million. This figure represents about half of the entire Danish assistance for projects and programmes undertaken in cooperation with the UN specialized agencies. I would revert to our cooperation with FAO after having offered some comments on the documents before us.

First, as to FAO's falling share of UNDP allocations. It is pointed out in Document C 81/28 that this trend might be reversed as a consequence of a decision by the UNDP Governing Council to allocate 80 percent of its resources to countries with a per capita GNP of up to \$500 million. Furthermore I would like to reiterate what was stated by my Head of delegation in his general intervention in Plenary, namely "that increased contributions to UNDP through a more even burden sharing could prevent that UNDP resources available for execution by FAO would decrease". Finally, at the same time as we appreciate the initiatives taken by FAO and UNDP to bring about an increased priority to agricultural development in national development plans, I want to endorse the view expressed by the Secretariat in Document C 81/28 that the most important factor influencing the flow of aid to agriculture is the extent to which the developing countries themselves would accord priority to this sector in their development plans and allocations of resources, both internal and external.

With regard to the regional distribution of FAO's allocations to field programmes, we note with satisfaction the increasing focus on the countries most in need for assistance, and I think in particular of the African countries as others before me have pointed out. We appreciate that this trend is planned to continue in the coming biennium. Furthermore I wish to support the view expressed by Finland, Sweden and others, that priority should be given to the least developed countries.

Now regarding the breakdown by categories, and here I am referring to Table 3 on page 12 in Document 81/4, we wish to express our concern about the diminishing importance of nutrition field activities.

As to the assessment of field projects we agree with the conclusions on pages 44-46 in Document C 81/4, in particular with regard to the necessity of clarity and realism in project proposals, the need for careful preparation, and the importance of support by recipient governments.

This leads me to the 'new dimensions' approach in project implementation, a matter to which also our delegation attaches the utmost importance. We welcome the increasing involvement of recipient countries in project management, for example in the form of more government officials from developing countries as project directors. We also want to emphasize the importance of technical cooperation among developing countries, TCDC.

Now, I would briefly return to the so-called multi-bilateral or trust fund cooperation between Denmark and FAO. According to the guidelines for this cooperation, which were worked out jointly in 1978, the cooperation will concentrate on certain specific subject areas in which we, Denmark, have special technical expertise to offer. Furthermore our cooperation will also concentrate on fewer and larger projects. So far we have four areas of cooperation assigned and those are a fertilizer programme, a seed production programme, ticks and tickborne diseases, and a small scale fishery programme. We attach considerable expectation to this new approach of concentration and long-term programming and I think I can say we have already attained good results.

In earlier interventions in Commission II at this Conference our delegation has stressed the importance of training and agricultural extension. Training activities have always played a very important role in our cooperation with FAO. One example of this is the training component which is integrated in, our dairy programme covering countries in four regions, that is Latin America, Africa, Asia and the Pacific.

Finally, I wish to say that part of the documentation before us is dealing with the cooperation between FAO and UNDP. I intend to come back to this subject in a statement which I will deliver on behalf of the Nordic countries under Agenda Item 15 dealing with the relations with other international organizations.

C. FRENCH (United States of America): The United States commends the Secretariat for the useful document, C 81/4, which among other things is much better presented than similar documents of the past. We are especially appreciative of the increased emphasis on institutional building and training. Also the experimentation in the new directions section in Chapter Four and the other programme innovations are welcome. The assessment material is improved and we applaud that. The detailed analysis through case examples is promising and we look forward to seeing that. We found the broad review of field activities concerned with food crops to be helpful. We encourage continued emphasis on field programme evaluation and assessment, using the most advanced techniques, including external evaluation. We think the United Kingdom, Canada and New Zealand delegations made substantive suggestions on this issue. We liked the emphasis placed on increased involvement of the host country government talent. Also the increasing percentage of field experts from developing countries is encouraging. The increased use of short-term experts as reflected in the analysis of the project in-put mix is supported. We note the management problems of the Secretariat caused by fluctuations in funds and the anticipation that this problem may increase; that seems inevitable. We urge the Secretariat to use the most advanced management techniques to handle this problem as effectively as possible.

Now we would like to direct our remarks to Document C 81/28 which, as my British colleague has said, is of prime importance, primarily to FAO. However, we would be remiss if we did not commend the Director-General's efforts to strengthen ties between the FAO and the UNDP. Certainly the various efforts outlined in Document 28 are impressive. As noted in the document decisions on the use of UNDP resources are made by the recipient countries themselves, a philosophy with which we are in substantial agreement. Moreover, we are pleased that developing countries are increasingly recognizing the importance of agricultural development to their economies. The food sector strategies that are being developed in many countries should help countries place higher priority on the development of the agricultural sector and thus complement the activities of UNDP and FAO.

A principle objective of United States development assistance is improved nutrition in rural development and over one-half of the United States bilateral assistance programme is directed towards activity in these sectors. As we have indicated in prior sessions we find the analysis of development assistance flows in both document CL 78/21 and C 81/28 to be somewhat incomplete. While this latter report provides figures on disbursement and commitment by OPEC donors there is no explanation why these flows have been erratic, if not actually declining in the 1975-80 period. Also, the data from the centrally planned economies are still not available. Hopefully they will be forthcoming. In the absence of an analysis of ODA flows from the OPEC and any information at all on ODA funds from centrally planned economies, the document provides an inadequate picture of the development assistance picture.

We recognize the difficulty of giving comparable data and for accounting of the resources for development assistance. However, the rather pessimistic tone of this report might be sharply tempered by more complete data. Also it would be helpful in future reports on the resource flows for food production and rural development if we could include statistics on the development resources made available to the agricultural sector by developing countries themselves in their domestic budgets. For example, this could be as was agreed to by all the members in the WCARRD Action Programme.

The meeting rose at 13.00 hours.

La seance est levee à 13 h 00.

Se levanta la sesión a los 13.00 horas.



## conference

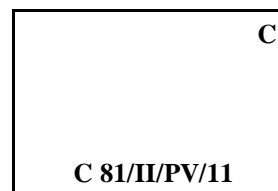
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

## conférence

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

## conferencia

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION



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Twenty-first Session

Vingt et unième session

21° período de sesiones

COMMISSION II

COMMISSION II

COMMISSION II

ELEVENTH MEETING  
ONZIEME SEANCE  
11<sup>a</sup> SESION

(17 November 1981)

The Eleventh Meeting was opened at 15.00 hours  
R. Steiner, Chairman of Commission II, presiding

La onzième séance est ouverte à 15 h 00, sous la présidence de  
R. Steiner, Président de la Commission II

Se abre la 11<sup>a</sup> sesion a las 15.00 horas, bajo la presidencia de  
R. Steiner, Presidente de la Comisión II

II. ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMES OF THE ORGANIZATION (continued)

II. ACTIVITES ET PROGRAMMES DE L'ORGANISATION (suite)

II. ACTIVIDADES Y PROGRAMAS DE LA ORGANIZACION (continuación)

12. Review of field Programmes, including: (continued)

12. Examen des programmes de terrain, notamment: (suite)

12. Examen de los programas de campo, en particular: (continuación)

12.1 Agricultural Investment and Development Assistance for Food Production and Rural Development (continued)

12.1 Investissement agricole et aide au développement pour la production vivrière et le développement rural (suite)

12.1 Inversiones agrícolas y ayuda al desarrollo para la producción de alimentos y el desarrollo rural (continuación)

CHAIRMAN: I open the Eleventh meeting of Commission II. We continue the debate on the Review of the Field Programmes.

E. MAZURKIEWICZ (Poland): On behalf of my delegation I want to make some remarks on item 12 which is under discussion, and I want to emphasize the propriety of the selection of problems and priorities in FAO activities.

A very big advantage of FAO and its power is the universal character of our Organization whose main attention is paid to the developing countries because they have on a large scale malnutrition, hunger, and many difficulties in economical growth. Also FAO's activities are desirable in European regions. It would be favourable to develop and strengthen cooperation between European countries and developing countries.

Slow economic growth and less national income in most countries in the world require from international organizations and also from FAO limited costs of administration to benefit field programmes and operation activities in countries, using TCP and UNDP funds.

I would underline with pleasure that the Director-General's proposals are on these lines.

In these circumstances programmes of the UN system are very important, supported by voluntary contributions. Essentially they enlarge FAO's activities.

Field programmes which are under consideration receive much attention in the wide understanding of agriculture, in particular in geographical regions.

Proposals for Europe deal with the research network, improvement of agricultural structures and economical use of energy. The Polish delegation positively appraises FAO's activity in this field in Europe. Our specialists are actively joining in the work of the European research network in many areas of plant production and animal husbandry, and we are interested in enlarging these activities as they will have favourable influence on agricultural growth in developing countries.

I wish to note the positive results in other programmes - financing in Poland from UNDP funds, especially research programmes such as pesticides residue in agricultural products, improvement of plant breeding, and on a regional level, the European gene bank. In the latter programme Poland obtained some interesting experience in the breeding of Triticale.

These programmes encourage the education of very highly qualified specialists who can now organize extension services for developing countries, and the European genebank makes it possible to organize the supply of genetic materials on a world scale.

One very important regional problem for the northern part of Europe is the disaster gradation of nun-tussock-moth which developed in coniferous parts of north and central Poland. What is more, there was need for an expansion of the range of the present gradation of the neighbouring countries. The measures used so far in Poland saved the woods from destruction, but failed in breaking the gradation of the insect.

Although FAO concentrates its activities on the regions where the basic nutrition problems have not been solved, an organization of a comprehensive character must cover by its range and cooperation all parts of the world, the European region included. Therefore we propose to organize a new project on a regional level concerning the fight against the tussock moth and I wish to emphasize that Poland is ready to cooperate very closely with FAO in this matter.

P. VANDOR (Hungary): The review of field programmes is a well balanced and valuable document. We were very happy to read that the field programme expenditures reached record levels during this biennium. At the same time we are worried at the dim perspectives of decreasing allocations to be earmarked for 1982-83. At the Plenary many delegations spoke about the global importance of agriculture and food. Our understanding is that there is general agreement that production oriented agricultural programmes should be given the highest priority.

In this context it would be a pity if the real level of FAO field activity were to drop in the coming years. It is sincerely hoped that the downward trend foreseen for the next biennium can be reversed. We would be sorry otherwise, and moreover we endorse the findings of this document on the improved efficiency of field projects executed by FAO.

Document C 81/28 gives a broad picture of the positive actions taken consequent to Conference Resolution 6/79. We are happy to note that the initiative of the Director-General of FAO was well received by the Administrator of UNDP and that there is a closer working relationship between FAO, UNDP and all other international development institutions. We would welcome a progressive and real increase of the share of agriculture in UNDP expenditure as a result of this good collaboration. The trends of recent years, however, do not allow us to be very optimistic.

My delegation agrees with the opinion of the FAO Secretariat that the orientation of development assistance of the international development institutions is largely influenced by the actions of the developing countries themselves. We would welcome it if the agricultural sector, and food production in particular, were given higher priority in their national development programmes and in UNDP-assisted projects and programmes.

Document C 81/4 provides a detailed report on the follow-up to the recommendations of WCARRD. My delegation is a little disappointed that the influence of WCARRD and the rural development approach have been relatively limited in the design and implementation of field projects during the past biennium.

With regard to the evaluation mechanism of field projects, my delegation is satisfied with the present system of UN/FAO project evaluation. Our positive assessment is based on more than ten years of good experience of project evaluation relating to different UNDP/FAO projects implemented in Hungary or with the contribution of Hungary. We think no external evaluation mechanism is needed. It would be unnecessary duplication of the whole evaluation system. It is of course up to the recipient countries concerned whether they feel the need for such additional external evaluation.

Finally, we would like to put special emphasis on the so-called new dimension advocated by the Organization. Ten years ago when FAO and UNDP executed a project on irrigated model farming in Hungary, my country was among the first to utilize the services of a national project manager and of the national institutions. We believe - and we agree with FAO - that many countries have the capabilities to assist international agencies in formulating, implementing and at establishing appropriate institutions.

H. REDL (Austria) (original language German): I would like to start by thanking Mr. de Méredieu very warmly indeed for his very clear introduction. As far as implementation of the various FAO project is concerned, we welcome the intensified cooperation between FAO and the governments of recipient countries. The success of a project hinges to a very considerable measure on the preparation of that project. This involves staff as well as material. Here improvements can still be made.

We have a saying in Austria that to help quickly is to help twofold, and I think that can well be applied to the FAO and FAO projects. FAO Country Representatives should be more involved in project planning.

As far as implementation is concerned, document C 81/4 on page 7 under 1.4.4 reflects the fact that the FAO share of UNDP operations in agriculture and forestry has dropped from 85 percent to 76 percent. Perhaps the Secretariat could provide an explanation of this.

As far as the TCP is concerned, on page 9 of the document, under 1.20, we welcome the fact that 51 percent of the funds will be available to LDCs and MSA countries. On page 13 under 1.3.2 on forestry projects, we feel there is a good balance here, but it would be desirable if it were possible for reference to be made to cooperation between FAO and UNIDO.

As far as section F, Investment Activities, is concerned, we welcome the activities listed but we must note the high credit costs which no doubt influence the situation for individual countries. Use of roughly 46 percent of the ordinary budget funds for food production and improvement is to be welcomed but we also welcome the new concept of having developing countries more involved in project planning through experts and institutions. No doubt FAO must be congratulated because it was the first to bring about a change within the United Nations system. Possibly less funds will be available in the future and therefore the greatest measure of expertise is called for.

Time and time again the question has been raised in the debate about additional evaluation. On this we take the view that, first and foremost, the recipient countries themselves can appraise the projects carried out. So long as the recipient countries are happy in their appraisal of the projects, we do not feel that any additional appraisal is necessary.

M. SALAMEH (Syria): My delegation, after reviewing document C 81/4 and C 81/28, wishes to express its satisfaction with the contents; they are well expressed and tabulated and show the following. Great attention is given by FAO to the field programmes, both from the quantitative and qualitative point of view. They cover nearly the globe, they cover the developing countries that receive these programmes and projects as well as the developed ones and they give a share in expertise, know-how, funds and equipment.

From the qualitative point of view, great attention was given to the most needed parts of the world such as the African countries. The qualitative side is strengthened through the use of national directors, experts and equipment for these projects and also strengthened through dependence on TCDC principles and the new dimension concerning technical assistance stated in chapter four.

Moreover, what we feel is encouraging and of importance is the use of systems such as remote sensing, Caris and Agris, as modern techniques and problem-oriented applied sciences.

As I mentioned yesterday, in relation to the evaluation of projects discussed already by some delegates, I stress the greater need for internal evaluation authorities because they are more capable to do this and know more about their benefits. For this purpose we find it is necessary to have cooperation between donating countries and agencies with FAO and its experts in this field. In connexion with document C 81/28, Development Assistance for Food Production, my delegation appreciates very much the efforts put in by FAO's Director-General as described in the document, both when he was visited and was a visitor, inviting or requesting, developing or developed countries, FAO Representatives or UNDP Resident Representatives.

We consider the Director-General has fulfilled his task according to Resolution 6/79. All of this is promising in the field of enhancing food production and getting nearer to a better food situation in the world.

We also feel that the deteriorating food situation in the developing countries should not be categorized as a homogenous one, as many delegations have expressed the view that this deteriorating situation is multi-faced. If we come to analyse this, scientifically speaking, the hungry people are different from malnourished ones because the latter can be found in all parts of the world, as can what is called over-nourished, in this civilization of consumption. So in the developing countries suffering from food problems it may be found that the cause of this suffering is the fall in food production or due to food mal-distribution or to the ignorance of the consumers in regard to the qualitative nutritional value of the food they are purchasing. What I am saying is that FAO can orientate its projects in this direction for a better food situation and not to limit its efforts or projects for food production. I mean also that FAO can expand its activities to include food marketing, consumer cooperation, consumer nutritional information, etc., and this is mentioned in paragraph 29 document C 81/28 in the discussion between the Director-General of the FAO and the UNDP Administrator when they specified production as well as distribution of food as means of curing the deteriorating food situation. When we deal with the deteriorating food situation from these different angles, we find ourselves facing the necessity of a

multi-disciplinary action combining more than one authority or ministry in the structure of some governments in the developing countries and not confined to a separate ministry, such as agriculture. Even this can be coordinated through a ministry of planning, and from this multiplicity we may arrive at the real solution of hunger and malnourishment and we may cross the bridge to the difficulty found in determining the real meaning of food situation or the real meaning of (rural development) as mentioned in paragraph 6 of C 81/28.

Concerning ODA commitments as dealt with in Document C 81/28 and referring to limitations under paragraphs 6, 7 and 8, we can see that through FAO a positive factor may arise to stand against the five factors described in the above paragraphs described as limitations. And to ensure that FAO is backing this positivity more information of the many interests and objectives of those donating or participating in this ODA, I say more information is needed in this analysis because when we are aware of those objectives and their balancing by the Director-General, FAO can provide more commitment to the benefits of the needed parts of the World.

AMIDJONO MARTOSUWIRYO (Indonesia): I wish to express my delegations appreciation to the Secretariat for its excellent efforts and work done in preparing the documents under discussion now. Regarding the format of the document my delegation would like to endorse it and has found also that the methodology is an appropriate one.

Coming to the substance of the Review of the Field Programmes, I wish to make a few comments.

We do recognize that Review of Field Programmes is of vital importance both to the Organization and to the governments concerned, namely those which are recipients. It is true that the success of analysis is in a large measure dependent upon the availability of sufficient and reliable data and information collected from recipient countries. Generally speaking developing countries face difficulties in establishing a development project and in its implementation, including activities like monitoring and data collecting. In this context I would suggest that FAO should pay greater attention and render more assistance to national staff personnel, in the monitoring of a project and in data collecting.

As to UNDP allocation, it is regrettable to note that it fluctuates considerably, giving rise to severe difficulties in planning FAO technical assistance activities in advance. In order to smooth the flow of UNDP allocation my delegation would like to endorse the effort made by FAO as stipulated in paragraph 1.9 in document C 81/4. In addition I wish that FAO could take further steps and progressive approach in obtaining FAO Trust Funds. It is fascinating to observe that Trust Fund projects have in real terms increased steadily. My delegation wishes that the new programme under this scheme, namely in-service training awards - could be expanded further. This will benefit both donor as well as recipient countries and increase the number of candidates or personnel from developing countries and strengthen their capability in planning and executing field projects.

Coming to estimated extra-budgetary expenditure for field project delivery as contained in table 3 of the document, my delegation is of the opinion that the share for research support is too small, representing only 1 percent of the total expenditure. Since research activities are of crucial importance for planning development projects and their execution as well, my delegation suggests that the share should be stepped up to about 4 percent.

With regard to the size of development project, paragraph 2.63 indicates that projects with well-specified and limited objectives were the most successful. A well planned project with a broad objective should be also a successful one if we only know the constraints and are able to overcome them. Generally speaking a big project invites many problems and I am of the opinion that progress might be hampered by inadequate knowledge and expertise on the part of recipient personnel. To cope with negative eventualities special provisions should be made in the project for training of national personnel.

My delegation very much hopes that the next review of field projects will present the right binding regarding the right size of development projects that ensures the successful implementation.

With regard to food crop production and improvement as described in Chapter Three of the document, my delegation would like to call upon the FAO to pay more attention on this matter to enable the developing countries to achieve 4 percent global growth target of their food production.

In fact the amount of assistance for food and agricultural production in the developing countries as described in document C 81/28 is far behind adequate level. Here again my delegation would like to stress the important role of the FAO in mobilizing the flow of assistance from the developed countries and other financial institutions to the developing countries particularly of low income food deficit and those which have potential for food and agricultural development.



In the implementation of the field projects financed by international as well as bilateral aid institutions, my delegation fully supports Chapter Four of the document C 81/4 with regard to the use of national project managements, directors and experts as well as those from other developing countries as it has also been supported by other delegations.

Since the findings and conclusions of the review are of crucial importance for agricultural development in developing countries, particularly in respect of food development and production, my delegation would suggest that the major findings and conclusions of the review be brought to the attention of the coming ministerial meeting of the World Food Council for serious consideration and to be taken into account in determining future policies to be pursued by the WFC.

K. CHOUERI (Liban) (langue originale arabe): Il apparaît, compte tenu des deux documents en question et de l'allocution du Directeur général à l'ouverture de cette Commission qu'il est possible d'augmenter les projets de terrain et d'intensifier les efforts déployés pour améliorer la performance dans ce domaine. Il convient ici de rappeler à ce titre le rapport du Comité du programme lors de la 41<sup>ème</sup> session.

Nous aimerions exprimer ici notre préoccupation au sujet des fonds consacrés aux projets du terrain. Nous craignons également la non-adoption des programmes de développement agricole des Nations Unies dans ce domaine. Il faudrait également tenir compte de la participation de l'assistance technique au développement agricole à travers les Fonds globaux alloués à l'agriculture.

Le document en question démontre, au chapitre 4, que la FAO est décidée à assumer l'assistance dans le domaine de l'Assistance internationale. C'est un moyen nouveau pour mettre en oeuvre les projets de terrain.

Nous savons que les experts et les institutions nationales ont également exécuté fidèlement cela, conformément aux exigences exprimées. Cependant des doutes ont été exprimés sur les perspectives à réaliser dans le domaine de la technique et dans le cadre des programmes de développement. Il faudrait donc insister sur les projets régionaux exécutés à ce titre.

Nous basant sur ce qui a précédé, nous approuvons les consultations à entreprendre et les efforts à déployer par la FAO avec le PNUD, avec d'autres institutions spécialisées, et avec les gouvernements, en vue d'augmenter les montants consacrés aux projets de terrain pour relever le défi de certains pays en développement, de parvenir à leur autosuffisance en matière de nutrition et d'alimentation.

Nous avons écouté la déclaration de l'Administrateur du PNUD au sujet des fonds de ce programme et de la coordination dans ce domaine; d'autres points ont été également soulevés par lui. Néanmoins, ma délégation voudrait s'arrêter un peu sur le rôle des représentants résidents du PNUD, pour diriger et orienter les fonds disponibles vers le développement agricole qui est essentiel dans le développement rural pour les pays du Tiers Monde. Le rôle du représentant résident est indispensable car il permet d'adopter des projets jusqu'à concurrence de 400 000 dollars. Cette décision relève également du siège à New York sur proposition dudit représentant.

En outre, et afin de parer au déficit des ressources allouées aux projets en général et surtout à ceux réalisés avec la collaboration de la FAO et du PNUD dans ce domaine, nous voudrions lancer ici un appel visant à assurer au moins le niveau actuel des fonds entre les deux institutions en question: le PNUD et la FAO. Il faudrait nous inspirer de l'esprit qui prévaut et ce grâce aux efforts de MM. Saouma et Morse. Je pense que cela figure dans l'Annexe C du document C 81/28; un développement agricole élargi pourra nous permettre de faire face aux besoins alimentaires.

Il semble donc que la coopération positive entre les représentants des deux institutions susmentionnées pourrait donc bénéficier aux représentants du PNUD, et on pourrait ainsi tirer profit de l'expérience de la FAO.

Il a été d'autre part question d'évaluer les projets de terrain. Nous avons déjà fait connaître notre position à ce sujet. Par conséquent, nous insistons sur ce point encore une fois et nous pensons qu'il n'est pas utile de faire des évaluations de l'extérieur, cela représenterait des dépenses supplémentaires.

En conclusion, nous nous prononçons pour un soutien aux deux documents et aux efforts déployés par la FAO dans le cadre des programmes de terrain.

J.O. ALABI (Nigeria): We are happy to note that the field programme expenditure reached a record level during the biennium under review, thanks to the UNDP and the Trust Fund arrangements.

We are happy at the cooperation which exists between FAO and the UNDP. FAO has the technical skill to implement projects and the UNDP has the funds for implementing these projects. Both of them working together hand in hand will no doubt render great assistance to member nations of both organizations.

The main source of funds for the field programme, the document says, is the UNDP. We are however, unhappy that the share of FAO/UNDP funds is dwindling. In 1973 UNDP accounted for about 80 percent of all field programmes but in 1980 this has gone down to 60 percent. Worse still is the uneven nature of UNDP funding because this does not ensure planning of technical assistance in advance. It is needless to stress the need for advanced planning, as this is the only way to ensure proper coordination and the reduction of support costs.

It is very disheartening that the Governing Council of UNDP foresees a shortfall of as much as 25 percent in the resources available for the third planning cycle. Availability of funds for the field programme means a lot to the developing countries, who rely so much on the technical assistance that they can obtain for their agricultural development. We should remember that this assistance helps greatly to supplement the efforts of the various Member Governments.

May I at this stage appeal to the various governments represented here who are also members of the UNDP to give serious consideration to increasing their contribution to the UNDP so that it can realize its annual growth of 14 percent.

We agree entirely with paragraph 1.14 concerning the proportion of allocation of UNDP resources at the FAO level. Since FAO has the competence and the know how to implement projects in the fields of agriculture, forestry and fisheries we appeal that serious consideration should be given to increasing the funds for agricultural development channelled through the FAO by the UNDP.

Talking of Trust Funds, we welcome this source of finance for the Field Programme. We are very grateful to those countries who participate in this method of financing. Unfortunately, by its nature, the levels of Trust Funds cannot be forecast. We are happy to note that Trust Fund donors align their activities with FAO's general priorities and programmes, particularly the FAO Special Action Programmes, including the WCARRD follow-up.

On the TCP we do not agree entirely with the delegate of the United Kingdom that increases in TCP will necessarily reduce the funds from other sources. We see the TCP as playing a major role in giving prompt answers whenever urgent action is necessary. We are happy to note the large number of TCP projects approved during the biennium. We hope this can be increased in future and that the TCP will continue to act as a stimulus for larger investment.

On FAO's technical assistance, the only way that FAO can carry out its mandate, particularly in developing countries is to offer technical assistance whenever the request is made. Of course the ability of the Organization to respond to requests depends on the resources available. There have been many meetings in the past few months at which emphasis was made on larger investment in agriculture. This is why we appeal to all governments to increase their contributions to the UNDP and to all the Special Action Programmes. We are aware of the economic situation all over the world but we think we have to live with these difficulties, which are common to everybody.

Regarding the FAO Country Representatives and Regional Officers we feel very strongly that the FAO Country Representatives and the Regional Officers have a major role to play in the execution of field Programmes. These offices were set up in order to ensure decentralization of the Organization. We feel strongly that they should be retained and full use should be made of them.

On the investment activities of FAO we are happy to note that FAO's field activities in the biennium were given an increased orientation towards investment. We advocate the allocation of greater resources to the Investment Centre so that it can give necessary assistance to financing institutions like IFAD and the regional development banks. We are happy to note that during 1980 fifty FAO-assisted investment projects amounting to \$2 380 million were approved for financing.

We are happy to note the cooperation between FAO and the World Bank in the FAO/World Bank Cooperative Programme.

S.P. MUKHERJEE (India): I will not go into the detailed statistics and working as indicated in the two documents but confine myself to some general observations and suggestions.

At present much concern has been expressed over the fact that the flow of funds from the UNDP to FAO has not been increasing as much as it should but on the other hand there is a definite trend of decline.

Two reasons have been given for that - one that developing countries perhaps are not giving as much importance to agriculture and rural development as these two sectors deserve, and secondly perhaps there is scope for more coordination between UNDP and FAO so that FAO's expertise and experience in the field of agriculture and rural development is made fuller use of by the UNDP. In this context, the Resolution of FAO of 1979 would be very relevant.

My delegation is extremely happy to note that the mandate given to the Director-General by FAO by that Resolution has been fully observed and complied with by the Director-General and there have been concrete steps taken for ensuring greater coordination between the UNDP and FAO in the sense that FAO's representation on the UNDP intelligence task force has been ensured and joint letters have been issued to the UNDP representatives and the FAO representatives in the various countries at the instance of the Director-General. The Director-General deserves all credit for all the steps that he has taken at his personal level.

I have a suggestion to offer for the consideration of the House - whether it is not time for all of us to recognize that FAO has been, is, and will remain the supreme body world organization in the matter of food, agriculture and rural development in the United Nations System, I am told that the birth of the FAO took place about a week earlier than the birth of the United Nations itself. In that context to recognize the place which FAO occupies in the matter of food, agriculture and rural development will be very appropriate. We should with all the force at our command recommend to the United Nations that in any matter connected with food, agriculture and rural development FAO has to be recognized as a model and focal agency and there should not be any other agency within the United Nations System which should be allowed to take on the executing work of food and agriculture programmes unless the programme funds are routed through FAO. It is another matter whether FAO gives particular work to another United Nations organization but FAO remains primarily the supreme body in the United Nations System to be responsible for all food, agriculture and rural development matters. If that fact is recognized and firmly given effect to there is no reason why the UNDP fund, or any other fund for that matter related to food, agriculture and rural development, should not first come to FAO and it is up to FAO to execute it through its own Organization or give it over to some other organization. If this obvious fact is given full recognition I do not think there would be difficulty in UNDP funds not flowing through FAO in the matter of food, agriculture and rural development. So I would suggest for the consideration of this House that recognition of FAO as the supreme world body for programming all food, agriculture and rural development projects should be given official recognition.

My delegation is also very happy and encouraged to find that the Director-General has made all attempts to get higher and additional donations through UNDP and the Special Action Programmes and Trust Funds. I would suggest that the exercise started by the Director-General for increasing the fund flow to the FAO should be followed up at all levels of the FAO and individual approaches should be made to all world organizations and countries so that the donations and flow of funds to the FAO for food, agriculture and rural development items are increased.

My delegation is very happy to note that Africa, which needs particular attention in the matter of increase of agricultural production and food, has been given special attention through FAO's Field Programmes. My delegation fully endorses the appeal and the strategy adopted by the FAO in advocating to the developing countries that they must increase their food production, but in that light, my delegation would suggest that not merely the poor countries but the rich countries also should make all attempts to increase their food production so that the total availability of food for mankind as such goes on increasing. No Government., developing or developed, rich or poor, should do anything, directly or indirectly, which may have an adverse affect on the total production of food grains in the world, and I think it is very important and this is something which the world body should take cognizance of.

My delegation is also very happy about the policy entitled New Dimensions in Technical Cooperation in Developing Countries and has noted that the percentage of experts from the developing countries has gone up to 43 percent, but it is still far below the target of 50 percent which the United Nations General Assembly had fixed as regards the experts coming from the developing countries. In that context, my delegation and my government would like to offer to the FAO its various institutions to be recognized by the FAO as its regional institutions for training and consultancy purposes. I have in my view our Institution of Arid Zone Research in the desert areas, located in Jodhpur in Rajasthan Desert Area, where a fund of knowledge about crop husbandry and containment of deserts has been evolved, and this Institute can be recognized as a regional institute of FAO also.

Likewise our very renowned Forest Research Institute in India, which is celebrating its centenary only a few weeks from now, can also be recognized as a FAO regional institute for offering training and consultancy services to the FAO. We have also a Forest Management Institute which can also give to the services of the FAO. Already a number of Fisheries Institutes in India, Research Institutes, have been recognized by FAO for training on a regional basis. We offer them for similar activities for FAO's consultancy and training service. We have got Fisheries Institutes both for inland research as well as marine fisheries. We have got a network of research bodies in the matter of rain-fed crops which have great relevance for a number of African and Asian countries. These institutes can also be recognized by FAO for training and other service facilities.

While talking of training, it appears from table 4 on page 101 of document 81/4 that over the years there has been a decline in training outlay from 7.5 percent in 1979 to 4.6 percent in 1980. This delegation thinks is a rather unhappy trend, as training is the core of development work and seeding of development activities in the developing countries, so therefore we would like to see the outlay on training go up much faster rather than go down, as is evident from this table. We feel that there could be a scope of reducing the outlay on project personnel and diverting that expenditure to a more enduring purpose of training the trainers in the developing countries.

NGA MA MAPELA (Zaire): Nous félicitons le secrétariat pour la qualité du document que nous examinons. Nous félicitons plus particulièrement M. de Mèredieu pour la présentation de ce document.

Comme les autres délégations, nous estimons que l'on devrait tout mettre en oeuvre pour mettre à la disposition du PNUD des ressources abondantes lui permettant d'aider les pays en développement.

Nous pensons que lorsqu'il aura des ressources abondantes, le PNUD devra affecter une très grande partie de celles-ci aux projets agricoles destinés à augmenter la production alimentaire dans les pays en développement.

En ce qui concerne la répartition des ressources du PNUD ou de toute autre organisation d'aide au développement entre les divers programmes dans les pays en développement, ma délégation appuie ce qui a été dit par plusieurs délégations, à savoir qu'il appartient aux gouvernements des pays bénéficiaires de décider de cette répartition des ressources.

Quant à l'exécution des projets qui bénéficient du financement du PNUD, nous pensons que non seulement la FAO devrait s'occuper de leur exécution, mais qu'on devrait également utiliser le plus souvent des experts nationaux.

Pour ce qui concerne le rôle de la FAO dans l'assistance technique, comme l'a dit le Chef de ma délégation dans sa déclaration en séance plénière, nous estimons que toutes les institutions de la famille des Nations Unies qui s'occupent de l'aide aux pays en développement, devraient, dans la mesure du possible, envoyer dans les pays en développement des experts de très haute qualification pour effectuer des missions de courte durée dont le but consisterait surtout à aider les pays à élaborer des projets dont l'exécution serait confiée aux experts nationaux, ainsi que l'ont souligné plusieurs délégations qui ont parlé avant nous. Comme on le sait, l'utilisation d'experts nationaux dans les projets permet notamment de réduire le taux des salaires souvent élevés alloués aux experts étrangers. Ainsi les économies que l'on pourrait réaliser à ce propos peuvent être utilisées pour l'achat de fournitures et de moyens logistiques nécessaires aux projets et qui manquent aux pays assistés.

Notre point de vue sur le Programme FAO de coopération technique avait été exposé hier lors de la discussion du Programme ordinaire 1980-81 et je voudrais simplement rappeler ce que nous avons dit à cette occasion, à savoir que le PCT étant un des excellents programmes de la FAO, on devrait tout mettre en oeuvre pour le renforcer en le dotant de ressources plus abondantes.

Nous estimons que le PCT doit être renforcé, d'autant plus que ce programme joue le rôle de complémentarité vis-à-vis des programmes de développement qui bénéficient du financement du PNUD. En clair, nous voulons dire que le PCT ne peut en aucune façon être considéré comme faisant double emploi avec les Programmes du PNUD, ou comme étant en concurrence avec les Programmes du PNUD.

Nous pouvons sans difficulté appuyer l'idée qui a été exprimée ici par certaines délégations au sujet de l'évaluation des activités des bureaux de la FAO dans les pays. Mais nous tenons à souligner que les personnes indiquées pour effectuer cette évaluation sont les gouvernements des pays concernés, de concert avec la FAO. Ce sont, à notre avis, ces pays qui bénéficient des services fournis par ces bureaux et par conséquent ils sont en mesure de dire si oui ou non ces bureaux sont nécessaires.

Il en est de même de l'évaluation des Programmes de terrain de la FAO qui, à juste titre, doit être effectuée par les gouvernements des pays bénéficiaires avec l'aide de la FAO.

Nous pensons que les fonds que l'on aurait utilisés pour payer les experts indépendants ou extérieurs, chargés d'évaluer les Programmes de terrain, pourraient être utilisés pour d'autres besoins de ces programmes.

Pour terminer, nous voudrions appuyer ce qui vient d'être dit pas le délégué de l'Inde au sujet du rôle de la FAO en tant qu'Organisation chef de file en matière d'alimentation et d'agriculture.

Miss C. McASKIE (Canada): As I mentioned this morning, I will concentrate my remarks this afternoon on document C 81/28, Development Assistance for Food Production and Rural Development. First of all, may I say that the Secretariat is to be commended for the preparation of the data on official development assistance for food and agriculture, and the Canadian delegation fully appreciates the difficulties that are experienced in acquiring such data. Not only are there statistical difficulties, there are also difficulties in defining inputs, particularly in an area so broad as agriculture.

Having said this, however, we would appreciate in future a more detailed analysis of trends and requirements in this area. Merely to conclude that more official development assistance, both from traditional and new sources, is the answer is not in our view sufficient. It is, a vital element. There is, however, an additional element that all of us, donors, recipients and agencies working in the field, must recognize: that even with increased development assistance and an increased proportion going to agriculture, massive private investment in agriculture, both from internal and external sources, must be generated in order for us to meet the minimal targets in adequate nutrition by the year 2000.

We are pleased to see recognition given to the role to be played by recipient countries in this crucial area of development. It will be up to these countries, in the final analysis, to demonstrate the political will to direct resources and to institute the policies which will form the basis of increased agricultural production. In this connection my government fully recognizes the extensive commitments made by the least developed countries at the recent UN Conference on the LLDCs. This does not deny the role played by the traditional donors, and we must remain conscious of our own responsibilities.

On the question of FAO's role on the implementation of UNDP assistance, the Canadian government has difficulty in understanding the impression which is given in this document before us that there is any blame to be laid for FAO's declining share of UNDP projects. It is our understanding of the UNDP Country Programming exercise that it is the recipient country, when planning its country programme, which chooses FAO or another organization to execute specific projects within that programme. We therefore have difficulty in understanding why FAO proposes entering into discussions with UNDP on this programme. We would contend that the problem as outlined by FAO in the document C 81/28 is not in fact a problem. To indicate that UNDP's recently created Office of Projects Execution and its work, which has received the praise of many countries, is a matter of concern for the Executive Heads of Specialized Agencies, comes as a surprise, as does the implication that FAO should execute more than its current share of 75 percent of UNDP funded agricultural projects. Does this mean - and correct me if I am wrong - that there is no room for other institutions in this field such as IFAD, the World Food Programme, and the Agricultural Research Centres? Does this mean that the client government must relinquish the right to choose?

As I said this morning, the Canadian Government recognizes that FAO has a crucial role to play and that it is uniquely equipped to play that role. However, we can only be disappointed if its energies are expended in what appears to be interagency conflict. Why is a drop in the percentage for FAO described as ominous? We quite understand this if it is applied to a drop in agricultural assistance, but why does this weaken the institution building impact of UNDP assistance? Is this a criticism of the client governments?

There is another matter. There is a great deal in this paper about relations with UNDP, including the Administrator and the Resident Representatives, and I would like to commend the Secretariat for the work it is doing for increasing cooperation in this area. There is, however, something which is conspicuous by its absence and that is that there is not a single reference to UN Resident Coordinators. Member governments in a series of General Assembly resolutions have called for the designation of Resident Coordinators in the field with overall responsibility for the coordination of UN Operational activities for development. My Government is surprised, therefore, to see no reference to this in the document under discussion. My Government has been even more surprised in field visits to see that in some cases FAO field representatives have denied the existence of a reporting relationship between the Resident Coordinators and themselves.

We appreciate the progress the Secretariat is making in its cooperation with the UNDP, but we believe more needs to be done to ensure this filters down to the field level.

My Government is anxious to see the implementation of the UN General Assembly Resolution 32/197 on the integration of the field operations of the UN Development System and Resolution 35/81 on the Comprehensive Policy Review for Operational Activities. We would ask, therefore, for a more complete report from the Secretariat on the progress which has been made on these issues.

We will return to this under agenda item 15, document C 81/19.

Finally, on the question of increased development assistance for agriculture, I wish to reconfirm Canada's commitment, as stated by my Minister in Plenary, that my Government has given top priority to agricultural development. The percentage of Canadian Development Assistance in agriculture is expected to increase from 30 percent to 40-45 percent over the next five years. We remain supporters of FAO as a specialist professional executing agency. Further, we remain supporters of UNDP as a funding agency of the UN Development System, and in agriculture particularly we will continue to increase our support, for IFAD, for the World Food Programme and for the Agricultural Research Centres and the financial institutions, as well as for bilateral food aid and bilateral development assistance in agriculture.

W.E. ADERO (Kenya): The main source of funding to FAO Field Programmes is UNDP. In recent years, there have been fluctuations in this funding resulting in the decline of these resources. This is a matter which should cause concern not only to my delegation but also to this Conference Session. We are told that in the cycle 1982-86 the resources could fall over 25 percent of the targets established in June 1980. This trend in the flow of UNDP resources can only make it extremely difficult for FAO to plan and execute its field programmes well in advance. My delegation would be happy if these resources were increased and not cut.

FAO is a leading agency in global matters of food, and at a time when food crises are on the increase, its technical competence and experience in attacking these problems should not be frustrated by falling resources.

We support the Trust Funds and we would appreciate increased contributions from both old and new donors. FAO and recipient government cooperative programmes have had very encouraging and commendable results in our country, especially in local manpower training.

As regards the Technical Co-operation Programme, we are also concerned with the declining resources. Developing countries have needs, and these are felt needs, which call for quick action programmes and we should express our strong support for increased resources and activities in this area.

On the categories and components of field projects, my delegation is satisfied with the nature of field programmes. We would particularly like to emphasize, under the natural resources programme, soil and water conservation and afforestation in both arid zone improvement and high rainfall areas also through better on-farm water management.

Recognising and supporting the need for renewable sources of energy we wish to place emphasis on community forestry development programmes as well as on farm woodlots i.e. agro-forestry. These should be integrated into general farm development and the farmer should benefit by increased overall farm income. Under FAO fish projects we would like to particularly emphasize aquaculture and small scale fishery development including fish processing and handling as well as marketing.

In our assessment of projects, FAO deserves to be commended for its project assessment effort and report. We consider this assessment to be objective and we hope the FAO itself plus others involved in project design and implementation and land preservation will benefit from the findings. The suggestion that FAO should be involved during the initial stages of project design for those projects it gets involved in is important and needs to be taken seriously. We wish also to underline the importance of thorough knowledge of the physical and social-economic conditions in projects areas. Finally on assessment, the need for carefully prepared workplans for project implementers deserves our mention.

On food production, cereal imports especially in Africa have continued to rise and the trend is alarming. Measures to step up food production in such countries need to be stepped up. We in Africa would like to endorse FAO's efforts in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and already Kenya has prepared a National Food Policy to that effect.

On the project of implementation of field programmes, lack of or inadequacy of manpower has retarded or even hindered some development efforts in our countries. We are happy to see that FAO is helping developing countries build up their managerial, technical and administrative capabilities. These commendable efforts should be increased considerably.

D. BETI (Suisse): Ma délégation vous remercie de lui donner la parole pour la deuxième fois dans le cadre de ce débat sur le programme de terrain; je m'efforcerai de ne pas en abuser par la longueur de cette déclaration.

Plusieurs délégations se sont déjà prononcées sur la question de l'évaluation des programmes, et je suis certain qu'une analyse complète des différentes remarques et suggestions en sera faite par le Secrétariat de la FAO.

Notre position concernant les systèmes d'évaluation interne établis par la plupart des organisations internationales et notamment par la FAO a été, dans le passé, critique et même réservée. Aujourd'hui, si notre position reste toujours critique, elle est devenue beaucoup moins réservée.

En fait ma délégation se plaît à pouvoir apporter son appui au système d'évaluation interne sous ses différentes formes établies par la FAO, et notamment au système d'auto-évaluation intégré.

Nous avons pris bonne note du rapport du Corps Commun d'Inspection qui s'est prononcé très favorablement sur le système instauré par la FAO. Les informations fournies dans le document C 81/4 basées sur l'évaluation des projets de terrain entrepris par la FAO durant la période 1980-81 nous montrent que la FAO s'est dotée d'un instrument de gestion valable qui peut l'aider à améliorer de façon continue la qualité des projets. Ces informations permettent en effet une analyse quantitative assez complète, et, dans une certaine mesure, aussi qualitative des projets exécutés, des résultats atteints, des différents problèmes rencontrés et des solutions possibles. Ce système d'évaluation a notamment l'avantage précieux qu'il s'agit d'un processus continu d'évaluation, aspect important relevé à juste titre hier par Monsieur West.

Nous pensons dès lors qu'il est souhaitable que la FAO poursuive tout d'abord les efforts d'évaluation interne, tout en les améliorant. Cette amélioration devra être recherchée dans le sens que l'évaluation interne doit essayer d'englober aussi des éléments et aspects non chiffrables des projets, des éléments justement qui permettent une appréciation du degré et des progrès de développement, et non seulement de croissance atteints par les projets.

Nous savons que le Secrétariat est conscient de ces lacunes dans le système d'évaluation de la FAO, mais, comme l'a dit hier West, il est décidé à les combler. Nous ne pouvons que l'encourager à chercher avec perspicacité et esprit d'imagination des solutions, dans les meilleurs délais, et nous sommes quant à nous disposés à collaborer avec la FAO dans cette recherche de solutions.

Ces critiques n'enlèvent rien à notre soutien au système d'évaluation interne établi. Nous avons pris note avec satisfaction de la remarque de West dans sa déclaration d'hier, et nous espérons avoir bien saisi ses propos, que d'autres types d'évaluation resteraient possibles à l'avenir en plus de l'évaluation interne. Ceci nous semblerait une excellente politique, car il nous paraît essentiel que le Directeur général puisse disposer d'un instrument de gestion supplémentaire, sous la forme d'évaluations complémentaires à l'évaluation interne, instrument auquel il pourrait avoir recours dans des situations particulières. Ceci pourrait être le cas, à notre avis, notamment quand le Directeur général propose un nouveau programme, ou une extension substantielle du programme existant, ou alors quand l'utilité d'un programme existant est remise en question par plusieurs pays, et que ce programme n'a pas été soumis à une évaluation complémentaire depuis plus de quatre ans.

Nous serions intéressés à connaître les vues et les intentions du Secrétariat en ce qui concerne ces évaluations complémentaires. Nous aimerions assurer le Directeur général de notre disponibilité quant à l'examen d'un appui et d'une collaboration de notre part à la mise en place d'un tel instrument complémentaire de gestion des projets.

Notre soutien pourrait être substantiel, dans la mesure où d'autres appuis, venant d'autres sources, viendraient s'y joindre, et dans la mesure aussi où les pays directement concernés participeraient opérationnellement à une telle entreprise.

J'aimerais rapidement ajouter quelques remarques concernant l'information et la documentation, afin de soumettre une proposition. Bien que la FAO ait plus à offrir au monde agricole en développement, ses activités ne sont pas sans importance pour les pays développés. Par la mise en place de réseaux de

recherche agricole permettant une coopération scientifique multilatérale plus coordonnée, et par son programme d'information et de documentation utilisé toujours plus largement, la FAO contribue d'une manière considérable à la diffusion des connaissances dans le domaine agricole. Or des améliorations du système d'information et de documentation restent possibles, et nous voudrions apporter une suggestion allant dans le sens d'une utilisation plus facile de ce système. Le papier "documentation de la FAO/bibliographie courante" qui paraît en règle générale une fois par mois, pourrait être complété ou substitué par un document "bibliographie cumulative" englobant toutes les publications, rapports et documents de la FAO publiés pendant la durée d'une année. Un tel document faciliterait considérablement la recherche de tous, et le ferait encore davantage, si les présentations des sources elles aussi étaient améliorées.

Sra. Dona L. ELIZONDO C. (Nicaragua): Observamos en el punto 1.6 la variación que representa la entrega anual en las operaciones FAO/PNUD, que a su vez significan disminuciones para algunas regiones, como en el caso de América Latina que ha pasado del 15 al 11 por ciento de un bienio a otro.

En este sentido, consideramos conveniente que el PNUD contribuya al máximo de sus posibilidades de forma tal que, sin afectar la prioridad de algunos pueblos de África considerados entre los más pobres, nuestra región de América Latina no se vea tan drásticamente afectada.

Apreciamos de mucho valor el Capítulo Cuatro, Sr. Presidente, que incluye los métodos de las nuevas dimensiones que tanto pueden favorecer a los países en desarrollo.

Asimismo, como ya han expresado otras delegaciones, consideramos que sólo corresponde a los países en desarrollo y a la propia FAO evaluar los programas sin que sea necesaria la participación de los países donantes u otras instituciones en las evaluaciones; consideramos que difícilmente encontraríamos agentes mejor calificados que los propios países beneficiarios para evaluar los programas de los cuales son sujetos, más aún consideramos que las propuestas presentadas esta mañana por algunos países donantes reflejan posiciones que se alejan de los principios y éticas de un organismo internacional que practica la asistencia multilateral.

Finalmente y aunque se refiera a un tema tratado anteriormente, quisiéramos aprovechar esta intervención para apoyar la creación del banco de fitogermoplasma, presentada por México, proyecto cuya implementación significará un paso de vital importancia para la independencia tecnológica de los países del área.

W.A.F. GRABISCH (Germany, Federal Republic of) (original language German): With reference to the discussion of document C 81/28, and particularly Corrigendum 1, we wish to report on the German share of official development assistance for the broad field of rural development. The share of German bilateral pledges for financial and technical cooperation almost doubled between 1978 and 1981 for rural development. In 1981 it will be one-third of all pledges, or DM 1.34 billion. In speaking about promoting agricultural development we mean measures for agriculture, forestry and fisheries, as well as measures to promote infrastructure, crafts, small commercial businesses and cooperatives in rural areas. For 1981, DM 414 million are earmarked for technical cooperation and for financial cooperation DM 928 million. These include bilateral food security projects totalling DM 35 million and for the World Food Programme a total of DM 46 million. Agricultural research is to be promoted to the tune of DM 21 million.

I am sure it will be of interest to you to have the German contribution in 1981 for the major finance bodies and institutions. They are set out in tables 1 and 2 of document C 81/28 Corrigendum 1: For the World Bank, DM 27 million; for the IDA, DM 414 million; for Regional Development Banks and Funds, DM 92.5 million; and for the UNDP, DM 112 million.

As far as the first cycle of contributions for IFAD is concerned my country paid \$55 million.

Finally, I should like to return to some answers of the Secretariat to the comments which we have already made here in the Commission on the Technical Cooperation Programme, the TCP, which is part of our agenda item under review.

At the 74th Session of the Council an evaluation report of the Director-General was submitted. This report also quoted the evaluation report from consultant Linner appointed by the Secretariat as one of a number of sources of information; it was only the Programme Committee that had insight into the consultant's report. It was quite right, I think, that the point was made at the 74th Council that two years after the start of the TCP was too early for evaluation. However, an evaluation was necessary



because a decision had to be taken after the experimental phase on whether the Programme was to be extended or not. The Secretariat submitted a document to the 74th Council, C 74/14, entitled Evaluation of the TCP. I will quote the English text of paragraph 22 thereof:

“The TCP should be fully evaluated at the end of its first five years of operation and a full report presented to the Council at its autumn session in 1982.”

Resolution 1/74 on TCP refers to C 74/14 and states - and I quote again from the English text:

“The Council... taking into account the report of the Director-General on the evaluation of the Programme, welcomes the findings of the evaluation report.”

My delegation would like to explicitly ask the Secretariat again to put in hand such an evaluation and to involve the Joint Inspection Unit therein. Pursuant to its task the JIU should look at questions of quality and efficiency and point to possibly existing duplications within the United Nations system. Even if the FAO internal evaluation system of FAO is judged increasingly positively, nonetheless; we feel that also this UN agency should be submitted to external efficiency control if effective use of funds is to be guaranteed. This would also be for the benefit of those who have opposed external evaluation in the course of this debate.

M. ARAFAH (Jordan) (Original language Arabic): The review of field programmes in document C 81/4 is one of the main subjects being discussed in this Commission at the present session of the general Conference. Member countries through this item can evaluate the Organization's activities in the field. These documents also enable us to see more clearly the difficulties and obstacles encountered by the Organization in the execution of its programmes. These obstacles are mainly due to the fluctuations and sharp increases or drop in the allocations made by financing institutions to these programmes and more specifically, those provided by the UNDP for field programmes. The sharp and rapid fluctuations in allocations during the first and second programming cycles of UNDP from 1972 to 1976 and from 1977 to 1981 have led to the following negative results: first of all, the concept of regional and national programmes has not achieved the expected benefits and this in fact affected agricultural development in most developing countries. Secondly the Organization was unable to prepare forward plans for its activities taking into account UNDP financing. Thirdly, the Organization was forced to abruptly terminate the contracts of many field experts. This has led to an increase of administrative and general costs as we saw in the 1975-1976 biennium when the UNDP was suffering from a serious liquidity problem.

My fourth point refers to disruptions in developing countries caused by the failure of the financing institutions to provide the necessary funds.

These fluctuations in the volume of field programmes is one of the main features of the negative impact suffered by developing countries over the past 10 years. We find that in the present programming cycle 1982-86, we shall not be any the better off than the past especially if we take into account the statements and discussions made on the subject yesterday and today. We are fully aware that the current financial situation of the UNDP is still a source of concern. However, this concern is alleviated by the hope that rich and potential donors will review their allocations and pledges to UNDP very soon. We do hope that they shall do so, so that UNDP may fulfil our hopes and expectations and in order that the developing countries may undertake the forward planning of their projects in a sound manner.

We have believed and still believe that FAO is a specialized international agency in the field of food and agriculture and that, due to its financial, administrative and specialized divisions and departments and to its experience, is the most fitting organization to undertake the implementation of projects for agricultural development in developing countries. We base our views in this matter on the Arab proverb which says “Bread should go to the baker to be baked”. We therefore fail to understand the constraints that have recently transpired between the UNDP and other United Nations specialized agencies and, more specifically, between UNDP and FAO. These constraints have led UNDP to cut back the programmes allocated to the FAO for implementation and this in turn led to the following negative results; first of all, a drop in funds allocated to the agricultural sector for the development projects financed by UNDP despite the fact that UNDP is not prominently responsible for regional programming as this falls within the purview of the countries themselves. Yet the truth is the very opposite. This is due to a number of reasons. I do not think this forum to be an appropriate place to mention them.

The second reason is that the UNDP undertakes to implement certain projects directly, We believe that this is a very dangerous trend for the following reasons: this may lead to certain agencies to believe that they are in a better position to find the appropriate solutions than international organizations in charge of implementing development programmes. Yet the development and implementation of field programmes requires continuous support, financial and otherwise, from the specialized 'divisions and departments of this Organization. We cannot do without them, the more so as when we think that those agencies have to establish a number of specialized and multi-disciplinary institutions and authorities. This would simply mean a duplication of long-standing institutions' activities elsewhere.

My other point deals with the fact that the continued flow of funds must be the main responsibility of the field officers in charge of the implementation of these programmes. Any failure to undertake this responsibility effectively shall lead to serious shortages in the implementations of programmes.

The third point I wish to refer to, deals with the request addressed to institutions and international organizations established recently to implement agricultural development projects instead of FAO. This is undertaken despite the fact that such institutions do not have the same available expertise as FAO and especially as our Organization has proved its efficiency in the field through the achievements we have all recognized.

The fourth point I wish to refer to is the fact that certain countries are requested to implement their own development programmes when they express the desire to do so. We do not object to the encouragement of this trend but we should not exaggerate it because, before undertaking to implement such projects, we should ascertain that the necessary qualified expertise is available. The approval of such projects should not only hinge on a request from the country concerned.

Another aspect deals with the aid provided by FAO especially from the Trust Fund. This aid may also suffer cut-backs. Proof of this are hints made by certain speakers during the discussion of this item. Yet despite all this we do hope that international and regional organizations and institutions providing funds for such activities shall review their position and the principle of a cut-back in allocations.

Finally, on behalf of my country I wish to express my full support for the efforts undertaken by the Director-General to ensure the continuation of TCP between the Organization and the Member countries of the Near East region and his efforts to increase funds allocated to that region. I do hope that the donor countries of the region shall approve the allocation of greater funds to TCP. As for the organization's TCP financed by ordinary budget and which have become one of the main features of change introduced in the Organization's programming over the past few years, they represent a major change in the Organization's policies and a trend in favour of support provided to developing countries. We therefore wish to seize this opportunity to express our support of TCP.

We have listened to the statements made by a number of delegations and they all in fact supported the Organization's field programmes. It is therefore a great pleasure for us to express our own support. However, we do hope that further improvements will be introduced and we are fully confident that FAO through its cooperation with Member countries shall be able to bring about this improvement. As for criticisms levelled by certain countries as to the rapid appointment of programme managers and field experts even though this may be true in some cases we believe that it is due to circumstances beyond the organization's control. Yet I believe that some countries are to be blamed sometimes for this.

T. SEYOUM (Ethiopia): My delegation has examined carefully the document C 81/4 and C 81/28 and like all other delegations I would like to express my admiration for the manner in which the documents were prepared, both for the method adopted as well as the format.

I also would like to welcome the initiative taken by the Secretariat of FAO with regard to project formulation and implementation by national experts, I can assure you that we are prepared to use this opportunity as much as we can. In fact we have already submitted projects to the Secretariat and we are happy to learn that it is accepted by FAO too.

With regard to the suggestion that an external evaluation of FAO activities should be made my delegation does not wish any comment at this stage and therefore stand with those who have refuted it.

MS. A. ALLAIN (Observer for International Organization of Consumers' Unions): It is an honour for me to address this Commission on behalf of IOCU, the International Organization of Consumers' Unions. IOCU links the activities of consumer organizations in some 50 countries, both developing and industrialized nations. In fact, although the consumer movement started in the North, IOCU has always welcomed a sharp increase in members from developing countries. They have added new and more basic concerns to the struggle for consumer protection.

The first and foremost of these concerns is the one to have adequate, safe and nutritious food. To achieve this entails not only increased production but above all better distribution or, as the Director-General has said: "greater purchasing power for the poor, to buy more and better food."

There is always pressure on the last speakers of the day and in order not to abuse the time of delegates here I shall skip part of my statement and concentrate on matters of particular relevance to this omission. I hope however that the entire statement can be reproduced in the Commission's records.

The cost of food accounts for a large proportion of every family's budget and the poorer the family the larger that proportion! It has been estimated that the rural poor in developing countries spend up to 80 percent of their income on food. Yet, today there is an alarming tendency for these most vulnerable consumers to get less value for their money. This unnecessarily aggravates their state of malnutrition and impairs productivity.

Misleading advertising prompts many a "new" consumer to believe that such "modern" processed foods like Coca Cola or Cornflakes are more nutritious than the fresh local produce he can buy for one third or less of the price. We are in fact witnessing conscious efforts to persuade people to change their consumption patterns. Nutrition education is an absolute must in all countries but it cannot possibly compete with the high level expenditure on advertising for so-called "convenience foods". The net result is a tremendous loss to the consumer, who ends up not only with fewer calories for money but paying for his own seduction. There is a loss to the country as well, in terms of increased imports and royalties to transnational producers. This growing dependency is in direct conflict with the often expressed need for domestic self-sufficiency.

Conversely, in their fight against unhealthy over consumption in the North, and in favour of more solidarity with the poor in the South, consumer unions and development action groups alike, often find it difficult if not impossible to justify the importation of food stuffs from Third World countries. While recognizing the need for export earnings they criticize the use of productive resources to grow feed for European cattle or to provide protein for the dogs and cats in the rich countries, when large sections of the exporting countries' populations suffer from hunger.

A way must be found of correcting the present economic system which allows and even encourages such unjust disparities in purchasing power! Is it a logical for consumers in the North to be subsidizing costly agricultural surpluses which rely on cheap inputs from developing countries? And is there a remote chance to end malnutrition if unabated economic forces can continue to value profitable markets over the well-being of people?

Mr. Chairman, such questions loom dark and heavy; they seem too large to be tackled by individual governments, let alone by non-governmental organizations such as ours. Yet, apathy is our worst enemy. Slowly and steadily, armed with boldness and imagination, NGO's, governments and UN agencies can make a difference. A recent example is the overwhelming endorsement of the "Baby Food Code" (Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes) at the World Health Assembly. NGO's from all parts of the world, including IOCU, laid the necessary groundwork, actively participating in the drafting of the Code itself and fully intend to monitor its implementation.

Also here at FAO, IOCU has been involved in the preparation of another document: The Code of Ethics for International Trade in Food, adopted by the Codex Alimentarius Commission in 1977. And I plead with the governments here represented to call for technical assistance if needed so as to implement these international recommendations as minimum rules for the protection of consumers and to help prevent developing countries from becoming a dumping ground for unnecessary or sub-standard foods. FAO is the only UN agency that has set up a consumer protection group.

Before I go into one other subject of particular relevance to this Commission let me say that we appreciated and welcomed the Director-General's kind words for non-governmental organizations and I hope that they will lead to more confidence both nationally and internationally in the potential world of small but committed citizens' groups.

IOCU is also concerned about future generations of consumers. In this regard, I would like to stress an aspect of world food security which we believe will acquire great importance, namely the seed for future crops. It is also relevant to Chapter 3 of Document C 81/4 which this Commission has been discussing and reference to the genetic erosion question has been made to it by several delegations.

In the past few decades the use of new high-yielding varieties of major food crops has spread to many parts of the world. It has in some cases helped to increase agricultural output, but it has also had a less noticed effect, namely it has speeded up the erosion of the genetic wealth which is the basis of all our food. As farmers substitute traditional crops by high-yielding varieties the seeds of these traditional varieties disappear little by little with their invaluable store of genetic characteristics. Not so long ago, there used to be hundreds of different food crops grown throughout the world. Now 95 percent of human nutrition comes from only 30 food crops. Three crops alone - wheat, rice and maize - account for over 75 percent of mankind's cereal consumption.

This trend has been helped not only by the Green Revolution, but particularly also by the globalization of the seed industry. Seeds used to be produced by a multitude of small breeders, as well as by farmers themselves who would keep a part of their harvest for next season's planting. Now, big business, mainly large chemical and oil multinationals, have moved into this sector buying up hundreds of small firms and establishing a de facto monopolistic condition. Is the aim of these companies world food security? We find that the number of varieties marketed is decreasing while there is a commercial push for others, not necessarily those that have the highest nutritive value or the best qualities, but those with the highest profit margin, and those that can be marketed together with the company's own pesticides and fertilizers.

All countries need regular infusion of germplasm for their agricultural breeding programmes. But the countries of the North are notably gene-poor however grain-rich they may be at this point in history. They depend on collections of germplasm from the rich pools of varieties which are practically all located in developing countries. Mrs. Indira Gandhi called this wealth a common heritage which deserves to be conserved and utilized in a cooperative manner.

The present conservation system seems far from adequate. However, 70 percent of all genetic material stored is in the industrialized countries. Many nations have sent germplasm to gene banks in the North on the assumption that it would be adequately preserved and always freely available. Yet reports now say that one-third or more of the material stored may be diseased or dead. It used to be the general practice for breeders and agricultural research stations to freely exchange germplasm on request, subject only to quarantine regulations. Now several countries have adopted plant patent laws and limit germplasm exchanges, in some cases only to other countries with similar legislation. Furthermore, there is always the temptation to refuse germplasm to certain countries for commercial or political reasons and this has already happened.

Just as the rich countries consider their soils and the crop which grow as their property, poor developing countries may one day decide that their wealth in germplasm is a natural resource which should no longer be given away. We all know how food can be and has been used as a political weapon. Can we allow the very basis on which tomorrow's food depends to be used for political considerations? Until such time as basic legislation can be enacted that will defend the right of all developing countries to benefit from their genetic resources we would consider it appropriate that FAO should recognize its responsibility to represent and defend these rights. For all these reasons IOCU applauds the initiatives taken by Spain, Mexico and other Latin American countries in proposing a resolution calling for an international germplasm bank under FAO auspices and accountable to all Member States.

Moreover, we also believe, as do the Latin American countries, that there is an urgent need for an international convention on the free exchange of germplasm of such a character as to guarantee people from all nations full access to the stored genetic material in seed banks everywhere. This must be based on the principle that plant genetic resources are the common heritage of all mankind and must not be allowed to fall under the control of private interests, otherwise food security for our generation and future ones would indeed be in jeopardy and depend on the whims and commercial perspectives of the few large countries which increasingly dominate the world food market.

A.G. NGONGI NAMANGA (Cameroon): My delegation joins others which have already expressed appreciation to Mr. de Meredieu for his excellent introduction of the item under discussion.

FAO's field activities are on the right track. The Review gives a clear idea of the relevance of the various programmes to the needs of developing countries.

We note with satisfaction the emphasis accorded to projects on the management of natural resources and on increasing food and animal production. The regional repartition of the field programmes reflects the priorities which have been set by this Organization and other international fora. Africa receives strong emphasis. This emphasis will need to be maintained in the years ahead.

We note with satisfaction the results of project assessment shown on page 29. Most elements are ranked good. However, we are worried by the low ranking given to government involvement and transfer of skills. These two factors are most important if recipient countries are to become self-reliant at the end of the project. Every effort should be made to ensure that national directors and counterparts work on projects on a full-time basis. Also the training element of projects should be strengthened so as to provide sufficient numbers of trained personnel to carry on projects when the external assistance is terminated.

My delegation read with some disappointment trends in UNDP funding. We note that FAO's share in the execution of UNDP-funded projects has continued to decline. UNDP's funding used to account for 80 percent of FAO's field programmes. It is now down to 60 percent. Another area of concern is the declining share of FAO in the allocation of UNDP-funded agricultural projects. We all know that FAO is a specialised agricultural agency in the United Nations System. On the other hand, we are happy to note that UNDP has decided to allocate 80 percent of its resources to low-income food-deficit countries. This decision as presented this morning from UNDP, is bound to increase the share of UNDP funds going to FAO, as most of the low-income developing countries are highly dependent on agriculture.

On the investment activities of FAO, we are very satisfied that the Organization is doing an excellent job in marshalling investments for the benefit of developing countries. We note that in 1980, some \$2.3 billion in investment were generated and that over \$17 billion of investment has been generated since 1966. The work of the Investment Centre is indeed commendable. The close cooperation between FAO and IFAD is to be encouraged, and FAO should continue to prepare the bulk of IFAD-initiated projects.

The Cameroon delegation strongly supports the New Dimensions Approach. This Programme or Approach will in the long run do a lot to improve the managerial capacity of the developing countries. There is no need to repeat here our support for TCP and the FOARs. The effectiveness of TCP has been brought out very clearly, and the major roles being played by the FAORs have already been mentioned by many delegates. In conclusion, Cameroon strongly supports FAO's Field Programme and hopes that funds will be available to help FAO to maintain such a strong programme in the future.

B.E. PHIRI (Zambia): I wish to start by saying I endorse what the Observer from the International Organisation of Consumers' Unions says on the germ plasm bank. Agricultural investment is probably the most important key in solving the problems of food production and rural development. In this regard, we regret to note that investments made in the past have not yielded the desired levels of development. But we know that even if a key is made of gold, it must have the appropriate keyhole to be inserted and turned in order to open the door. UNDP and FAO as well as other donors provide funds for investment in agricultural development and food production, but the structures in the recipient countries with which the investments can inter-act are either too weak or non-existent to generate the necessary development. As a result, billions of dollars over the years have been poured into recipient countries with no comparable development taking places. What we need is probably to call a halt to what we are doing and start afresh.

The UK delegate quoting the UNDP Observer this morning said that Governments themselves do decide where the IPF funds should be spent. This was in support of the present trend that the UNDP funds are getting less and less for FAO in the Field Programme. I would say that the UNDP probably said this with a shrug of the shoulders to say, well, if they have put the funds in the wrong place, it's none of our business, they do decide anyway where they want the funds to go. If this is the case, we would wish to ask the UNDP and all other donors to try and nudge the governments of developing countries along the path that would lead them to meaningful development.

Many donors have been speaking about the efforts they are making in assisting developing countries in the field of agriculture. In many cases the level of aid they have given has been used as a reason for rebutting any criticism in aid provision. I do not intend here to criticise any donor, whether they be multilateral or bilateral. What I want to say is in fact to ask a question: has any donor, noting the restraints a recipient country faces, ever considered providing aid specifically to remove that particular restraint, and has any recipient country, noting the constraints that

impede its effective implementation of projects, ever considered providing resources specifically for removing those constraints? We feel that both donors and recipient countries should sit down and look at this question candidly. I do not know whether we can say we are looking at the question here candidly, for every two years we meet and discuss and look at the FAO Review of Field Programmes, suggest ways as to which way we should go; yet development never really takes place in developing countries. In other words, we must sit down to find the key and the keyhole in order to open the door to agricultural development. The Fields and Regular Programme Reviews do not mean anything if they do not help us to change direction in policy in developing countries and in the method of aid-giving in developed countries, in donor countries. The evaluation of programmes, whether done internally or externally, will equally be meaningless if we do not correct the mistakes which may be identified.

The Review before us shows most glaringly that the problem many developing countries are facing is lack of trained manpower or inadequate trained manpower. This probably has been approached in the past on a piecemeal basis, one or two scholarships provided possibly to train somebody who is earmarked for a particular job, and training ends there. There is not enough effort made by recipient countries to improve the situation locally, there are not enough scholarships offered by donors for training agricultural personnel from developing countries, and as long as the situation remains like that, FAO bilateral donors will always find it difficult to have projects properly implemented in developing countries. As long as we do not have a sound base for implementing development projects, we shall continue to give and receive assistance which will not yield expected results.

Having said this, I wish to state briefly that FAO has done tremendously well in carrying out its work, given the circumstances in which it has operated, and quite often we come here to review the Programmes with an aim of trying to pin the Secretariat down instead of trying to see what in fact should be done in the field in order to improve the situation. It seems a pity that instead of having allies in delivering programmes, FAO often has competitors for the meagre resources available. It has been said that if FAO is to attract more resources, it must prove that it is a better channel for aid. Who is to make this judgement whether FAO or some other channel is the better channel? We sit here to review the performance of FAO, both in Field and Regular Programmes. Are we in a position to review the activities of other donors so that we can compare and make a choice? It is obvious that probably donors have an upper hand in this in that we, the recipient countries, are only able to sit together with them and review the activities of FAO in the Regular and Field Programmes, and they review their activities on bilateral aid. They are therefore able to see what FAO is doing and see what bilateral aid is doing, and then they take a decision. We ourselves only know the one side of the coin, and so it is difficult for us to choose, it is difficult for us to see whether FAO or another channel is better, and in this particular aspect, donor countries have the upper hand and they can only say, "We find FAO is not efficient enough and therefore we cannot give resources".

The TCP has proved a dependable tool for identifying projects or answering unforeseen needs of recipient countries, but this in fact is negated by the lack of follow-up assistance. It is not a substitute for UNDP funding. It cannot or should not therefore be taken that the bigger the TCP becomes, the less the recipient governments will allocate UNDP IPFs to UNDP-FAO projects. If this is done by developing countries, it just shows they do not understand the difference between UNDP and TCP and they need to be re-educated so that they see the difference between the two programmes.

We are happy to hear some donor countries say that they will support the efforts of developing countries on ECDC activities. I wish to say here that developing countries have in recent meetings expressed their commitment in increased cooperation amongst themselves as a tool for development but this commitment will come to naught if no assistance is given to them, since internal resources are inadequate to carry out the activities and economic cooperation among developing countries.

Therefore, while we call for increased assistance, we must call for more meaningful assistance that leaves developing countries a little better off than they have been in the past. We have said previously that we have tended to have the kind of assistance which just leaves the people yearning but never really satisfying their needs. The projects that sometimes we see are such that they are started, and even before they are fully mature to be able to leave the country to go along on its own, the resources for assistance dry up and quite often the situation has gone back to where it was before assistance started coming in, and this leaves the people more frustrated than if in the first place they never had any assistance forthcoming.

J. de MEREDIEU (Sous-Directeur général, Département du développement): Nous avons entendu de nombreux commentaires très positifs sur les documents 81/4 et 81/28; je puis vous assurer que nous les avons très vivement appréciés; je pense en particulier à mes deux collègues qui se trouvent à ma droite. Nous informerons également de ces commentaires ceux qui ont coopéré avec nous à la préparation de ce document, je pense en particulier au Service d'évaluation, à la Division de l'analyse des politiques économiques,

Je ne répondrai pas directement ici à quelques points qui se réfèrent strictement au programme régulier. Je pense, par exemple, au commentaire de M. le délégué de la Suisse en ce qui concerne la documentation, mais je suis certain que ceux de mes collègues qui sont responsables de ces aspects en prendront bonne note.

Je voudrais articuler mes commentaires de la façon suivante: ie dirai d'abord quelques mots sur ce qui a concerné la partie générale du document 81/28, c'est-à-dire au volume d'assistance, au développement dans son ensemble, et considérerai ensuite les commentaires se rapportant au document 81/4, en ajoutant au chapitre un les remarques qui ont été faites en ce qui concerne les relations entre FAO et PNUD, telles que décrites au document 81/4.

Je dois hélas vous prévenir, Monsieur le Président, que je vais être un peu long, compte tenu de la complexité du sujet, de la richesse du débat; mais, après tout, nous traitons d'un programme de quelque 300 millions de dollars par an!

Problème général des ressources pour le développement de l'agriculture, tel que décrit au document 81/28. Vous aurez certainement constaté que la discussion de ce sujet n'a pas été très longue. Je veux croire que ceci signifie que la majorité des délégués sont satisfaits et considèrent que le Directeur général a répondu à ce que la Conférence lui avait demandé dans sa résolution 6/79. Peut-être aussi ont-ils gardé à l'esprit qu'il s'agissait là d'un problème de politique générale, qui était également débattu en Commission I.

J'ai noté avec intérêt les commentaires faits par certains délégués; je pense, par exemple, à M. le délégué de la Chine, et il me semble que la Suède a fait un commentaire du même ordre, concernant la nécessité de simplifier les procédures d'assistance. Nous sommes certainement de cet avis, mais, évidemment, la décision n'est pas entre nos mains.

M. le délégué des Etats-Unis a fait certaines remarques concernant l'assistance fournie par les pays de l'OPEP, indiquant qu'elle avait subi des variations assez marquées au cours des deux dernières années. C'est exact, mais je vous dirai très franchement qu'étant donné le niveau de cette assistance en termes de pourcentage du PNB, nous serions très heureux qu'il en soit de même pour tous les pays du monde, car ce sont là des pays qui, en moyenne, consacrent de 1 à 2,5 pour cent de leur produit national brut à l'aide officielle au développement, c'est-à-dire bien plus que l'objectif fixé par les Nations Unies, ce qui compense très largement les irrégularités mentionnées.

Il est exact aussi qu'en dépit de nos efforts nous n'avons pas pu couvrir tous les aspects de l'aide officielle au développement dans ce rapport; nous n'avons pas pu inclure de données sur l'aide fournie par tous les pays industrialisés. Nous le regrettons et je l'avais mentionné dans ma déclaration initiale.

Je me permettrai toutefois de faire remarquer à M. le délégué des Etats-Unis que M. Dadzie dans son rapport sur les Activités opérationnelles pour le Développement du 30 septembre, document A 36/478, a soumis des informations qui présentaient la même lacune, et je ne crois pas que ceci ait provoqué de commentaires particuliers.

M. le délégué du Royaume-Uni, se référant au document 81/28, a fait remarquer que, d'après les chiffres fournis à la Table 2 du corr.1, il semblait y avoir une certaine croissance de l'aide officielle au développement de l'agriculture, puisqu'il y a un chiffre de 7 446 millions en 1980 contre 7 100 millions en 1979; mais cette augmentation de 4,87 pour cent est, hélas, inférieure au taux de l'inflation, ce qui semble bien justifier la position de ceux qui, à la FAO, ont parlé soit de légère récession soit de stagnation.

J'en viens maintenant aux programmes de terrain de notre Organisation proprement dits, en suivant dans l'ensemble l'ordre du document 81/4, et je voudrais considérer d'abord le problème du volume d'ensemble des programmes de terrain de la FAO, toutes sources confondues.

Nous avons noté et comprenons les préoccupations que de nombreux pays ont exprimées vis-à-vis des risques d'une diminution du volume total de ces opérations. M. le délégué de la France a indiqué qu'il lui semblait qu'il y avait encore récemment une certaine augmentation. Oui et non, c'est toujours le même problème, il y a eu une légère augmentation en termes courants, mais, en termes réels, il y a d'ores et déjà une diminution de 1981 sur 1980.

Je puis vous donner à cet égard des chiffres un peu plus à jour que ceux que vous trouvez au Tableau 1, qui se trouve immédiatement après le paragraphe 1.11. Au tableau actuel, vous trouvez un total de 294 millions de dollars pour l'exécution des projets de la FAO en 1981; notre prévision, un peu plus élevée, est maintenant de 305 millions, dont 170 pour le PNUD, soit 56 pour cent seulement, 120 pour les fonds fiduciaires, et 15 pour le programme de coopération technique, soit seulement 5 pour cent. Néanmoins, ce total de 305 millions n'est supérieur à celui de l'année précédente que de 3,7 pour cent, soit un taux nettement inférieur à celui de l'inflation. C'est ce qui nous amène à penser que nous sommes d'ores et déjà sur une courbe descendante en termes réels.

De plus, les nouvelles approbations au cours de l'année 1981 ne nous permettent pas d'espérer un redressement; bien au contraire, puisqu'elles risquent de se situer aux alentours de 300 millions seulement, alors que, pour maintenir le même niveau global, il faudrait qu'elles représentent au moins le niveau de l'exécution en 1981 - c'est-à-dire 305 millions - plus le taux estimé de l'inflation au cours d'une année, ce qui ferait un peu plus de 335 millions. Eh bien, il n'y en aura sans doute que 300, total sur lequel nous craignons que le PNUD ne représente que 40 pour cent.

J'en viens maintenant à la question, fondamentale pour nous, du programme FAO/PNUD proprement dit, et voudrais d'abord considérer le problème du niveau absolu des ressources du PNUD.

Je remercie M. le représentant du PNUD d'avoir confirmé que les chiffres que j'avais cités au cours de ma déclaration précédente étaient exacts. Je note qu'il préférerait que nous ne parlions pas de "crise" et je me réjouis de cet optimisme. Mais, hélas, les chiffres sont là. En juin 1980, l'administrateur avait présenté au Conseil d'administration un programme qui prévoyait, pour le troisième cycle, un doublement en termes courants; en juin 1981, il a été amené à parler, tout au contraire, du risque d'une diminution de 12 pour cent en termes réels; maintenant, en octobre 1981, nous sommes confrontés à des prévisions encore plus pessimistes.

Comment désigner cette situation est une question de sémantique, et il en va de même des différences que l'on peut faire entre optimisme, pessimisme et réalisme. A la FAO, nous nous efforçons d'être réalistes. En dernière analyse, c'est aux gouvernements intéressés qu'il appartiendra, à la lumière des faits, de décider du terme à employer. Pour les aider dans ce choix, je voudrais me permettre de citer quelques extraits du discours que M. Morse, l'Administrateur du PNUD, a prononcé le 24 septembre devant le second comité de l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies à New York.

"I must emphasize, however, that the financial outlook for our programme, like the financial outlook for development assistance generally, is extremely difficult... In 1981 UNDP will suffer the first year of actual decline in voluntary contributions received in its history. I need hardly remind distinguished delegates that in these inflationary times such a contraction in programme resources must inevitably translate into a substantial contraction in both UNDP-supported services and programming."

And later: "Above all it seems to me grossly unreasonable to arouse false hopes and unfulfilled expectations among the developing countries served by UNDP. Their difficulties are grim enough, their economic prospects desperate enough, without such added measures of stress." This is exactly the sort of realism we are trying to apply in FAO.

After having heard a similar statement from Mr. Morse, the Administrative Committee on Coordination - and you know the ACC is composed of all agency heads, chaired by the Secretary-General - the ACC therefore, on 30th October, adopted its decision number 25, of which I shall read you at least the first paragraph: "The Executive Heads of the United Nations system are seriously concerned at the deteriorating situation facing all Organizations of the United Nations system with regard to the declining level of concessional resources in real terms available for international technical cooperation and other development activities."

I believe, therefore, we do have some reasons to be concerned too.

Je voudrais faire un autre commentaire concernant une remarque faite ce matin par M. le représentant du PNUD. Si je l'ai bien compris, il a dit que la FAO avait des problèmes analogues à ceux du PNUD puisque le Directeur général devrait se contenter de 367 millions de dollars du fait de l'évolution de la situation financière et, ce faisant, il semblait impliquer que ceci était dû au fait que nos pays



membres avaient déjà inclus dans leurs budgets des montants dans leurs devises nationales, qui représentaient maintenant moins qu'auparavant. Bien sûr, ce problème existe pour nos pays membres, mais la raison est différente. Si le Directeur général ne demande plus que 367 millions au lieu de 415, c'est parce qu'il n'a pas besoin de plus de 367 millions pour mettre en oeuvre le même programme, compte tenu du fait - positif pour une fois - que le jeu du cours He's devises a fait que le dollar s'est très fortement renforcé par rapport à la lire italienne, dans laquelle une bonne part de nos dépenses est effectuée. Cela ne change rien, bien entendu, à la très grande sympathie que nous avons pour le PNUD devant les problèmes auxquels il doit faire face.

J'en viens maintenant au problème "des 400 experts", qui a été mentionné par le représentant du PNUD et par les représentants de plusieurs gouvernements, tels que le Canada.

Je pense que ces orateurs ont voulu nous faire sous-estimer leur connaissance des mécanismes des grands programmes d'assistance technique, car la réponse à cette question est évidente.

Bien sûr, il est normal d'avoir, chaque année, un nombre important de contrats d'experts qui viennent à leur terme. Avec 1 800 experts sur le terrain, nous en avons au moins 600, peut-être 800, dont le contrat expire chaque année. Ceci conduit à une rotation. Mais, lorsqu'un programme a atteint sa "vitesse de croisière", lorsqu'il est stable, il y a tout en même temps un nombre équivalent de nouveaux postes qui sont ouverts, et le nombre total des experts en service reste plus ou moins le même. Je ne veux pas dire d'ailleurs que ce sont les mêmes experts. Il y a du sang nouveau. Il y a des experts qui viennent en plus grand nombre de pays en développement. Néanmoins, cette rotation conduit à une certaine stabilité des chiffres d'ensemble.

Ce que nous craignons cette année est que, vis-à-vis des 600 contrats qui se termineront au cours des derniers mois de cette année ou des premiers mois de l'année prochaine, seulement 100 ou 200 contrats nouveaux soient passés à la place. Ceci produirait une différence nette de l'ordre de 400 sur un total de 1 800, sans compter les experts associés, dont 1 300 venant du PNUD. Ceci refléterait une diminution de l'ordre de 25 à 30 pour cent du personnel employé dans le cadre du PNUD. Telle est la situation que nous craignons voir se produire sur la base des données que nous avons reçues jusqu'ici. J'espère bien être démenti, mais tous les documents que nous avons reçus nous amènent actuellement à cette conclusion.

Un autre aspect, qui a été débattu dans le détail, est celui de la part de l'agriculture en général, et plus particulièrement de la FAO dans les opérations du PNUD. Il était possible de le prévoir, on nous a rappelé, très justement d'ailleurs, que le système actuel de programmation par pays donne une très grande responsabilité aux gouvernements des pays bénéficiaires dans la préparation de leurs programmes. C'est vrai, ils ont une très grande responsabilité, ils décident de leurs demandes, mais ils ne sont pas seuls. Ils décident des demandes, mais ils ne décident pas des approbations qui sont de la responsabilité, soit du représentant du PNUD jusqu'à un certain montant, soit du siège de cette organisation au-delà de ce montant. La décision finale est le résultat d'un dialogue ou, nous aimons le croire, d'une discussion à trois, où la FAO, par l'intermédiaire de son représentant, est le plus possible engagée.

Mais il est bien évident que, dans une telle relation triangulaire, les gouvernements, qui sont nos maîtres, le PNUD ou toute autre organisation de financement qui a "the power of the purse", qui tient les cordons de la bourse, sont dans une position beaucoup plus forte que la FAO. C'est ce qui m'amène à exprimer une certaine surprise en ce qui concerne un commentaire de M. le représentant du Royaume-Uni qui, après nous avoir dit que le PNUD ne jouait pas de rôle direct dans la détermination de sa part du programme qui va à l'agriculture, a semblé reprocher ensuite à la FAO certaines anomalies dans la composition de ses propres programmes. Je voudrais lui dire que nous avons, hélas, beaucoup moins d'influence sur la composition de ces programmes qu'une agence de financement comme le PNUD.

Nous pensons donc qu'il est normal, non pas d'entrer dans une négociation avec le PNUD sur ces pourcentages - Le problème n'est pas là et je voudrais rassurer sur ce point Mme le représentant du Canada - mais de maintenir un dialogue. Il nous semble surprenant en effet, que, dans un monde où toutes les réunions recommandent de donner la première priorité à l'agriculture et à l'alimentation, dans un monde où tous les grands programmes d'assistance consacrent près de 40 pour cent à l'agriculture, le système des Nations Unies, et plus particulièrement le PNUD, soit le seul organisme qui consacre seulement 30 pour cent à cette action. Nous ne désespérons pas que cette situation aille en s'améliorant, peut-être à la suite de la redistribution des ressources du PNUD sur la base de 80 pour cent/20 pour cent avec laquelle vous êtes certainement familier, Monsieur le Président.

Je remercie M. le représentant du PNUD d'avoir reconnu qu'il existe un certain problème, lié aux variations cycliques des allocations. Je reconnais toutefois que ce problème est un peu masqué en ce moment par le caractère encore plus sérieux de celui concernant l'ensemble des ressources. Néanmoins, nous avons certainement l'intention, sur la base des commentaires qui ont été formulés ici, de poursuivre un dialogue constructif avec le PNUD à cet égard.

De très nombreux délégués ont indiqué leur désir de voir nos programmes de Fonds Fiduciaire continuer à se développer, avec une référence particulière aux Programmes d'action spéciaux de la FAO. Nous les en remercions. Nous remercions aussi les très généreux pays donateurs qui veulent bien permettre à ces programmes d'exister. Plusieurs délégués, des pays nordiques en particulier, ont mentionné la part très importante que leurs pays prenaient dans cette action. Nous leur en sommes reconnaissants, ainsi qu'aux autres pays donateurs.

En envisageant maintenant, non plus le volume, mais la composition de nos programmes nous avons noté un certain nombre de priorités qui ont été soulignées par de nombreux orateurs; priorités qui coïncident d'ailleurs essentiellement avec celles que vous retrouvez dans nos programmes de terrain et dans notre programme ordinaire.

Investissement: c'est certainement là un des sujets qui a été mentionné le plus souvent, ainsi que l'opportunité pour notre Organisation de chercher à être associée de plus en plus aux Programmes d'assistance technique des institutions de financement internationales. Ceci est tout à fait conforme à notre action. A ce sujet, M. le représentant de la France m'a demandé s'il existait des liens organiques entre le Centre d'investissement et le Programme alimentaire mondial. La réponse est oui. Chaque fois que le Centre d'investissement envoie une mission dans un pays, cette mission prend contact avec le PAM, avant son départ, pour étudier les possibilités d'une coordination des deux actions.

Le même représentant de la France nous a indiqué que son gouvernement était en faveur de réunions entre bailleurs de fonds et organisations internationales pour coordonner leur action. Certes, nous sommes également partisans d'une telle coordination, mais je suis sûr que M. le représentant de la France me comprendra si je dis que nous souhaitons que les pays bénéficiaires soient également présents et pleinement associés à une telle concertation, qui ne doit pas devenir un forum où les agences de financement conviendraient entre elles de ce qui est bon pour ces pays, en leur absence. C'est sur la demande des pays intéressés que le Directeur général, de plus en plus souvent, organise des réunions de bailleurs de fonds éventuels.

La formation à tous les niveaux, et en particulier la formation des formateurs, a été soulignée par beaucoup d'orateurs. C'est une priorité pour nous. Le représentant de la France a très justement souligné l'importance de ce problème et a demandé si l'on avait étudié les problèmes qu'il pouvait poser. Il sera heureux d'apprendre que ce Programme a été évalué par le service de H. Ayazi et que le résultat de cette évaluation a été soumis au Conseil en 1981, sous la référence CL 78/15: "Formation agricole, rapport d'une étude d'évaluation". Je me ferai un plaisir de faire parvenir ce document au délégué de la France.

De nombreux délégués ont fait référence à la priorité à donner à la production alimentaire, c'est une évidence pour nous, au développement rural - je ne reviendrai pas sur le suivi de la Conférence mondiale - à l'énergie, à la nutrition. Nous avons noté tout cela.

Référence a été faite par de nombreux représentants à la nécessité d'appuyer les organisations régionales, et je suis heureux de rappeler à cet égard qu'une très grande priorité a été donnée à cette action, tant par l'intermédiaire de nos bureaux régionaux, dont c'est l'une des principales fonctions, que dans les programmes de coopération technique. Le délégué de la France, par exemple, avait demandé si nous coopérons avec le CILSS. Oui, nous coopérons avec le CILSS et avec de nombreuses organisations de ce type. Au total, nous avons, en Afrique seulement, 17 projets du Programme de coopération technique destinés à permettre une coopération avec de telles organisations.

Des commentaires ont été également formulés en ce qui concerne la distribution de nos programmes par région. J'avais déjà fait allusion à ce problème vendredi dernier. Je crois que la majorité reconnaît la nécessité de donner la priorité aux pays les moins avancés, à de nombreux pays d'Afrique, ou des pays qui se trouvent dans des situations insulaires. Tout en même temps, le Directeur général cherche à maintenir un équilibre raisonnable et un niveau suffisant d'activités dans d'autres parties du monde, en particulier en Amérique latine, au Proche Orient et en Europe. Nous sommes persuadés que les Etats de ces trois régions, dans leur générosité vis-à-vis de ceux qui sont relativement bien moins nantis qu'eux, voudront comprendre la difficulté qu'il y a pour concilier ces différentes demandes, nécessairement contradictoires.

En venant maintenant à l'évaluation des Programmes de terrain, j'ai noté les remarques qui ont été faites sur les différences apparentes entre les jugements portés, d'une part sur les projets qui ont été évalués avec la coopération de nos représentants, et, de l'autre, sur ceux qui l'ont été par le Service d'évaluation.

Certains orateurs ont donné la réponse. Cela est dû au fait que les projets de la deuxième catégorie sont essentiellement des "problems projects" qui nous avaient donné des soucis. Il est donc tout naturel que l'on ait trouvé des résultats moins satisfaisants en les étudiant.

Un autre délégué a demandé si les avis des représentants résidents du PNUD avaient été pris en compte. Bien entendu, les avis de tous ceux qui ont été consultés ont été reflétés dans le rapport. Lorsque les représentants résidents du PNUD l'ont été, leur avis a été reflété.

Il est clair que quelques pays désireraient voir effectuer des évaluations extérieures, dans le cadre d'un système plus complexe que le dispositif actuel. Il ne m'appartient pas de tirer les conclusions de ce débat, mais mon sentiment, je dois le dire, est qu'il existe néanmoins une très large majorité qui est satisfaite des arrangements actuels en ce qui concerne l'évaluation de nos programmes de terrain. Comme l'indiquait M. le représentant de l'Autriche, c'est d'ailleurs aux pays bénéficiaires qu'il appartient avant tout d'évaluer l'aide qu'ils reçoivent.

Mais je voudrais aussi souligner l'importance que nous attachons à des évaluations de caractère trilateral, où le bailleur de fonds, le pays bénéficiaire et la FAO revoient ensemble certains projets. C'est très souvent le cas avec le PNUD. C'est également le cas pour certains projets de fonds fiduciaire.

Dans le même ordre d'idées, nous attachons une très grande importance aux réunions, généralement annuelles, que nous avons avec pratiquement tous les pays qui contribuent de façon notable à notre Programme de fonds fiduciaire. Si certains pays n'ont pas encore eu avec nous de telles réunions, qu'ils nous le fassent savoir et nous serons très heureux de convenir avec eux des arrangements à prendre. La Belgique, par exemple, qui est un pays important dans ce domaine, ne participait pas jusqu'ici à de telles réunions. Nous avons récemment convenu d'en organiser, et la première devrait avoir lieu dans quelques semaines.

Toujours en matière d'évaluation, certains orateurs ont manifesté quelques préoccupations qui impliquent qu'il existe malgré tout une limite. Cette limite, c'est le fait que beaucoup de pays bénéficiaires ne semblent pas souhaiter voir une évaluation de l'activité de la FAO être transformée en une évaluation de leur propre politique nationale de développement, et il est parfois très difficile de séparer les deux. Il est clair qu'une organisation comme la nôtre ne saurait s'engager dans une telle voie. Nous avons des pays membres qui appartiennent à des systèmes économiques, sociaux et politiques différents, et je vois mal à partir de quels critères universels un système d'évaluation pourrait porter des jugements de valeur sur leurs politiques de développement.

En dépit de cette réserve, nous sommes pleinement conscients de la nécessité d'améliorer sans cesse la qualité de nos services. Nous sommes en particulier conscients de la nécessité de réduire les délais de recrutement de nos experts, délais qui sont, pour nous aussi, une préoccupation notable. Nous étudions ce problème de façon constante, dans le cadre du Comité pour les programmes de terrain, que j'ai l'honneur de présider.

Mais je voudrais profiter de cette occasion pour demander aussi la coopération des deux autres partenaires dans cette affaire, je veux dire le pays d'où l'expert vient, et le pays où l'expert va. Le pays d'où l'expert vient, parce que certains pays - en particulier les pays en développement auprès desquels nous souhaiterions recruter un nombre notable d'experts - pour des raisons très compréhensibles et très respectables, ne nous facilitent pas toujours les choses pour obtenir leur détachement rapide. Pays bénéficiaires, et je me réfère là aux formalités d'approbation des experts.

J'ai de plus le plaisir de vous informer que, lorsque nécessaire, le Directeur général a autorisé nos unités opérationnelles à soumettre plus d'un candidat à la fois aux pays bénéficiaires, ce qui, nous l'espérons, devrait accélérer le processus dans de nombreux cas.

J'en viens maintenant à un problème qui ne fait pas vraiment partie de l'examen des programmes de terrain, puisque le Programme de coopération technique ressort du Programme ordinaire, mais qui a néanmoins été évoqué de façon assez spécifique par M. le représentant de la République fédérale d'Allemagne pour que je lui réponde très franchement.

Si je comprends bien, le représentant de la République fédérale d'Allemagne pense que la formulation de la résolution 1/74 du Conseil implique qu'il avait été décidé de procéder à une nouvelle évaluation de ce programme, en dépit des résultats positifs de l'évaluation de 1978. Je me permettrai d'exprimer très respectueusement un avis différent.

Il est tout à fait exact que cette résolution fait référence aux différents documents qui avaient été étudiés avant qu'elle soit adoptée: "considérant le rapport du Directeur général et les commentaires formulés dans le rapport de cette 35ème session, etc.". Je pense que toutes les résolutions font toujours référence à l'ensemble des documents qui ont conduit à leur adoption, et à l'ensemble des discussions qui ont eu lieu à cette occasion.

Si nous nous reportons, par exemple, aux paragraphes 154 à 156 du même rapport du Conseil, nous constatons que, comme toujours, ces paragraphes reflètent en toute objectivité l'opinion de la majorité et certaines opinions minoritaires. Je ne pense pas néanmoins que M. le délégué de la République fédérale d'Allemagne veuille dire que toute résolution qui fait référence à un rapport engage à mettre en oeuvre à la fois le point de vue de la majorité et celui de la minorité! Au moment de l'adoption de cette résolution, il était clair que la majorité était satisfaite de l'évaluation qui avait eu lieu, et il me semble - mais ce n'est pas à moi de tirer cette conclusion - que la majorité est toujours du même avis.

Peu de commentaires ont été faits en ce qui concerne le chapitre 3 du document C 81/4; je veux dire par là le chapitre décrivant les activités de la FAO dans le domaine de la production alimentaire. Je voudrais voir là, à nouveau, une expression de satisfaction de votre Commission face au travail qui lui a été soumis. Il me semble toutefois me souvenir que M. le représentant de la République fédérale d'Allemagne a exprimé quelques réserves, et j'ai cru comprendre qu'il ne trouvait pas le pourcentage de 43 % assez élevé. Je voudrais lui indiquer en toute franchise qu'il a été difficile de fixer les limites de cette étude. Dans la vie réelle, il est très rare qu'une entreprise agricole soit conduite à des seules fins alimentaires. Si l'on construit un réseau d'irrigation, on produira à la fois des cultures industrielles et des cultures alimentaires. Il en va de même de la plupart de nos activités.

Le résultat, c'est que ceux qui ont préparé cette étude ont dû se fixer certains critères, nécessairement arbitraires; s'ils avaient adopté une définition très large de la notion d'activité bénéficiant aux cultures vivrières, à peu près tout ce que fait la FAO (à part le bois d'oeuvre) aurait pu être décrit comme contribuant à cette fin. Tout au contraire, une définition étroite aurait pu donner l'impression que nous nous désintéressions du problème. Bien entendu, ni l'un ni l'autre n'est vrai, et je pense que c'est ce qui explique le caractère peut-être discutable de certains chiffres.

Le chapitre 4, qui concernait essentiellement l'application des "nouvelles dimensions" lors de la mise en oeuvre des projets, a provoqué de nombreux commentaires. Je les crois très positifs dans l'ensemble et pense que le Directeur général sera heureux d'apprendre que la grande majorité des délégués reconnaît le rôle important que la FAO n'a cessé de jouer dans ce domaine.

Nous sommes néanmoins conscients de la nécessité d'aller au-delà et comptons en particulier sur nos représentants dans les pays et sur nos représentants régionaux pour nous aider à compléter les listes d'institutions nationales susceptibles de participer à cette grande entreprise. Nous avons noté, avec beaucoup d'intérêt, les commentaires de M. le représentant de l'Inde à cet égard.

De nombreux orateurs ont fait référence au fameux pourcentage de 50 %; ils seront heureux d'apprendre que nous sommes mieux placés à cet égard que ne l'indiquent les chiffres qui ont été mentionnés. En effet, la plupart des orateurs ont dit que l'objectif fixé par les Nations Unies était de 50 % du nombre des experts employés. Mais ce n'est pas le cas. Le Conseil d'administration du PNUD, en juin 1977, et l'Assemblée générale dans sa résolution 32/182 de décembre 1977, ont fixé un objectif de 50 % pour les candidatures soumises. Et votre Commission, Monsieur le Président, sera heureuse d'apprendre que nous sommes déjà à 49 %. Nous avons donc presque atteint l'objectif.

Pour ce qui est du nombre des experts en provenance de pays en développement, nous en sommes à 42/43 % bien entendu, nous souhaitons très vivement arriver à 50 %, mais je répète que l'objectif fixé par les Nations Unies concerne les candidatures.

J'en viens-enfin à des problèmes divers qui ont été soulevés, dont certains n'appartiennent peut-être pas strictement au sujet que nous discutons aujourd'hui, à savoir celui des programmes de terrain, mais qui demandent néanmoins des réponses.

M. le délégué de la Suisse a soulevé, à nouveau le problème de la documentation supplémentaire qu'il souhaiterait recevoir. Je n'ai, bien entendu, rien à ajouter sur le fond à ce que M. West a dit hier sur ce même problème. Je voudrais toutefois demander au délégué de la Suisse, pour l'aider à comprendre notre position, de garder à l'esprit que, lorsque nous sommes amenés à fournir des documents supplémentaires en cours de séance, nous avons l'obligation constitutionnelle de les traduire et de les imprimer en cinq langues. Or, ce qu'il a demandé représenterait plus de 60 pages, et vous comprendrez qu'il nous serait bien difficile d'interrompre le travail de notre division des publications, en pleine conférence, pour reproduire en cinq langues 60 pages avec de nombreux tableaux, parce qu'un délégué a demandé une telle documentation particulière en séance. Ce n'est pas manque de respect vis-à-vis de ce délégué ou de tout autre, c'est simplement une question de possibilité matérielle. D'autres considérations ont également été mentionnées par M. West, mais du seul point de vue matériel, nous nous heurtons là à une très sérieuse difficulté.

Certaines délégations, en particulier celle du Canada, ont soulevé le problème important de la coordination au niveau des pays et, en particulier, des relations entre représentants de la FAO et représentants résidents du PNUD. Comme j'ai déjà eu l'occasion de l'indiquer, notre dogme est d'abord et avant tout que c'est au gouvernement du pays bénéficiaire qu'il appartient d'assurer la coordination des différentes aides qu'il reçoit. Mais j'ai également fait référence à la lettre conjointe que l'administrateur du PNUD et le Directeur général de la FAO ont adressée à leurs représentants, le 30 juillet 1981. M. le représentant de l'administrateur a bien voulu, lui aussi, faire référence à ce document, qui exprime parfaitement l'esprit dans lequel cette coopération prend place.

Mme le représentant du Canada s'est étonnée que certains représentants de la FAO lui aient dit qu'ils ne font pas rapport au représentant résident du PNUD. Il y a évidemment différentes façons d'interpréter ces mots. Je ne crois pas qu'ils aient voulu dire par là qu'ils ne lui communiquaient pas d'informations, bien au contraire, car ils ont pour instruction de le tenir complètement informé de toutes les affaires susceptibles de l'intéresser.

Si, par contre, ils ont voulu dire qu'ils n'étaient pas placés sous ses ordres, ils ont eu parfaitement raison, et je vais donner lecture à cet égard d'un paragraphe de la résolution 34/213 de l'Assemblée générale, dont le but est de préciser les modalités de la mise en oeuvre de la fameuse résolution 197. Il s'agit du paragraphe 7 du dispositif.

Decides that the guidelines contained in paragraph 6 above do not affect relations between governments and individual organizations of the United Nations System or the direct lines of authority and communications between the representatives of those organizations at the country level and their own executive heads."

Cette citation devrait entièrement rassurer Mme le délégué du Canada, et j'ajoute que ces mêmes mots sont utilisés dans la lettre d'instructions que le Secrétaire général adresse à chacun des résidents coordonnateurs lorsqu'ils sont nommés.

En matière de locaux et de services, il a toujours existé, depuis le début du système des représentants de la FAO dans les pays, un gentlemen's agreement entre le Directeur général de la FAO et l'administrateur du PNUD, suivant lequel, chaque fois que possible, les représentants des deux organisations partagent les mêmes locaux ainsi que certains services logistiques, et nous tenons à remercier le PNUD de la coopération qu'il nous apporte très souvent dans ce domaine. S'il y a des cas où il en va autrement, c'est à la demande des gouvernements intéressés eux-mêmes, qui souhaitent, par exemple, que le représentant de la FAO se trouve directement au Ministère de l'agriculture; c'est parfois aussi parce que le représentant résident du PNUD nous dit lui-même qu'il est navré, mais qu'il n'a pas de place, ou qu'il n'a plus de place, et nous invite à trouver d'autres locaux.

Compte tenu de l'heure, je ne reviendrai pas sur les nombreuses références qui ont été faites aux représentants de la FAO aux bureaux régionaux, et au programme de coopération technique. Nous en avons pris bonne note. Nous sommes heureux de voir que ces institutions sont très largement appréciées par la grande majorité des participants.

En conclusion, je voudrais faire référence à la dernière déclaration du délégué de l'Inde, qui a bien voulu suggérer à votre Commission de conclure ses débats en confirmant le rôle central de la FAO en matière de développement agricole. Ce n'est pas, bien entendu, au Secrétariat qu'il appartient d'exprimer un point de vue à ce sujet, mais il est certain qu'une telle expression, si elle trouvait sa place dans votre rapport, serait tout à fait conforme à la constitution de notre Organisation et refléterait de façon très fidèle l'essentiel des débats très intéressants que nous venons de suivre.

W.A.F. GRABISCH (Germany, Federal Republic of) (original language German): I do not want to dwell on this discussion too much but a comment was made about the 43 percent which was mentioned by a delegation yesterday when we made our general comments on document C 81/4. I think there has been a bit of a misunderstanding here in the mind of the Secretariat. I would like to quote what I said yesterday, just one sentence: "My delegation applauds the fact that 43 percent of all extra-budgetary expenditure of FAO is used for the production of food."

J.L.F. BUIST (United Kingdom): First my thanks to the Secretariat for dealing so comprehensively with so many points. I am sorry that they seem conditioned to consider questions from the United Kingdom now apparently always to be criticism. That was not the case. It was a simple request for information, which we have now been given.

I simply want to ask the Secretariat to bear in mind that we have made certain suggestions for improving the flow and the regularity of assistance from the multilateral lending agencies to agriculture; and of course specifically a suggestion in relation to a possible conclusion on IFAD, when they are drafting the conclusions of this meeting, for us to consider in the Drafting Committee.

CHAIRMAN: That brings us to the end of the debate on the subject. We had 42 countries participating in the debate on the Review of Field Programmes and on sub-item 12.1 of the Agenda, Agricultural Investment and Development Assistance for Food Production and Rural Development. Delegates accepted the documents relating to these subjects as an excellently prepared analysis of field programmes and I take it that the Secretariat has accepted a number of suggestions as valuable proposals to undertake even further improvements.

Many delegates commented in a very elaborate manner on the results of the Field Programme evaluation and in general agreed with the conclusions based on the assessments. Quite a number of delegates referred to the links between technical cooperation and investments and commended FAO for the activities of the Investment Centre. They strongly emphasized the need to focus on programmes of institution building and development of human resources, particularly at times of diminishing overall resources. Many delegates expressed concern about diminishing UNDP resources to finance agricultural projects over the next biennium.

Quite a number of delegates emphasized the need for new approaches to field project implementation. This applies inter alia to a greater involvement of beneficiary countries, particularly through enhanced employment of national experts, national directors, and use of programme inputs from other developing countries. They commended FAO for having been in the forefront of a new dimension in technical assistance by promoting self-reliance and the transfer of project and programme responsibility to developing countries. These brief remarks bring us to the end of this afternoon's session.

I would suggest that tomorrow we debate two items, first 12.2 Support Costs, reserving the early part of the morning, or the morning, and then in the course of the afternoon we take item 14 on the Agenda - United Nations/FAO World Food Programme.

J. DOORENBOS (Netherlands): Document C 81/28 provides a good overview of where we stand today as regards foreign investment and assistance to agriculture to the developing countries. Allow me to dwell upon first the level of investment and assistance.

It is satisfying to note that the percentage of total assistance allocated to agriculture is still rising. This shows the weight which is given to food production in the overall assistance programmes.

We are however worried by the level of total assistance, notwithstanding the many resolutions taken over the last good many years. Therefore in the Plenary the Netherlands stated once more that the 0.7 percent GNP must be reached as well as the 0.15 percent to the least developed countries.

I may add here that my government, with broadest public support, does not relate foreign assistance with the economic situation at home, and as such stands for the almost 1 percent GNP for ODA-funds. Of this a large part is allocated to agricultural development.

Second the level of investment and support to agriculture by the developing countries themselves.

Also here the economic outlook does not look very bright. Also, balance of payment deficits caused by the very high cost of food and energy imports results in few financial resources being available for much needed structural development - of which agriculture forms an inseparable part.

It has been said many times over that the food problem can only be solved by an adjustment of policies and programmes involving a major shift of priorities to agriculture and rural development in the developing countries. It is realized that such adjustment is far from easy and takes time to implement.

Agricultural growth remains far below any estimate of required increase of production. If investment in agriculture by the countries themselves is not raised substantially above the 10 to 15 percent share of total investment prevailing now in those countries, chances are that food production will decrease, rather than achieving the acceleration so desperately needed.

Foreign aid assistance finances about 15 percent of all agricultural investment in developing countries. This is a high share, but there is a risk that investment aid is hampered by the lack of ready programmes in the developing countries. Therefore, the efforts to formulate food sector strategies are strongly endorsed and should receive also FAO's fullest support.

Third: turn to FAO.

While we share the concern of FAO about the dwindling level of financial resources from UNDP, the percentage of those resources for agriculture remains at an acceptable level, i.e.  $\pm 30$  percent. The percentage that is channelled through FAO is decreasing which must indeed be a great worry.

As it is stated by the document, level of funding will depend primarily on the priority set to agriculture by the countries, shortening gestation periods of projects, procedures used and use of funds for new projects against use for rehabilitation of old ones.

It is encouraging to note that much is done to improve work relations between UNDP and FAO. It is noted however that the reduction of UNDP funds being channelled through FAO is caused by use by UNDP directly of consulting bureaux, execution of projects by recipient countries themselves. Management is carried out by the countries themselves.

We must therefore ask a direct question. New dimensions appear in the field of development cooperation. The word selfreliance seems appropriate here. This means, that FAO should in terms of policy and administration adjust itself continuously to the new demands and wishes coming from the recipient countries, eg. by making available highly qualified expertise for key areas for short periods rather than holding closely to the customary project approach with longterm FAO experts.

A dynamic role also should be played by the FAO representative in the various countries, relating all signals loudly and clearly.

With time conditions change, FAO must have the internal flexibility to continuously adapt itself to new situations 1/.

The meeting rose at 18.15 hours.

La séance est levée à 18 h 15

Se levanta la sesión a las 18.15 horas.

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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

C

C 81/II/PV/12

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Twenty-first Session

COMMISSION II

Vingt et unième session

COMMISSION II

21° período de sesiones

COMMISSION II

TWELFTH MEETING  
DOUZIEME SEANCE  
12ª SESION

(18 November 1981)

The Twelfth Meeting was opened at 10.00 hours  
R. Steiner, Chairman of Commission II, presiding

La douzième séance est ouverte à 10 h 00, sous la présidence de  
R. Steiner, Président de la Commission II

Se abre la 12ª sesión a las 10.00 horas, bajo la presidencia de  
R. Steiner, Presidente de la Comisión II



II. ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMES OF THE ORGANIZATION (continued)

II. ACTIVITES ET PROGRAMMES DE L'ORGANISATION (suite)

II. ACTIVIDADES Y PROGRAMAS DE LA ORGANIZACION (continuación)

12. Review of Field Programmes, including: (continued)

12. Examen des programmes de terrain, notamment: (suite)

12. Examen de los programas de campo, en particular: (continuación)

12.2 Support Costs

12.2 Frais de soutien

12.2 Gastos de apoyo

CHAIRMAN: I call the meeting to order and declare open the 12th meeting of Commission II. We shall debate this morning the subject of Support Costs, Agenda Item 12.2 as contained Document C 81/INF/16.

The subject for debate today is closely related to the UNDP, as was the subject yesterday in the Review of Field Programmes. Tomorrow we shall have another subject on Recent Developments in the UN System of Interest to FAO where the relationship to UNDP may come up again. Yesterday it came out very clearly, and many delegates pronounced themselves very plainly that they were concerned about the diminishing resources from UNDP and about the consequences that may result from that fact.

I think this general awareness and concern may invite the assembly here, Commission II, to consider even fixing in the text of the report that goes to the Conference an appeal to UNDP. After all, it is not only a concern, we have to draw a conclusion out of this concern. One of these conclusions might be a clear cut appeal addressed by the Director-General to UNDP not to reduce the resources for agriculture and technical assistance projects operated and executed by FAO.

With these suggestions I would now like to turn to the subject this morning and invite Mr. West to give us an Introduction.

E.M. WEST (Assistant Director General, Office of Programme, Budget and Evaluation): As the Chairman said, the document before the Commission is C 81/INF/16 which is intended to provide the basis for your decision on this matter. As you well know, the subject of support costs has been debated time and again over practically a generation and it will no doubt be debated again in the future. But the point we have reached now is that we have been asked by the Governing Council of the UNDP to consider a solution which it is hoped will last for ten years at least.

The decision to which I refer is not yet your decision but the decision of the Governing Council of the UNDP taken in 1980. The text of that decision is set out in Annex I of the INF document. This resolution was subsequently endorsed by the General Assembly at the end of 1980 as regards the United Nations which is a major executor of UNDP Programmes, not as large as FAO but still fairly large. It has also been endorsed by the governing bodies of other organizations which are executors of UNDP projects. But this FAO Conference is the first occasion on which it has been able to consider the UNDP decision and to say whether or not it endorses it.

The Governing Council decision was discussed at the 78th session of the FAO Council in November 1980 on the basis of document CL 78/28. The views of the Council were somewhat divided, as explained in paragraph 4 of the INF document. The majority agreed, however, that if this Conference decided to accept a flat rate of 13 per cent reimbursement for the future for UNDP projects, the Director-General should make the necessary provision for support costs, over and above that amount in the sub-programme provisions of the Regular Programme. This was done within the budget which you discussed a few days ago.

The majority of the Council in November 1980 also considered that the current provisions for reimbursement of support costs of FAO Trust Fund Projects should be maintained as at present established in Chapter II, Section 250 of the FAO Manual which is reproduced in Annex II of the information document. Since the Council expressed those views in November 1980 there have been a number of important developments, As indicated in paragraph 7 of the INF document the most important development is the problem of resources which are going to be available to the UNDP in the Third Planning Cycle, 1982-86.

The point which arises here is that whereas before paragraph 2(c) of the Governing Council decision, which you find in Annex I, would not have been likely to have come into operation, it is possible that within the next year or two, it might do so to some extent. But this depends on developments with the totality of the UNDP Programme

On the other hand, if we do have to separate a lot of personnel and make other project adjustments in the next couple of years, then the logistic support which has to be provided will inevitably increase. The net effect of this cannot be estimated either, but it can only be assumed that support costs will continue to exceed the 14 per cent level and indeed, a fortiori, the 13 per cent level.

There have also been developments as regards trust funds since, as indicated in the INF document, several trust fund donors have declared in no uncertain terms their unwillingness to provide more than 13 per cent reimbursement on trust funds as from 1 January 1982, which is nearly here. If that is to be applied, it will in fact involve the amendment of paragraph 4(a) of the Manual section which you find in Annex II.

In the past discussions in New York and here in Rome, it was indicated by some trust fund donors that they would prefer to provide 13 per cent as a flat rate reimbursement on trust funds and no longer take advantage of sections 4(b) to (g) of the Manual Section. Other trust fund donors have however indicated very strongly in recent discussions that while they wish 13 per cent to remain the maximum rate of reimbursement on trust funds, they still wish to take advantage whenever appropriate of the flexibility provisions in sections 4(b) to (g) under which the rate might be 7 per cent or 5 per cent or zero in certain cases. This is why in the light of these developments we have suggested that there are four main options for your decision. There are, of course, variations that could be devised but it seems that these are the four main options. They are spelt out in paragraph 11 of the document.

The Director-General invites the Conference now to take its decision but bearing in mind two things. One is that we obviously have no desire in present circumstances to make the situation of the UNDP more difficult. In any case, it would scarcely seem practicable for FAO to refuse to accept a decision which has now been accepted by everybody else; it would lead to a deadlock the resolution of which is difficult to foresee. The second thing we would like to have borne in mind is that the flexibility provision in the Trust Fund is one of the bases upon which we have been able to attract trust funds for a variety of purposes ranging from emergency operations to purchase of fertilizers on behalf of a Government, to purchases of equipment in certain projects which constitute a high proportion to the total project and for activities which are in effect additions to or substitutions for Regular Programme activities, thus keeping down the Regular Programme Budget; because if the activities can be funded under Trust Funds, we do not have to try and cover them from the Regular Programme. These are important factors in influencing the donation of Trust Funds to FAO by Trust Fund donors. Naturally we do not wish to do anything which would discourage that, particularly when special action programmes are so short of funds and the prospects of funds from other sources are fairly grim.

J.P. WARNIMONT (Belgique): Le point 12.2 relatif aux frais de soutien a retenu toute l'attention de ma délégation. En effet ce point revêt une importance toute particulière pour la Belgique, eu égard au fait que mon pays figure parmi les principaux contributeurs aux programmes extra-budgétaires de l'Organisation.

Je voudrais par ailleurs saisir une fois encore cette occasion pour souligner la valeur de tous ces programmes. Malgré la sympathie que les représentants permanents peuvent ressentir personnellement pour la position exprimée par le Directeur général, la décision prise par le PNUD ayant été ratifiée par l'ensemble des membres du Conseil des gouverneurs du PNUD ne semble pas pouvoir être remise en cause. En conséquence ma délégation appuie la proposition figurant au point iv) du paragraphe 11 du document C 81/INF/16. Lors du soixante-dix-huitième Conseil, ma délégation avait insisté pour que la différence entre les 14 et 13 pour cent de soutien ne soient en aucun cas reportée à la charge du budget ordinaire de la FAO. Eu égard à la difficulté d'apprécier la charge que représentent les frais de soutien dans chaque cas particulier, ma délégation ne peut que confirmer cette position.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): It is most likely fifty times that my delegation has dealt with the same issue, so I can do it in a sort of roll-call fashion. Our option - the one that we should certainly prefer - is for (iii) in paragraph 11, but we would not be very unhappy if the majority opted for (iv).

S. HEIDSMA (Netherlands): My delegation has not had the opportunity to speak on this subject during the Council meeting, so I hope you will permit me, Mr. Chairman, to dwell somewhat at length on this subject.

We have never exactly calculated the position of the Netherlands as a trust fund donor to FAO in comparison to other donor countries, but it seems a fair estimation, that my country is one of the largest donors of extra-budgetary resources to FAO. We are, moreover, one of the biggest contributors to UNDP. I mention this not because we want to demonstrate to this meeting that we belong to the "good guys", although we are proud of our performance, but merely to indicate that the issue of agency overhead costs is of particular interest to my country and I believe to recipient countries as well, not in the least because many millions of dollars are involved.

When assessing the situation, I believe that it is important that one keep in mind the reasons and motives of the members of the UNDP Governing Council, when they unanimously decided to lower the reimbursement rate from 14 to 13 percent. I want to stress the fact that the recipient countries wholeheartedly supported this decision, I might even go further by saying, that the recipient countries themselves inspired this decision taken by the Council. And rightly so, because it is the recipient country which is first and foremost affected by it, because all UNDP and trust fund resources spent on agency overhead is money not directly - and I repeat not directly - benefiting the recipient countries. I hasten to stress, that no field programme can be properly executed without sufficient back-stopping, and we would be the last to promote a haphazard and superficial implementation of programmes and projects.

The fact remains, however, that a donor who has to spend one percent less in agency support costs obtains one percent more resources available for direct project implementation in the country. This was the main motive for members of the Governing Council of UNDP to decide as they did, not in an irresponsible manner, but in the conviction that 13 percent as an overall figure would be sufficient additional income for the agencies to adequately support their project-executing activities. It is our belief that the UNDP Governing Council is pre-eminently equipped to make such a decision. UNDP is the only international body which has an overall insight into the details, problems and consequences of technical cooperation in the different fields in which the agencies have an executing responsibility. We feel, moreover, that there is insufficient proof that FAO finds itself in a more difficult position in this connection than other agencies, such as ILO and UNESCO and that there is, consequently, no immediate cause to make an exception in the case of FAO.

On page 26 of the Programme of Work and Budget the Director-General calculates the total support costs on \$52.4 million and the total amount reimbursed on \$37.3 million, resulting in a negative difference of \$15.1 million. We do not dispute this table, but we think the Director-General would tend to agree with us when we state, that this is an estimated amount of money and not a precise calculation. It is virtually impossible to establish the support costs involved in a precise way. This, in fact, is exactly the reason that the UNDP Governing Council at the time decided to take a fixed and estimated percentage of project costs as the amount to be reimbursed. One realizes, of course, that such a fixed percentage does not always have negative effects for the executing organizations concerned. It seems very likely that in certain cases where a 14 percent rate was applied, the actual costs involved would come out lower, if it were possible to calculate them in a precise way.

On page 25 the Director-General explains, that the financial difficulties of UNDP may result in a decline in delivery from 1982 onwards, even in absolute terms, although such a situation is not actually foreseen in the Programme of Work and Budget. He explains on page 26 that this development will result in a relatively increased amount of support costs.

What this in fact means is that on top of a decrease in output directly benefiting developing countries, caused by a decline in funds, an additional decrease in output should be added caused by relatively increasing support costs. This is indeed a highly regrettable situation. We do not dispute the argument put forward by the Director-General, but it seems to my delegation, that some more stress could have been laid on the necessity to absorb these unfortunate developments, first and foremost by a relative reduction of administrative costs, instead of an increase, through more cost-effectiveness, greater efficiency, better performance and an increased awareness of the actual purpose of all our and in particular FAO's endeavours.

It is true that on page 27 it says:

"Every effort will, of course, be made to keep support for all programmes and projects, including UNDP projects, to the minimum consistent with the quality and quantity required for sound technical, administrative and financial purposes."

It is arguable however, as I stated before, that this minimum performance requires an amount of money substantially above 13 percent. Moreover, the statements following on page 27 on the costly activities of coordination, are in our opinion only partly related to the costs involved in backstopping project execution. Mentioning these costs of coordination in this context therefore does not seem to be an entirely proper illustration of the problems encountered when curtailing support costs.

My delegation supports the UNDP decision. We would, moreover, urge FAO and delegates not to reopen this issue. It has been discussed extensively for a number of years. A final decision has now been taken and the time has come to close the discussion and to start working within the limits set by the UNDP decision.

Turning now to funds in trust, my delegation wants to follow the UNDP decisions in that respect as well. Two paragraphs of this decision are particularly relevant as far as trust funds are concerned.

Firstly para. 4 where governments are urged to follow the UNDP decision in respect of trust funds.

Secondly para. 2 d), where it is stated, and I quote: "In those cases where the actual support costs can be identified, no Agency shall be reimbursed in excess of the support costs associated with the execution of projects funded by UNDP". This last paragraph is of particular importance in connection with the projects with a large equipment component and the Associate Expert Programme. As we have stated before it is extremely difficult, if not impossible, to identify the precise support costs. But it seems to us abundantly clear that in cases where now a 5 percent or a split-rate of 14 and 5 percent is applied, charging a flat 13 percent rate would be against the intention and purpose of the UNDP decision.

We therefore reject option 1 on page 3 of document INF/16, which does not accept the UNDP decision and option 2, in which the application of a flat rate of 13 percent for all projects is proposed. In option 3 the present provisions concerning trust funds are maintained, that is, 14 percent overhead as a general rule and the possibility for a split-rate of 14 and 5 percent and 12 percent for the associate expert programme.

As has been said before, we cannot accept a 14 percent rate for trust fund projects, because it is against the UNDP decision. In the case of split-rate projects, we prefer to maintain the possibility of a diminished rate for projects with a large equipment component, as was explained before, because such a possibility is in line with the UNDP decision and more adequately reflects the actual costs involved. The 14 percent rate in split-rate projects covers more or less the non-equipment part of the project. There seems to us to be no logical or practical reason to make an exception in this case and to maintain the 14 percent in split-rate projects, as is envisaged in option 3. If we accept 13 percent in normal, non-equipment projects, there seems to us to be no reason not to accept this rate for the non-equipment component of split-rate projects.

It follows, that my delegation is in favour of option 4 on page 3 in document INF/16. It is a flexible solution. It is in our opinion the only one that is in line with the unanimously accepted UNDP decision. It gives the Director-General the possibility to make exceptions when the circumstances so require and it is the option which will hopefully secure and maintain and perhaps even increase the present level of trust fund contributions.

I would like to conclude by once again expressing my country's support for FAO and in particular for its trust fund activities. The Netherlands will continue to support FAO's programmes and we look forward to a contained, fruitful and long-term cooperation.

N. CARRASCO SAULNIER (France): Beaucoup a déjà été dit, au cours de ces derniers mois, sur le sujet que nous abordons ce matin. Je me bornerai donc à émettre une opinion sur les propositions qui nous sont soumises par le Secrétariat dans le document C 81/INF/16.

Je voudrais tout d'abord faire remarquer qu'il ne nous paraît pas concevable de rejeter purement et simplement, comme le mentionne la première proposition contenue dans ce texte, la décision adoptée par le Conseil d'administration du PNUD et approuvée ensuite par l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies.

Comme ma délégation l'a déjà relevé devant le Conseil, il y a un an, soyons conséquents avec nous-mêmes, et n'oublions pas que ces décisions ont été prises par nos propres délégations dans ces deux enceintes et cela en pleine connaissance de cause et conformément aux instructions de nos gouvernements. On ne peut donc nous demander de nous déjuger ici sur ce que nous avons approuvé à New York. D'ailleurs, comme vient de le signaler M. West lui-même, cela ne manquerait pas de nous conduire à une impasse.

Il nous semble donc curieux que le Secrétariat nous ait présenté à nouveau cette solution de rejet, d'autant plus que, si j'ai bien compris, les documents C 81/3 et C 81/INF/16 nous précisent que, pour tenir compte de la situation qui pourrait résulter de la décision du PNUD, les crédits demandés pour le soutien des programmes de terrain dans le présent programme de travail et budget ont été calculés en conséquence.

Ma délégation souhaite donc se rallier à la quatrième des solutions qui nous sont proposées à la page 3 du document C 81/INF/16, et qui figure à l'alinéa iv). Ainsi, devons-nous accepter pour les projets du PNUD la réduction de 14 à 13 pour cent du taux de remboursement des frais de soutien.

Je voudrais d'ailleurs ajouter que, compte tenu des motifs qui ont amené le Conseil d'administration du PNUD à prendre cette décision, nous considérons que cette réduction doit constituer un premier pas vers un taux moins élevé.

Il conviendrait d'autre part d'appliquer ce taux plafond de 13 pour cent aux projets financés par les fonds fiduciaires, tout en conservant les taux inférieurs et les exonérations prévus pour certains cas particuliers au paragraphe 4b) à g) de la section 250 du manuel administratif de la FAO. Cette mesure nous paraît en effet de nature à préserver l'originalité des fonds fiduciaires de notre Organisation et, comme l'a fait très justement remarquer le Directeur général, elle éviterait de décourager la création et le réapprovisionnement de ces fonds.

S.V. HAGEN (Norway): Speaking on behalf of the Nordic countries, Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden I would like to comment also on the agenda item 12.2, Support Costs. The document I will refer to is document C 81/INF/16.

The Nordic countries have, for a number of years, been actively involved in the search for a generally acceptable solution to the problem of an arrangement which applies to the reimbursement to the United Nations agencies for the costs incurred by them when executing projects financed otherwise than through the regular budget. The decision by the UNDP Governing Council in June 1980, which was confirmed by the Council in June this year, and by which it was unanimously agreed to lower the reimbursement rate from 14 percent to 13 percent, has in our opinion settled this matter. It is no secret that the developing countries, in other words the recipients of aid and those most directly affected, have inspired this decision. We welcome the decision which to us represents a compromise. Today we have come to the stage where we have to address the implementation of this new UNDP decision. We attach great importance to this. First of all, because it is our belief that it will mean that an additional one percent in real resources will be available for projects in the field. Secondly, because the Nordic countries, as major contributors to the UNDP and as the largest contributors to FAO Trust Fund Programmes, have an important stake in the issue of overhead costs for other United Nations agencies,

As for the implementation of this decision in relation to FAO, we are in general agreement with the statement just made by the delegate of the Netherlands.

As far as UNDP financed projects executed by FAO are concerned, the decisions are clear and we would expect that the issue would not be re-opened here.

Regarding trust funds, we confirm that our Governments will adhere to para. 4 of the UNDP decision which urges governments to apply the support cost arrangement spelt out in the decision also to such funds. In that respect the document before us presents four options. We could accept option 4, which seems to us to be the only one which is both in conformity with the UNDP decision and at the same time provides for the necessary flexibility.

We would like to draw the attention of this Commission to para. 2 a) of the UNDP decision where it is stated that executing agencies shall "not increase the levels of the regular budgets because of the new reimbursement rate".

Furthermore, we would welcome and even emphasize that servicing costs earned by the Organization from trust funds should, as a general rule, be distributed to the technical divisions in proportion to the extra workload undertaken.

Miss C. McASKIE (Canada): It is with some difficulty that my delegation addresses the proposal which the Secretariat has put before us, that the long negotiated question of support costs be re-opened. My Government, along with many others here today, was closely involved in this process, a process begun in 1977 at the 24th Session of the UNDP Governing Council and which we believed was finally settled in 1980 and 1981.

I would like briefly to review the events which have taken place. Firstly, in 1977 the 24th Session of the UNDP Governing Council decided that 14 percent would remain in effect on a temporary basis only, while the question was reviewed. The 14 percent, therefore, was never formally enshrined. Accordingly a working group of Member Governments was established which met five times between January 1978 and June 1980. The group reviewed evidence from many sources, chiefly from the Specialized Agencies themselves as well as the UNDP, other executing agencies, the joint inspection unit and an outside consultant. As a result of this evidence, during which it was, I regret to say, apparent that many Specialized Agencies had difficulty in establishing exactly what their actual support costs were in relation to UNDP projects, the decision was adopted by consensus that 13 percent would apply across the board, with effect from 1st January 1982, subject, of course, to certain variations under the flexibility rule and the currency exchange rules. These decisions were reached in 1980 and endorsed in 1981 and subsequently endorsed by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly. Therefore, I am at a loss to understand the proposal before us today. I appreciate fully that the Secretariat must lay these decisions before the Conference, it is right that they should do so, but in document C 81/INF/16, which presents no evidence on the actual costs to the Organization of the Administration of UNDP projects and it merely suggests once again that the 13 percent is insufficient. Mr. West, in his opening remarks this morning, confirmed in fact the difficulties there are in being precise about these matters. The document then goes on to make four alternate recommendations, the first of which is that the Conference reject the decisions taken by the UNDP Governing Council and the General Assembly and to seek to re-open the whole question. My Government is aware of the fact that decisions of the General Assembly are not binding on the Specialized Agencies but it was always our understanding that the agreement, the partnership agreements, between the United Nations system and the Agencies required the Agencies to give serious consideration to decisions made by member governments in their capacity as members of the General Assembly.

It is the contention of my Government that the proposal before us to reject a decision of the General Assembly does not constitute serious consideration. I would appeal therefore to fellow delegates to ask themselves if they wish to be put in the impossible situation of rejecting at this Conference a decision which they themselves made in the General Assembly or whether they wish to recommend instead that more serious consideration be given by the Agencies to the deliberations of the central organ, the General Assembly, which is the embodiment of the joint will of the international community. The fact remains that whatever the decision of the Conference the UNDP is not empowered to pay more than 13 percent, and this is the reality which we must face.

On the question of Trust Funds I would just like to add that my Government is not of course a Trust Fund donor at this time. But we would support the statements of the Nordic governments in respect of recommendation (iv) in the document before us.

E.M. West (Assistant Director-General, Office of Programme, Budget and Evaluation): To avoid any misunderstanding permeating this debate, may I say that the delegate of Canada has repeatedly referred to the recommendations of the Secretariat. There are no recommendations of the Secretariat in paragraph 11. The Secretariat has presented alternative options for the decision of the Conference. If I have indicated anything in my remarks it was certainly not the adoption of (i). So I hope it is now clear that we can avoid unnecessary discussion of what the Secretariat has recommended: it has not recommended as the delegate of Canada has suggested.

D. BETI (Suisse): En tant que membre du Conseil d'administration du PNUD, la Suisse a participé depuis le début aux discussions concernant le taux de remboursement des frais de gestion par le PNUD aux agences d'exécution pour la mise en oeuvre des projets. Elle a, par conséquent, soutenu la décision du PNUD 80/44, adoptée par consensus en juin 1980, et reconfirmée par le Conseil d'administration du PNUD du mois de juin de cette année.

Nous aurions souhaité que toutes les agences d'exécution touchées par la réduction établie puissent accepter cette décision et essayer d'accomplir les tâches dont elles sont chargées sur la base de cette décision. Nous regrettons dès lors que la discussion de cette question, discussion qui à notre avis a déjà trop duré, soit de nouveau relancée. Nous le regrettons d'autant plus qu'il y a lieu de craindre que cette nouvelle discussion ne nous amène qu'à des situations d'impasse, situations qui seraient essentiellement au détriment des vrais destinataires, de l'assistance acheminée par la voie du PNUD, de la FAO et de toutes les autres institutions d'aide au développement.

Mais, puisque la question nous est soumise dans cette enceinte, force nous est de préciser ici la position de mon gouvernement à ce sujet. Quant aux arguments qui ont servi à déterminer cette position, ils rejoignent, pour l'essentiel en tout cas, ceux qui viennent d'être exposés par les délégations des Pays-Bas, des pays nordiques et du Canada; je ne les répéterai pas afin de gagner du temps.

Mon gouvernement continuera d'appuyer la décision 80/44 du PNUD, et ceci pour le moins aussi longtemps que des éléments d'appréciation et de calcul des frais de gestion plus précis que ceux fournis jusqu'à ce jour par les agences d'exécution ne pourront être présentés par celles-ci.

En ce qui concerne les quatre options du paragraphe 11 du document C 81/INF/16, mon gouvernement rejette les options Nos 1 et 2. Il donne nettement la préférence à l'option No 4. Si cette Conférence choisissait d'opter pour l'option No 3, nous le regretterions profondément. Mon gouvernement tient à faire remarquer qu'il nous serait extrêmement difficile, pour ne pas dire inacceptable, de payer en moyenne par projet un taux plus élevé de 13 pour cent comme frais de soutien aux projets que nous finançons par des fonds fiduciaires.

La question des frais d'administration pour l'exécution des projets est une de celles auxquelles l'opinion publique de mon pays est très sensible. Nous pensons que c'est à juste titre, et que c'est bien qu'il en soit ainsi. Mon gouvernement se doit d'en tenir compte dans sa politique. On ne doit pas oublier que si nous additionnons les frais d'administration du PNUD avec les frais de soutien remboursés à la FAO, ainsi qu'avec les nôtres, pour la mise en oeuvre de projets multilatéraux, nous arrivons facilement à des dépenses d'administration dépassant les 30 pour cent du coût des projets. Cela signifie qu'approximativement un tiers des ressources mises à disposition pour l'assistance au développement ne profite pas directement, et je souligne "pas directement", aux vrais destinataires. Personne ne peut avoir intérêt à ce qu'il en soit ainsi et que cet état de chose ne s'améliore pas.

Nous avons exprimé notre point de vue au sujet de l'appui que nous accordons aux programmes d'action spéciaux de la FAO par le financement de projets sur des fonds fiduciaires. Mais nous ne voulons pas nous répéter; ce point de vue se trouve exprimé dans les comptes rendus de notre commission.

Il va de soi que la continuation de notre participation au financement de ces programmes ne sera possible que dans la mesure où, d'une part la réalisation sera efficace et que, d'autre part, l'utilisation des ressources mises à disposition sera la plus économique possible. Ce dernier aspect concerne particulièrement les frais d'administration des projets. Vu sous cet angle on ne peut pas passer sous silence le fait que l'aide accordée par la voie bilatérale est encore celle qui coûte le moins cher en frais d'administration.

Ma délégation en appelle dès lors à tous les participants à cette Conférence pour que nous réussissions à voir l'ensemble du problème auquel on nous a confrontés, et que nous nous évitions à nous-mêmes de nous acheminer sur des pentes dangereuses, nous amenant inévitablement à des impasses qui, en fin de compte, seraient désagréables pour tout le monde.

J'aimerais terminer en réitérant l'appui de mon pays, aussi bien au PNUD qu'à la FAO et à leurs activités, chacun dans son domaine et dans sa spécificité.

W. A. F. GRABISCH (Germany, Federal Republic of) (original language: German): With regard to item 12.2 on the Agenda I can be very brief indeed. I just wish to recall the position our country has already stated at the 78th, 79th and 80th sessions of the Council. To sum up our position is that FAO should accept the decision by the UNDP to reduce the support cost from 14 percent to 13 percent, and give evidence of the level of its support costs. This would also be in line with the pertinent decision of the United Nations General Assembly. We assume that the Director-General will succeed in compensating the lower reimbursement of support cost by way of rationalization.

With respect to paragraph 11 of document C 81/INF/16, the four options before us there, I would like to say that as far as my delegation is concerned option (iv) is the only one that we can accept.

J. L. F. BUIST (United Kingdom): First I would like to say that I believe it is worth spending some time on this question; it is important and we are grateful to the Secretariat for producing this paper and for setting out the possible options before us.

Mr. West did rightly remind the United Kingdom some time earlier that my country originally had doubts about the change which was proposed in the UNDP and the lowering of the rate from 14 percent to 13 percent. In the Governing Council, however, we were convinced by the arguments of other countries, and especially the developing countries benefiting from the programme. Our view has since been reinforced by considering the practice of other agencies and in this context I can again recall the arrangements made by the Asian Development Bank.

Incidentally, the Secretariat might like to note that their 10 percent reimbursement arrangement is for technical cooperation only. For financial cooperation the reimbursement rate is only 1 percent.

These rates make sure that the maximum share of any funds provided will go to actual operational development in the beneficiary countries. We therefore found the arguments of the Netherlands, the Nordic Group and others very compelling and convincing and we should like to underline our own agreement with their view that the practice in FAO should follow the UNDP decision, including of course paragraph 4 and paragraphs 2(a) and 2(d). We could therefore accept solution (iv) in this paper.

R. A. SORENSON (United States of America): The Commission will recall that when this issue was discussed at the 78th Session of the Council my delegation was of two minds. On the one hand we could have agreed at that time that the entire issue should be reopened in the UNDP Governing Council. On the other hand we believe that if the governing bodies of FAO were to agree to Decision 80/44 of the UNDP Governing Council as subsequently adopted by the General Assembly, then it was only logical and reasonable that this decision should be adopted in its entirety, that is to say that the UNDP Governing Council decision was an indivisible whole applying both to UNDP and to trust Fund support costs. In fact, this was also clearly the understanding of the Secretariat. That is in Document CL 78/28 prepared by the Seventy-eighth Council. In paragraphs 26 through 29, the Secretariat specifically drew the attention of Council Members to the significance and importance of Paragraph 4 of the UNDP Governing Council decision.

To quote both from the UNDP Council decision itself as well as from the document of the Seventy-eighth Council, the UNDP decision "urges governments and governing bodies of agencies to apply the support costs reimbursement arrangement described above also to technical cooperation activities financed from all other extra-budgetary resources including Trust Funds or similar funds".

The FAO document goes on in Paragraph 27 to remind the Council that "reimbursement arrangements applied to Trust Funds are governed by certain provisions in the FAO Manual". In this connexion, it was recalled that "in addition to lower rates for projects with high equipment component, the Manual provisions allow waiver of Trust Fund reimbursement in part or in whole in certain circumstances."

Clearly, the overhead cost of each project implemented by FAO and the other specialized agencies is different and unique for the very reason that every project is different and unique. What we are trying to agree upon is an overall average cost, and this is what the UNDP Governing Council was clearly trying to arrive at when they decided unanimously to approve the 13 percent and to urge that it be applied across the board to all Trust Funds from whatever extra-budgetary source. To deviate from that decision would be to destroy the basis upon which it was agreed. The governments which are members of this conference, including the United States, are all members of the General Assembly and participated in that decision. We believe that it would not be consistent for us to vote in one way in one organization and then to undercut that decision by essentially voting against it and nullifying its effects in another UN forum, that is to say, here in FAO.



Consistent with the unanimous decision taken in the General Assembly, in which every government in this room participated, we believe that there is only one option open for this Conference to take which would be consistent with the rest of the UN system, and this would be to accept the decision already taken by: the UNDP Council and the General Assembly in its entirety and without equivocation, and that would mean that we would approve Paragraph 2 or would hope that this Commission could approve Paragraph 2.

CHAIRMAN: Do I understand the delegate of the USA correctly that he would then be advocating option (ii)?

R. A. SORENSON (United States of America): That is correct. Thank you.

M. MORIMOTO (Japan): My delegation wishes to make a brief comment on the question of support costs. The 1% reduction in the reimbursement from UNDP would have a serious impact on the future activities of FAO, and my delegation is among those who earnestly hope that the matter may be altered. But we are also wondering how much room for change for the better there is by having our Director-General or the Secretariat negotiate with UNDP whose decision has been reached after a long process of study and deliberations at ACADQ. My delegation is inclined to the view expressed at the Seventy-Eighth session of the Council that FAO should make an utmost Herculean effort to save on its outlays under various items and try to cover up the shortcomings caused by the UNDP Governing Council, and that after a due period of effort, FAO should present an ex-post facto report to request with a stronger cogency for that change, in accordance with Paragraph 2 (g) of the UNDP decision in Annex 1 of document C 81/INF/16.

As far as the Options open to us are concerned, we are drawn towards (iv).

J. O. ALABI (Nigeria): My comment on this would be very brief. Reading through the document before us and noting the views expressed at the Council, one can see that there is no unanimity on the question of how these support costs should be handled. Although the UNDP Governing Body and the UN Assembly agree that the support costs should be cut down to 13 percent, I still feel that this Conference as the Governing Body of FAO can still differ from this decision which has been taken. From the analysis which we have been given, it will mean quite a lot to FAO, which I understand even at 14 percent is subsidising all these various projects from the Regular Budget. It will mean quite a loss of funds, and I would very seriously think that the Conference should plead or discuss with whoever knows about this so that we retain the support costs at 14 percent. Even where the costs which are being charged at present are less than 13 percent, they still want us to go to 13 percent. Would that be in the interests of the donors who are obliged to pay more if the job can be done more cheaply?.

With these comments, I would think that we should stick to the 14 percent and not reduce the costs to 13 percent.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): I just wanted simply to eliminate any feeling that some countries tend to take one position in one forum and then perhaps change their position in another one. It is not true, at least as far as my country is concerned. We feel if one really wants to apply the General Assembly decision on this issue, then I think the only thing to choose is Option (iv) because it takes cognisance of the fact in 2(d) that "in cases where the actual support costs can be identified" and so on, so in that case, I think that a majority view as it has emerged from our debate is, I think, fully consistent with the General Assembly decision.

CHAIRMAN: As I see no further flag up, that indeed brings us to the end of the debate on this subject. I also will be very brief in winding up. That certainly is a subject that had been discussed within FAO and within the UN system for quite some time.

The twelve countries that have spoken this morning have indicated a clear preference to Decision 4 as contained in document C 81/INF/16. There were exactly nine countries; one country indicated that if

the majority would go along with Decision 4, it would also accept that. One country expressed itself on Option (i), and one country on Option (ii).

With these remarks I close the debate on the subject of support costs.

As we have recovered quite some time, I would suggest we adjourn until 11.30 to take up the subject of the World Food Programme. I would kindly ask the distinguished delegates to accept the time of 11.30 so we can start precisely and probably also end at 12.30.

The meeting was suspended from 11.00 to 11.30 hours.

La séance est suspendue de 11 h 00 à 11 h 30.

Se suspende la sesión de las 11.00 horas a las 11.30 horas.

CHAIRMAN: May I add the remark, with some regret on my side, that I overlooked at the end of the debate this morning the fact that the delegate of Norway was speaking for the Nordic countries, hence for two countries. So we actually had 18 countries speaking on the subject of Support Costs, 16 were for alternative (iv) on page 3 of document C 81/INF/16, one country was for option (i), one country for option (ii).

14. United Nations/FAO World Food Programme (C 81/LIM/10; C 81/LIM/22)

14. Programme alimentaire mondial ONU/FAO (C 81/LIM/10; C 81/LIM/22)

14. Programa Mundial de Alimentos Naciones Unidas/FAO (C 81/LIM/10; C 81/LIM/22)

CHAIRMAN: I now move on to the next item on the agenda, the World Food Programme. The documents relating to it are C 81/LIM/10 and C 81/LIM/22. Before I open the debate I would like to invite the Executive Director of the UN/FAO World Food Programme to give us the benefit of his introduction.

B. de AZEVEDO BRITO (WFP): Twenty years ago the United Nations General Assembly and the FAO Conference decided to establish the UN/FAO World Food Programme, exactly twenty years ago: we are in our twentieth anniversary of the decision to establish the World Food Programme. Since then, every two years the FAO Conference has been reviewing the activities of the Programme and determining the pledging targets for contributions to WFP. It is for me a great honour to present to you today the basic facts and trends which portray the current status of the Programme and indicate the direction in which we are moving. Such facts and trends should assist the Conference in deciding on the pledging target for contributions to the Programme's regular resources for the biennium 1983-84 which is the main action you are requested to take under this item of your agenda.

Many things have happened in the past couple of years. Some progress has surely been made and I will report on it. The Conference is also aware, however, that since we last met the Programme has lost Gerry Vogel, our late Executive Director. We in the World Food Programme knew and admired him. He was a man of ideas and a man of vision. His legacy to us is one of idealism and creativity, guided by his unflagging dedication to the cause of development and justice and by his compassion for the millions of poor people of today's world. We value that legacy highly, as will undoubtedly be seen by the Conference in my report to you today.

Let me begin by establishing the order of magnitude of the Programme's present operations which last year, beyond supplies channelled through WFP by bilateral donors, delivered close to 1.3 million tons of food, approximately 66 percent for development projects and about 34 percent for emergency operations. Of total deliveries, some 300 000 tons came from the International Emergency Food Reserve - the IEFER - while the balance close to 1 million tons, was supplied from the Programme's own resources. This is, in real terms, an all time record. It may also be useful to indicate that, consistent with its policy of expanding development activities, mainly in support of food self-reliance, the Programme has been able to increase progressively the level of its commitments for development projects. In the current year, 1981, we are earmarking approximately \$510 million for such projects and for 1982 we are planning to raise further the level of new commitments. These figures should give you, in quantitative terms, a clear picture of the Programme as an organization on the move, thanks to the generous support of donors and the effective cooperation of recipient countries.

More important still, however, is what WFP is trying to achieve with the resources at its disposal. I would like to make a few remarks in this respect.

As you know, all - I repeat, all - WFP assistance is provided under the project concept, either in the context of development projects, where the Programme's commodities are used as an investment capital, or in the framework of emergency operations where WFP supplies help in alleviating human suffering after natural or man-made disasters. WFP assistance corresponds in value terms to approximately 20 percent of global food aid. I do not wish to minimize the importance of and need for Programme or bulk food aid, but I strongly feel that the experience of the past twenty years points out unequivocally the advantages of project food aid with clearly defined beneficiaries and clearly defined development objectives as well.

Much has happened in the past few years on the development scene. Concepts have been further refined to promote equity in the development process, and priorities have been further sharpened as a consequence of the progressively growing disparity between resource availability and development requirements. The world has also been witnessing a tragic multiplication of situations where large volumes of food aid are needed, not to assist in the process towards development and food self-reliance, but merely to ensure that lives and basic human conditions are preserved and sustained. All these trends have deeply affected the World Food Programme's operations.

It is a well-known fact that the food import requirements, and especially the food aid requirements of the 68 or 70 countries usually classified in the low-income, food-deficit category, are increasing - and it is not yet clear when this trend can be reversed. By conservative estimates the food aid requirements of those countries have been calculated to be 13 million tons of grain for the crop year 1981/82. The dimensions of the challenge can readily be understood when it is recalled that food aid in cereals from all sources has not reached 9 million tons this year, and that project food aid delivered by WFP barely reached 1.3 million tons as I have earlier indicated. We have a long way to go to reach the 13 million tons estimated as the indispensable minimum for this crop year.

Under the guidance of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes our governing body - the World Food Programme has been responding to these realities through a gradual process of adjustment. First, a greater proportion of resources is being invested in support of projects directly or indirectly aimed at ensuring food self-sufficiency and food security. I am sure the Conference will be happy to note in this respect that, in the current year, a new record was set by earmarking for agricultural and rural development about 80 percent of total new commitments for development projects. Secondly, a larger proportion of resources is being channelled to assist the poorest of the poor. Here again we are setting a record in the current year by channelling to the priority group of low-income, food-deficit countries approximately 85 percent of total new commitments for development purposes. This is an all-time record for the United Nations system as far as I know.

In an effort to expand operations in food deficit areas which have recently been shown to be more vulnerable, WFP has considerably intensified its programming initiatives in Africa in the last 18 months. A sustained effort is being made to help African countries south of the Sahara to maximize their food production potential and thus contribute to a better balance between food supply and demand and improved levels of nutrition. Those countries have received in the current year a record level of about 45 percent of total new WFP commitments for development projects. This is a good measure of the results already attained in this endeavour to assist the African farmer to raise the productivity of his land, to expand cultivated areas and to promote rural development in the vast expanses of the African continent.

Similarly, in Asia, a major effort is currently underway to plan a new generation of projects with the same concern for innovation and adjustment of projects to new realities that has characterized our efforts in Africa. We in the WFP Secretariat view the Asian "challenge", which should lead to a substantial increase in commitments in 1982 and 1983 and a streamlining in supply schemes, with enthusiasm and determination to assist the countries in the region to develop WFP-supported projects with even more relevance to their food production and rural development strategies. With a view to stimulating complementarities under the principle of collective self-reliance, every opportunity should be grasped - also in Asia - to give maximum support to the producer within the region while food aid helps to bridge the supply/demand gap. The Conference will be interested to know also that the planning and programming of WFP-assisted projects is following similar lines in the other developing regions, with strong emphasis on priorities and adjustment to new realities and new requirements.

With the resources at our disposal we are constantly trying to achieve greater development impact. We are engaged in a continuous search for new project designs, improved delivery systems and more accurate monitoring and evaluation arrangements. We are applying, in full measure, our past encouraging experience in the search for innovative ways to increase efficiency in the use of resources. We are concentrating on increasing food production in the poorest rural areas. We are striving to increase food production in areas of monocultural cash crop patterns, to increase the local availability of food. Particularly in areas of chronic food shortages, we are giving an incentive by providing food aid in support of food security schemes linked to improved pricing and production policies.

My previous comments on WFP activities in Africa and in Asia point out another important trend: the regional approach. We in the Programme are progressively planning WFP assistance within a regional framework, with a view to giving every possible support to producers within the same area, thus fostering complementary schemes to accelerate the development process. In this context, we are increasing our purchases in developing countries, to stimulate production where such purchases are made, to encourage cooperation among developing countries, and to save on transportation costs. WFP purchases of Zimbabwean maize is a case in point which proves that, despite long supply lines, it is already feasible to take, within a vast geographical area and on strictly competitive terms, concrete and decisive steps towards a policy of self-reliance. Every ship which moors in an African port with a cargo of the Zimbabwean maize that WFP is moving through Mozambique proves that Africans can feed Africans and that this is already a reality.

By diversifying our project designs and by devising more rational - and less costly - supply systems, we aim at ensuring greater compatibility with the specific conditions of the countries and regions where the Programme operates. In these various ways, we are making strong efforts to ensure that WFP food aid for development responds to the requirements of today's world.

The experience of the Programme has clearly demonstrated the development potential of food aid, and in particular the impact that project food aid can have in improving conditions in the most depressed rural areas. We in the Programme are equally aware, however, that food aid is not a panacea, and that the best utilization of food aid calls for its close association with other types of assistance wherever possible, and particularly where a multiplier effect is anticipated. In practical terms this has meant a constant and diligent effort at joint programming. FAO is our natural partner, and the Conference will surely appreciate that our cooperation has always been close and excellent. In most of the WFP-assisted projects, however, other UN agencies are also involved and a fruitful interaction is assured with bilateral programmes of assistance as well. In all cases, the Programme takes particular care to ensure that the activities it supports are clearly in line with national priorities and are clearly inserted in the national development plans.

I very much hope that my comments have provided to the Conference a basis for a broad assessment of the current status of the Programme on the "development front". On the "emergency front", as I have already indicated, the requirements for food aid are fast increasing and, with the multiplication of critical situations in many parts of the world, no abatement is in sight. With the same zeal for qualitative improvement in our deliveries, the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes and the WFP Secretariat, in cooperation with recipient and donor countries, are currently engaged in a painstaking and meticulous process to remove shortcomings and further improve the emergency food assistance which the Programme delivers under the authority of the Director-General of FAO. While in a number of instances shortcomings might be unavoidable because of circumstances inherent to the very nature of the emergency situation for which food aid is being provided, I am confident that improvements will ordinarily be possible with the cooperation of all parties concerned.

The general picture I have tried to give you of the Programme's activities has the dual purpose of providing the Conference with an updated, albeit summarized, view of project food aid of the type provided by WFP in the early eighties, and of setting the proper framework for the decision the Conference is called upon to take, upon recommendation of the FAO Council, on the pledging target for contributions for the World Food Programme in the biennium 1983-84. A draft resolution approving a target of \$ 1.2 billion for that biennium has been submitted, as you know, by the Council to the Conference. This pledging target, which I very much hope the Conference will approve - similar action is being requested according to our Rules from the UN General Assembly - has been successively endorsed, by consensus, by the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes, the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, and the FAO Council.

Before commenting further on the proposed pledging target, I should perhaps explain that the resources of the Programme come to us in three different ways: the regular resources, for which a Pledging Conference is convened roughly one year before the beginning of the biennium; additional contributions in the form of grain pledged under the Food Aid Convention and channelled through the World Food Programme; and IEFER resources, placed at the Programme's disposal for emergency operations. The pledging target the Conference is expected to decide upon refers only to the first category, the regular resources. The three categories of resources, to which I have just made reference, have behaved differently in the past few years. The growth rates in FAC grain channelled through the Programme and in the IEFER have been higher than that for the regular resources, which have tended to level off in real terms. While this does not change the total supplies actually available - and this total has been increasing in real terms - I must stress the importance of the regular resources of the Programme since they alone provide the basic and most sure element for planning commitments due to their pluri-annual nature.

The Conference might be interested to know that, by the end of October 1981, contributions reached approximately 75 percent of the target of \$1 billion set for the current biennium of 1981-82. More resources are expected to come in, however, since we are still not half way through the biennium. Substantial new contributions have been made in recent months by a number of donors and in particular by the OPEC Fund for International Development, which has thus started a most promising association with the World Food Programme, to the benefit of both development activities and IEFER-financed emergency operations. This is a historical and most welcome development, of particular importance when the Programme is endeavouring to raise the level of purchases of food supplies as explained earlier. We have made progress, but we surely need additional resources at this point.

I could give the Conference many facts which would substantiate the fast increasing requirements for project food aid which the Programme must meet, and many figures which would confirm why - given WFP's resource position - it is critically important that the proposed target of contributions of \$ 1.2 billion for the biennium 1983-84 be approved and actually reached if those requirements, which relate to the most basic and urgent needs of some of the poorest people of the world, are to be met. Suffice it to say, however, that the proposed target represents the absolute minimum needed, if current levels of WFP food deliveries and projects are to be maintained after 1983. In all frankness I must also say that the proposed target represents at the same time the maximum which could reasonably be considered in the hard reality of present economic circumstances. I firmly believe, therefore, that the new target of \$1.2 billion is essentially a balanced one. It has been carefully determined with regard to the needs of those the Programme is expected to assist, and with regard also to the need to be realistic in our pledging goal.

Having in mind those millions of poor people whose lives will be improved - if not saved - if WFP-supported activities can be carried out, I strongly urge this Conference to endorse the proposed pledging target of \$1.2 billion for the biennium 1983-84. I must equally strongly urge all those countries in a position to do so to join forces, in a gesture of human solidarity, so that this target, which represents so many hopes to so many people in the hundreds of projects the Programme assists, is not only approved but also fully attained - and if possible surpassed - when contributions are announced early next year. I am confident that you will lend the authority and prestige of this Conference to the successful launching of a pledging target which is so closely related to the fundamental objectives which your Organization pursues.

J. MOORE (United States of America): The delegation of the United States has closely studied the draft Resolution on the WFP target for the 1983-84 biennium and we wish to give our support to the Resolution as it appears before us.

The United States Government has been one of the major supporters of WFP from its very inception: indeed the United States was one of the midwives, so to speak, at the birth of the programme. Over the years as the programme's operations have increased United States support has also increased and the United States continues to believe that the World Food Programme constitutes one of the major success stories of multilateral aid agencies and that it is without question one of the major conduits of effective food aid to needy countries. It is our view that the United States, in spite of the many competing demands on its food aid which is available under Public Law 480, will continue to be a major contributor to the programme.

However, we wish to note our concern in connexion with the target of \$1 200 million, particularly in view of the recent history of WFP targets in relation to the actual pledges to the programme. In the previous biennium, 1979-80, the programme achieved about 85 percent of its target of \$950 million. As the Executive Director ad interim mentioned a few moments ago, during the present biennium, 1981-82, with a target of \$1 000 million, we are, as of October 31, 1981, at approximately 74 percent of the target.

The United States is also pleased to observe, as Mr. Brito has mentioned, that there have been recent increased contributions to the programme for this biennium, and there will surely be additional contributions during 1982.

In this connexion, we also wish to note particularly the recent contribution from the OPEC Special Fund of \$25 million as well as the increased contributions of several other donors. Nevertheless, we cannot realistically assume that the present target will be achieved. In fact, there may be a serious shortfall.

In addition to the problems of shortages of the regular resources of WFP, due also in part to the steadily increasing costs of transportation, we are all aware of the increasing demands of emergency food needs, both from natural and man-made causes. The requirements of refugee programmes in Africa and Pakistan, of the food shortages in Kampuchea, to mention only a few, place demands on donor nations which compete with resources which might otherwise be available to the WFP for development projects. At this point we would like to mention the discussion during the recent Committee on Food Aid where a more active participation by Member Countries was proposed in connexion with emergency programmes, and we look forward to follow-up on this proposal.

In summary, we wish to record our high regard for the World Food Programme and its activity. Nevertheless, we believe that WFP Management will indeed be challenged by the need to preserve its base and even augment its resources during a time of international economic difficulty. The US is for its part giving careful consideration to the size of the US pledge for the Organization's 1983-84 biennium.

J. DOORENBOS (Netherlands): My government, being a large donor but also a strong supporter of WFP, has taken good notice of the report before us, and we have listened very carefully to the introductory speech by Mr. Brito. In the CFA twice a year a thorough discussion is held of policy, administrative and operational matters. We always highly value these meetings whereby in a spirit of openness but also sometimes with direct confrontations of opinion, thus far a consensus has always been reached. The decisions taken by CFA are clearly reflected in WFP's policies and operational activities. I refer, for instance, to the discussion which we had on the definition of emergency. I do not want to make a long intervention, for which actually the CFA is the appropriate forum. Some selected aspects are of relevance here, particularly as regards the functioning of WFP, and may I restrict my comments to three points: firstly, the development-oriented activities; secondly, planning and logistics support; and thirdly, coordination of activities.

As regards the first one, much stress is laid on the development task of WFP. New demands must continuously be met, new ways must be found and new dimensions must be developed. This requires careful evaluation of the programme in execution. The measure of success or even failure, is, however, difficult to determine. However, the programme must continue to attempt to improve the weaker parts of its activities and, I may say, be free from the negative effects that for instance the Report of the European Court of Account could have on the Common Market Food Aid Programme, both inside the Organization as well as outside, and by that I mean public opinion.

Returning now for a moment to the measure of effect, we strongly support in words and in deeds WFP's intention to evaluate the nutritional impact of food aid.

As regards planning and logistic support, a few remarks: with the growing quantity of the programmes that the programme has to cope with, care must be taken to balance commitments and disbursements so as to avoid great imbalances between those two. In addition, logistics form an inseparable part of food aid planning. We are happy to note the great attention which is given by WFP in this field. We strongly support this. WFP has provided to The Netherlands direct support in the execution of its bilateral programme, and I may suggest that other donors may also follow these examples. On the other hand, in the field of logistics, we have had very close cooperation with WFP, and I may mention in this respect the programme which was executed in Uganda. Another example in this respect is that WFP is heavily involved in keeping the maize train rolling in Zimbabwe.

This brings me to the coordination role which WFP can also play firstly by being the focal point in adjusting and balancing food aid shipments directed towards a specific target area by different donors. A clear case in fact is some of the operations presently undertaken in African countries, and secondly, WFP's coordination role in meeting unforeseen and extensive food shortages such as presently occur in Kampuchea and Somalia due to the refugee problem. Viewing the extent of such operations, we feel that it is imperative that WFP must be adequately equipped and must have sufficient highly qualified manpower for this purpose.

We do wonder at this moment whether in certain areas of Africa the planning and execution apparatus within WFP may need some adjustments. We feel that the benefits would be much greater than the small cost involved.

Finally, we would support the target as set by WFP and as asked for by the Executive Director ad interim, and we express with him the hope that this target may also be met in the very near future.

C. KELLER SARMIENTO (Argentina): En primer lugar, señor Presidente, vaya nuestra palabra de agradecimiento y de ulterior aliento a las actividades del Programa Mundial de Alimentos que cumple hoy 20 años como acaba de expresar muy brillantemente en su introducción al debate el Director General Interino, señor B. de A. Brito.

Entendemos que el objetivo propuesto para el bienio de 1983-84 de 1 200 millones de dólares de promesas de contribuciones es necesario para incentivar al máximo la cooperación por parte de los países que estén en condiciones de orientar esfuerzos a través del Programa. En 1980 el PMA ha proporcionado aproximadamente 1 millón de toneladas de alimentos de sus propios recursos y contribuciones al Convenio de Ayuda Alimentaria además de las 3 000 toneladas de las reservas internacionales alimentarias de emergencia. Entendemos que la producción mantenida por el PMA en la adjudicación de proyectos, 66 por ciento para desarrollo y 34 por ciento para operaciones de urgencia, nos parece adecuada, sobre todo, por el efecto multiplicador que tienen los proyectos de desarrollo. No obstante ello, y si fuera posible, entendemos que la tendencia a incrementar los proyectos de desarrollo produciría efectos saludables en la economía de los países a los cuales va dirigido.

En cuanto a los recursos prometidos para 1981-82 estimamos que la recaudación del 75 por ciento en este momento del total de 1 000 millones de dólares fijados como objetivo para ese bienio, es auspiciosa, sobre todo, teniendo en cuenta la eficiencia e importancia de las labores del PMA y, sobre todo, la brillante condición que tiene en este momento con el Director Ejecutivo Adjunto señor Brito. La rapidez de acción, al enfrentar las situaciones de emergencia de que ha dado muestras el PMA, es un motivo de orgullo para las Naciones Unidas y la consolidación de los principios más auténticos de solidaridad y cooperación internacionales.

Dentro del contexto y el marco de cooperación económica entre países en desarrollo y cooperación técnica entre países en desarrollo, y continuando con su tradición histórica de aportar los mayores esfuerzos en actos positivos de solidaridad y ayuda internacionales, la República Argentina ha canalizado parte de su ayuda alimentaria por intermedio del Programa Mundial de Alimentos.

Entendemos que esta decisión es un reconocimiento a la labor del PMA y a sus eficientes administradores ejecutivos, conducidos por el Director General, el señor El Midani y el señor Sintobin, con los cuales hemos tenido fructíferas conversaciones sobre modalidades de estos acuerdos que esperamos, en el futuro, poder ampliar y, sobre todo, que sirvan de estímulo a la intensificación de actividades del CEPD dentro del marco del PMA.

Señor Presidente, hemos tratado sucintamente de destacar el apoyo a las labores del PMA. Por ello apoyamos el proyecto de resolución contenido en el Documento C 81/LIM/22 referido al objetivo de promesas para el período 1983-84.

Por último, una consideración hacia la orientación de proyectos de desarrollo del PMA en el futuro. Dentro de este concepto y dentro de este marco, que tanto nos interesa y que implica las nuevas dimensiones de actividades de la FAO, la cooperación económica entre países en desarrollo, el PMA, podría ampliar sus actividades al proyecto de desarrollo hacia países que dispongan de condiciones competitivas ventajosas para la producción de alimentos a costos reducidos.

Un enfoque nuevo y ambicioso de esta problemática sería, sin duda, una contribución importante al incremento de la capacidad de recursos del PMA y produciría un efecto estimulante en aquellos países que correlativamente están en condiciones de incrementar dramáticamente su producción de alimentos. Muchas gracias señor Presidente.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): La declaración lúcida, clara y completa que acaba de hacer el señor Bernardo de Azevedo Brito, Director Ejecutivo interino del PMA, confirma con las excelentes cualidades que le distinguen y la eficacia y la inteligencia con que él está dirigiendo este importante Programa, en todo lo cual le acompaña el más pleno apoyo del gobierno de Colombia.

La reunión del Consejo inmediatamente anterior a la Conferencia apoyó ya las prioridades y objetivos del Programa y también recomendó unánimemente el objetivo de promesa de 1 200 millones de dólares que ahora aparece en el documento C 81/LIM/22. Naturalmente en esta Comisión aquí, y luego en la Plenaria, cumpliremos el rito tradicional periódico de apoyar igualmente esa meta, como ya lo ha hecho el Consejo y esperamos que lo haga próximamente la Asamblea General de las Naciones Unidas.

Vamos a cumplir este acto con simpatía, con sinceridad y con esperanza e igualmente con cierto desaliento, con algunas preocupaciones porque todos sabemos que para el período 1979-80 solamente se logró el 85 por ciento del objetivo que habíamos previsto, y para el bienio en curso, aunque si todavía estamos a la mitad del camino, sólo se ha obtenido el 75 por ciento. Podríamos preguntarnos entonces si va a seguir esa tendencia regresiva y cuándo en realidad se va a lograr los 1 200 millones de dólares que vamos a recomendar.

Nuestra inquietud sobre este particular ha sido fortalecida por la intervención del primer orador sobre este tema, quien además representa a uno de los más notables contribuyentes al Programa y que tiene una intervención objetiva y serena él expuestas las dificultades presentes. Nosotros esperamos que los países que están en condiciones de contribuir al Programa superen esas dificultades que reconocemos. Por eso creemos que esta Comisión debe apoyar la solicitud del llamado que ya hizo el Consejo en su espíritu de solidaridad internacional, no solo para alcanzar el objetivo, sino para superarlo.

Podríamos contribuir a este propósito si destacamos el apoyo constructivo, por ejemplo del fondo de la OPEP, que ha contribuido con 20 millones de dólares, lo cual es un ejemplo. Este dinero de la OPEP va a reforzar las reservas de emergencia y también al proyecto de desarrollo urgente, lo cual consideramos muy adecuado.

Igualmente, deberemos reconocer los aportes recientes de países como Argentina, España, Australia, Austria e Italia bien al presupuesto ordinario del PMA o a la Reserva de Urgencia. También Francia es un país que, según nos ha manifestado, va a duplicar su contribución al Programa ordinario del PMA el año próximo y también entendemos que a la Reserva de Emergencia.

Es igualmente satisfactorio el anuncio de la Comunidad Económica Europea que va a contribuir con 100 000 toneladas más de cereales para la Ayuda Alimentaria. Pero igualmente deberíamos hacer constar, en nuestro informe que se expresa, que todas esas contribuciones se hagan sin condiciones, que sean canalizadas multilateralmente a través del Programa Mundial de Alimentos, como se especifica en las reglas vigentes. Y decimos esto porque es lamentable que cerca del 50 por ciento de las contribuciones que en 1981 se han hecho a la RAIE han sido destinadas por los donantes a proyectos concretos. Este procedimiento de condicionar las ayudas, de desvirtuar el carácter multilateral de la ayuda tiende a perpetuar la asistencia bilateral que ciertamente no corresponde a las características del PMA.

Creemos que el PMA sigue teniendo un espíritu válido para el desarrollo; apoyamos en general el enfoque que presentó nuestro colega y amigo argentino de nuevos campos para explotar y particularmente, como hizo el Consejo, estamos de acuerdo en que se haga compra de alimentos en los países en desarrollo eficientemente productores, porque así, como lo dijo el Consejo, se fomenta el desarrollo, se promueve la cooperación entre esos países y se ahorran costos de transporte.

Finalmente, señor Presidente, reiteramos nuestro apoyo al Proyecto de resolución que seguramente será acogido unánimemente por la Conferencia.

R. HIGHAM (Canada): Canada has from the outset of the World Food Programme been a strong supporter. We are today the second largest donor: we channel about half of our total food aid through this facility. Needless to say, we are very pleased with the Programme's record of achievements in using food aid as a development tool and for its ability to respond to emergency situations around the world.

We believe that the success of the World Food Programme as a development assistance and emergency food aid organization is due to two important features of its operations.

One is the voluntary nature of the pledging process which offers the Programme's managers a regular challenge to prove their effectiveness and to justify the sound arguments for using multilateral channels for food aid.

The second reason we credit to the Programme's success is the unusual degree of member participation in the resource allocation process in setting guidelines and policies for the Programme's managers, and in the approving, monitoring, and evaluating of projects.



We find great encouragement from the level of participation of the members of the CFA - the Committee of Food Aid - Policies and Programmes in this process and in the dialogue amongst us members which enables the Committee to operate on a consensus basis.

We also put great stock on the development bias of the Programme's projects, the emphasis on members of the least developed category of recipients, and also the emphasis on those countries which are themselves exhibiting frontline priority to developing their own agricultural sectors.

We would like to comment on the innovative and imaginative work being carried out by WFP Secretariat at present, in some cases on an experimental basis. These are attempts to find ways to stretch resources and reduce spending from the chronically short cash reserves. If these experiments prove successful, some of these ideas could go a long way towards addressing the problem of cash-to-resources balance. I am referring, of course, to the permission recently requested by the Secretariat to sell some commodities to recipient countries in order to assist them with internal transport costs. We are watching these innovations with interest and recognize the administrative and logistical challenge they represent for the Secretariat.

We are also concerned about the need to ensure such procedures do not upset internal markets or established external trading patterns.

On this question of cash-to-commodities balance, Canada is particularly gratified by the contribution to all World Food Aid programme resources by countries who even while experiencing food production deficits of their own, are in the fortunate position of being able to pledge in cash. Their role as donors is doubly important because of the contributions they make towards maximizing the flexibility of the Programme.

Of particular note in this connexion is the growing practice of the so-called triangular transactions. Here the Programme's cash resources can make important contributions towards increasing what I call effective demand in regional markets; purchases, for example, for Zimbabwe, for delivery to neighbouring countries is the best known current example of this.

Canada was able to participate in the consensus which endorsed the food pledging target at the CFA and at Council. In declaring our own intention to do our best to respond to these new demands, we call one more time on new and established World Food Programme donors to join us and share the pride we all have in the World Food Programme's continuing success.

On the question of emergencies, that is food for emergency use, as we all know there are two sources through the FAO/World Food Programme system, the resources which come from the Programme itself - I think \$45 million is tagged for emergency use - and also resources pledged for the International Emergency Food Reserve.

We are pleased progress has been made in recent months towards improving and stabilizing the level of resources available for emergencies. We are particularly pleased that members of the CFA recommend maintenance of the voluntary nature of the IEFER pledging while inviting longer term commitments from donors. Possibly this can be done by a process which will combine WFP and IEFER pledging into a single conference.

As is the case with the World Food Programme itself, we think that an emergency food aid operation should be developed which attracts donors because of its effectiveness and its utility rather than trying to create an obligatory pledging process or a binding convention.

Again, in parallel with the World Food Programme and its pledging and resource allocation cycle, we see merit in "fine-tuning" the allocation process for emergency food resources in a way which provides for active member participation. That is why we and some other members of the CFA have proposed some ideas for consideration for the next session for further improvements in this direction.

We are all aware of the limited resources available for emergency use and of the many competing demands on them for distribution. We are also aware of the dangers inherent in hastily planned food aid and the damage it can cause to recipient country agricultural sectors if it is not carefully distributed. We are convinced that this process of evolution of both sides of the emergency food aid activity of the World Food Programme and of the FAO, that is the pledging and the resource allocation process, is a healthy one and we look forward to giving it our full support along with fellow CFA members and observers.

Mme. G. ROSSI PEROTTI (Italie): Permettez-moi de remercier tout d'abord M. Brito pour son excellente et ponctuelle introduction à nos débats. L'exposé récapitulatif du Sommet de Cancún se réfère à l'aide alimentaire. Je cite la phrase en question: "L'aide alimentaire devrait être considérée comme un moyen temporaire à utiliser dans les situations d'urgence. De telles situations pourraient certes continuer d'apparaître au cours des prochaines années, et malheureusement pourraient peut-être même se multiplier. Cependant, l'aide alimentaire ne saurait se substituer en permanence au développement de la production alimentaire qui est nécessaire dans les pays en développement eux-mêmes".

Ce concept est totalement partagé par l'Italie. C'est pourquoi, comme nous l'avions déjà mis en relief au cours des travaux de la dernière session de la FAO, nous avons déployé des efforts particuliers en faveur du Programme alimentaire mondial dont la tâche principale doit rester celle de fournir l'aide au développement aux pays prioritaires et aux projets prioritaires.

Dans cette optique, ma délégation se rallie aux orateurs qui l'ont précédée et donne son adhésion tout entière à l'objectif du Programme alimentaire mondial pour la période 1983/84, avec l'espoir que cet objectif sera non seulement atteint, mais dépassé.

H. REDL (Austria) (original language: German): First I wish to thank Mr. de Brito for his excellent introduction to this theme. May I however to begin with concentrate on a problem which, in the light of the most recent discussions and introductory comments, is of particular importance? This also has an impact on the world food situation and we shall all probably find a recession of resources of the UNDP funds. In view of this situation we shall have to look at the question of how we are going to carry on from there and what must be done.

A constructive solution, we feel, would be for the Conference to launch an appeal to the UNDP donor countries to review their decision in order that the question of resources for FAO does not become too unbearable, particularly in a period of worldwide economic problems and crisis. The situation of the developing countries becomes increasingly acute, therefore the resources of FAO should be enhanced and not decreased.

May I now particularly say something about the World Food Programme? The Austrian Delegation studied with great interest the papers and discussions of this Conference with respect to the organization of the work and activities of the World Food Programme. We would like to state the following. The Programme should strive to avoid various counterproductive effects on agricultural production and the trade of the recipient countries and above all we should look at the impact of food aid on local production. The Third World will still depend for many years on imported food stocks from abroad; three forms of import come into consideration: one, commercial imports at market prices; two, imports at concessional conditions, subsidized deliveries, soft loans, etc.; and three, free food aid. These three kinds of food supplies are all intertwined in a complex manner and have their impact on the organization of self-sufficiency in developing countries. Aid deliveries can disturb the domestic production and markets. Low-priced imports may further hamstring any farming incentive producer priced policy and commercial supplies may also strain the payment capacity of such countries. We need not repeat here that the world food problem cannot be coped with only by way of trade or aid.

A decisive key to the solution lies in the economic and agricultural policy of the developing countries themselves. The strategic slogan should be "self-reliance". The strategic national food plan of self-reliance however should never be equated with self-sufficiency, in other words autarchy. It should be interpreted as a condition in which an economy can feed its own population, either by producing what it needs or by being solvent enough to pay for food imports.

In conclusion, may I point out that as was already stated in the Plenary by the Austrian Head of Delegation, Austria will continue, as in the past, in a constructive manner to contribute to the objectives of the World Food Programme and is prepared to support developing countries in their own efforts. Austria therefore supports the resolution before us concerning the pledging target for 1983/84.

J. GLISTRUP (Denmark): I would like to start by thanking Mr. de Brito for the very elaborate introduction he gave to the subject before us today. The Danish Government has been supporting the World Food Programme since its start and I would like to take this opportunity to compliment the Programme on the excellent work it is carrying out. Only a few weeks ago we participated in the 12th CFA where major decisions were reached and important steps were taken towards solving important issues on the agenda of the Committee.

I would therefore like to touch only upon a few points which we find important.

The resource situation of the Programme with a target of \$1 billion for 1981/82 has not been reached. This is a source of concern to us; nevertheless, my Government is supporting a resolution for the new pledging target of \$1.2 billion for the period 1983/84. In doing so we are of the opinion that the new target will not be reached unless new donors join the Programme and we are following recent developments in this field with interest. My Government is convinced that it would lead to a better utilisation of food aid if this were to a greater extent channeled through the World Food Programme. It would be of importance if increased quantities of grain from the Food Aid Convention were to be placed at the disposal of the Programme.

At this point I would like to reconfirm my government's willingness to continue our support for the Programme and to inform you that in order to stretch our resources even further we, together with Danish industry and the World Food Programme, have been working on the development of a new canned meat product of high nutritional value. This product is presently, being tested in the field and the results so far have been very promising. By introducing this new product we shall be able to increase our deliveries to the Programme for the same amount of funds.

During the 12th CFA we also spent some time discussing the Programme's work in emergency situations. My Government is of the opinion that the Programme should place priority on supporting development activities. However, a series of unfortunate events has led to the situation that in 1980 almost 30 per cent of the total resources available to the Programme were utilised in emergencies.

We are pleased to note that the discussion regarding the Programme's involvement in emergencies will continue and I would like to reconfirm the Danish Government's preparedness to participate actively in this debate.

Finally, we note with satisfaction that the target for the International Emergency Food Reserve of 500,000 tons of grain has been reached this year. My Government is supporting a proposal for pledging conferences every two years in order to assure an increasing and more stabilised contribution to IEFER.

S.P. MUKHERJEE (India): India has always been a very ardent supporter of the WFP and also the spirit which animates the WFP and its staff and its programme. As we see it, the WFP can be said to have been born out of the collective conscience of all the countries to save the poorest of the poor from starvation and from man-made and natural disasters. We feel that in the WFP, in Churchillian language, so much is being done with so little resources for so many people having so little. I feel that no world body in the United Nations Organization or outside has so much of the life ameliorating and life saving content as the WFP.

I have been associated with the CFA for the last five or six years and I have always advocated there that the WFP's food aid should be addressed so as to reduce the need for food aid for that country, I, am very happy to note that the WFP programme and policy is directed not to make people live on charity but to make them more and more self-reliant by giving food grains for such work as would create a durable asset for increasing agricultural production in those countries.

As you are aware, Mr. Chairman, in developing countries it is not so much the famine of food that bedevils them but it is the famine of work and of income and of employment that dogs them. The WFP by their food aid programmes have tried to generate employment in the rural areas in backward sections of the rural population, by taking up such work as irrigation, road building, and so on, which will give them income on the one hand and on the other the community will be enriched by the assets which will help them in increasing food production. In that way I feel that the value of this programme is doubly blessed: it is blessed for mercy and it is blessed for development. I feel this is a unique example of marrying programmes of development with programmes of mercy so that the people ultimately become the beneficiaries, become self-reliant and self-sufficient.

My delegation wishes to congratulate Mr. Brito for enabling WFP to reach certain record levels. Nothing less would be expected from a person like Mr. Brito with his dynamism, his mercurial personality and human sympathies. The record of 1.3 million tons of food shipment, the record of 85 percent of World Food Programme going to the low income countries, the record of 80 percent going for agricultural programmes and the record of 45 percent to be given to the very deprived area in Africa south of the Sahara, is something of which any organization and any person can be proud.

The Indian delegation fully supports the draft resolution.

I have carried with me from India an issue of Time Magazine dated October 26, 1981 because it contains a lot of information about the present situation of supplying of arms and arsenals to the various countries. In this magazine it is indicated that last year there was \$1 200 billion worth of arms transferred in the world in one year; \$1 200 billion! As against that, this target of \$1.2 billion for the World Food Programme is hardly one percent of the total value of arms transferred which took place last year. Surely, I feel, that the will to survive and the will to save mankind is more than one percent of the will to destroy and the will to die. In that context I feel that \$1.2 billion target which is one percent of the total value of arms transferred last year in the world, is not something which is beyond the reach of mankind and the people. The capacity of reaching \$1.2 billion of target for WFP is within our easy reach. What we need is the collective will, the collective compassion for the poor and the collective instinct to survive.

India thanks the World Food Programme and specially all those countries, major and minor, who have been contributing very liberally and generously to this world Organization and keeping the WFP and its Programmes alive so that man may live tomorrow.

The meeting rose at 13.15 hours

La séance est levée à 13 h 15

Se levanta la sesión a las 13.15 horas



## **conference**

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

## **conférence**

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

## **conferencia**

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION

C

C 81/II/PV/13

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Twenty-first Session

COMMISSION II

Vingt et unième session

COMMISSION II

21° período de sesiones

COMMISSION II

THIRTEENTH MEETING  
TREIZIEME SEANCE  
13ª SESION

(18 November 1981)

The Thirteenth Meeting was opened at 14.45 hours  
R. Steiner, Chairman of Commission II, presiding

La quatrième séance est ouverte à 14 h 45, sous la présidence de  
R. Steiner, Président de la Commission II

Se abre la 13ª sesión a las 14.45 horas bajo la presidencia de  
R. Steiner, Presidente de Comisión II

II - ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMES OF THE ORGANIZATION (continued)

II - ACTIVITES ET PROGRAMMES DE L'ORGANISATION (suite)

II - ACTIVIDADES Y PROGRAMAS DE LA ORGANIZACION (continuación)

14. United Nations/FAO World Food Programme (continued)

14. Programme alimentaire mondial ONU/FAO (suite)

14. Programa Mundial de Alimentos Naciones Unidas/FAO (continuación)

A. F. M. de FREITAS (Brazil): I will base my comments on documents C 81/7 and C 81/7 (a) containing the reports on the audited accounts.

In the first place, my delegation wishes to compliment the World Food Programme for the good marks given to it by the External Auditor, for the financial reports and statements of 1979 and 1980. This fact proves once more the high standards of management which has characterized the World Food Programme, not only in the past, but also today.

A brief examination of documents C 81/7 and C 81/7 (a) shows that the Administration of the WFP has been able to maintain the right distribution of scarce resources among a multitude of widely different needs, each one of them fully justifying the required allocation. If we consider the question of emergency aid, on the one hand, and development projects, on the other, we will have to admit that emergency operations, even though unavoidable, have not prevented the Programme from giving its full attention to projects directed to the support of development. My delegation recognizes that either natural or man-made catastrophes are unforeseeable, and that therefore, no reasonable allocation of resources can be decided beforehand. But even in this respect, we wish to express our approval for the cautious and efficient way this question has been handled by the WFP.

My delegation would also like to express its satisfaction with the criteria maintained by Mr. Bernardo de Azevedo Brito, in the allocation of resources among projects proposed and approved for the developing countries. My delegation believes that the proportion of more than 80% of projects assigned to LDC and MSA countries is correct, and I wish to compliment the Executive-Director ad interim for the impartiality the Programme has been able to preserve under his competent guidance. My delegation would like, at this point, to express the hope that the Executive-Director ad interim may be confirmed in his present position, for the benefit of both the donor countries, which will continue to have at the head of the WFP an able administrator, and of the recipient countries, which see in Mr. Brito a man acutely aware of the problems and plights of developing nations.

Finally, my delegation would like to express again its support for the pledging target approved during the last meeting of the CFA.

R. MORBACH (Germany, Federal Republic of) (original language German): First I would like to thank-Mr. Brito, the Executive-Director of the World Food Programme, for his very detailed introduction.

The Federal Republic of Germany has always shown great interest in the work of the World Food Programme since it was founded and has always been willing to support it and to participate fully in its work. This applies both to the CFA it-self and to practical cooperation in projects and programmes in recipient countries.

The Federal Government has supported the World Food Programme with regularly increased contributions to the regular resources. It realizes the need of cash contributions and meets with its contributions the requirements of the General Rules of the WFP. With a contribution of almost \$36 million for the biennium 1981-82, the Federal Republic of Germany is one of the larger donors to the WFP, whose total volume of pledges is about \$735 million. Despite the increasing economic problems and budget difficulties at home, the Federal Republic of Germany endeavours to make also in the future a significant contribution for the successful continuation of the work of the WFP.

As has already become apparent during the current biennium, where the target has not yet been reached to a level of 80 percent, the WFP will be faced with increased difficulties at a time of particularly limited funds for international cooperation to continue, or even expand the programme activities to the intended extend. Like other members of the CFA during the 12th Session in October, we expressed our doubts of the feasibility of reaching a pledging target of \$1.2 billion for the biennium 1983-84. We hope that new donors and those with centrally planned economies as well will come forward and that those who are traditional donors who are able to do so will increase their contributions so that the aforementioned target can be reached which we, however, consider unrealistic.

I would like to mention here that in the Federal Republic of Germany we agree with the consensus in the CFA. Increasing costs and limited resources draw our attention particularly to the use of resources in line with the criteria set and, to an efficient implementation of the measures. These questions were therefore also discussed in detail at the 12th Session of the CFA.

As regards the project proposals approved by the CFA we welcome the large share of about 80 percent of approved project pledges designed for poor food deficit countries. Also the technical priority of likewise about 80 percent in terms of value for agricultural and rural development projects finds our support.

In the focus of the 12th session of the CFA was the discussion of a study on food emergency operations, experiences, conclusions and proposals. It became evident that not only the proposals need further discussion, but also questions of principle such as how to deal with longer-term refugee problems, the delimitation between emergencies and situations of recurrent, structural crop deficits as well as the application of food emergency operations in such cases are not yet clarified sufficiently.

The complex of questions of food emergency operations and their clear delimitation against specific development projects is essential for the future work of WFP. We await with interest the result of the consultations between the Executive Director and interested donor and recipient countries and the continuation of the debate.

We are very pleased that during the 12th Session of the CFA on the question of improving the International Emergency Food Reserve (IEFR) there was a general consensus that in the future joint pledging conferences will be convened with voluntary two-year pledges both for regular WFP resources and for the IEFR. This proposal shows the way towards a greater continuity and predictability of the IEFR and keeps it at the same time open to the greatest possible extent through the principle of voluntary action for contributions of new and flexible adaptations of traditional donors.

Here we should also point out the suggestions for improving the decision-making process on and for the implementation of food emergency operations which, inter alia, comprise the strengthening of the role of the CFA by setting up a small standing subcommittee to consult on emergency operations. Apart from speeding up and improving the process of implementation above all transparency and efficiency of the allocation decisions as well as the optimum coordination with the activities of other donors are the vital pre-requisites to strengthening the confidence and cooperation possibilities of the governments in donor countries.

As regards the sale of grain from food aid resources to cover the internal costs in the least developed countries no decision was taken at the October session of the CFA. This subject will be dealt with at the 13th Session in April 1982. As regards this question we clearly give preference to maintaining the principles of the WFP which have proved over other proposed solutions. Therefore all possibilities should be exhausted to improve the cash flow situation, namely that the contributions are in line with their share of cash resources and that other donors who are able to do so make or increase cash contributions.

M.M. MUGKOLWE (Kenya): I would like first of all to start off by complimenting or expressing our thanks and appreciation to Dr. Brito for the work that he has presented to us and the lucid information that he has given the Commission on the World Food Programme. We in Kenya feel this a very vital and important Programme for us, and also looking at the other regions of Africa and particularly when we have about 45 percent of the amount that has been voted for this coming biennium going to the most unprivileged areas upon the Continent, this is a word that we should be very grateful about.

I would also like to say that comprehending the ideals, objectives and goals of the WFP we wish to urge that the Programmed activities in developing countries be increased so that the poor and most needy can benefit even more. We are, however, concerned that these noble ideas or aims can be frustrated. This concern arises out of the fact that the resources of the Programme have not been fully met. For example; the target of an International Emergency Food Reserve of at least 500 000 tons of grain per annum has not been attained. Last month, the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes reiterated the need to strengthen this reserve. We cannot help calling for increased contributions to the reserve from both existing and new donors. We also appreciate the contributions from the OPEC countries and others who are thinking of increasing their shares, as mentioned by Colombia.

We wish to underline the international nature of such contributions and the need for the maximum possible flexibility. We support the idea of a pledging conference in the near future and hope that this Conference will also work out a just and acceptable insurance for the pledged contributions.



In this connexion, we hope that it will accept some legally binding arrangement. Still on this reserve, we wish to request donors that 30 to 40 percent of the International Emergency Food Reserve contributions should be in cash to facilitate speedy action.

On emergency operations, we commend the WFP's recent comprehensive evaluation of the Programme's Emergency Operation and endorse the recommendations made in the study. We wish in particular to underline our support to a partial shift in WFP assistance from purely relief operations to development-oriented projects. Borrowing of food locally or in a region near the emergency areas should be encouraged whenever possible, as this would reduce transport costs and even stimulate food production in the region. We support all measures to reduce the time lag between requests for food and delivery.

Finally, we commend the decision of the last month's Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes and by the Council to approve the WFP target of \$1.2 million for 1983-84.

M. ABDELHEDI (Tunisie) (langue originale arabe): La délégation tunisienne voudrait tout d'abord féliciter chaleureusement la FAO et le PAM pour le rôle déterminant que ces deux organisations jouent dans la lutte contre la faim et la malnutrition.

An nom de la délégation de la Tunisie, je voudrais en particulier féliciter M. Brito pour l'excellent exposé qu'il a fait ce matin.

Les problèmes de l'alimentation et de l'agriculture préoccupent toute l'humanité; de la réussite des efforts entrepris par ces deux organisations dépend en grande partie le succès du développement économique et social. Cependant, on constate que, malgré les efforts déployés, l'aide alimentaire était et demeure un élément essentiel et primordial.

Il est inutile de rappeler ici l'expérience considérable et l'efficacité acquise par le PAM en matière d'aide alimentaire. Cette organisation est aujourd'hui l'élément le plus valable de distribution de cette forme d'assistance.

Ma délégation se référant au point 14 de l'ordre du jour, voudrait exprimer son approbation quant à l'objectif de contributions volontaires aux ressources du PAM, objectif fixé à 1,2 milliard de dollars de contributions volontaires pour les deux années 1983 et 1984. Nous recommandons que la Conférence générale de la FAO approuve cet objectif. Cependant, la délégation de mon pays considère que cet objectif est un minimum. Elle demande instamment à la Communauté internationale d'œuvrer de manière à éviter que cette aide ne soit diminuée car aujourd'hui le besoin de cette aide se fait sentir plus que jamais. En effet, si nous tenons compte des taux de l'inflation, nous constatons que le volume des ressources du PAM en valeur réelle n'aura pas enregistré la progression requise pour la période 1983/84; en fait ces ressources auront simplement été maintenues à leur niveau actuel, et ce volume d'aide risque de diminuer si l'inflation et les coûts venaient à dépasser 10%.

S.V. HAGEN (Norway): I will try my best to help you, Mr. Chairman, in making the debate as short as possible. My delegation just wants to reiterate the strong Norwegian support for the World Food Programme. As a major contributor to the Programme, the Norwegian Government has followed its activities closely, under the able leadership of the late Jerry Vogel and subsequently of Executive Director and Interim, Mr. Brito.

My delegation can pronounce itself in general satisfied with the work done by the Programme. My delegation would especially commend the Programme for keeping the administration costs at a relatively low level. The World Food Programme can count on continued support from Norway. The Norwegian delegation will, of course, accept the pledging target for 1983-84 proposed after lengthy deliberations in CFA and the Council. We do, however, confess that we find the target ambitious and that no doubt new donors will have to contribute significantly to the Programme if the target is to be set. - In this connexion, my delegation welcomes the recent contribution of US \$25 million by the OPEC Fund which we consider as a breakthrough for the Programme. My delegation congratulates the Executive Director ad Interim and his staff and the director of the Research Management Division, Mr. El Midani, for the successful negotiations leading to this pledge.

The Executive Director ad Interim gave a detailed and well-formed introduction to documents 81/LIM/10 and 22. Of the many elements mentioned, let me only express the satisfaction of the Norwegian delegation for the high proportion of the resources going to low-income food-deficit countries. We also welcome that WFP food purchases are increasingly made in developing countries. The efforts of the Programme to diversify its project designs to ensure greater compatibility with specific conditions of countries and regions are appreciated and should be strengthened.

Mlle M. MUSSO (France): Je voudrais d'abord remercier le Directeur Exécutif par Intérim, M. de Brito, de son exposé introductif qui nous a paru très complet et très instructif.

Je voudrais ensuite exprimer l'accord de la délégation française sur l'objectif de contribution du biennium 83-84 de 1.200.000.000 dollars, tel qu'il a été approuvé à la dernière session du CPA du PAM, et tel qu'il est soumis à notre Conférence dans le projet de résolution.

Nous pensons que le niveau de cet objectif est justifié, eu égard aux besoins, et que, comme on l'a d'ailleurs déjà dit au CPA, ce niveau permet au PAM de maintenir son action à la hauteur actuelle en raison de l'augmentation des produits et services.

Nous sommes toutefois conscients des difficultés en raison de la préoccupante situation économique mondiale, difficultés que le PAM risque de rencontrer dans l'avenir, et nous demandons instamment aux pays qui ne participent pas encore au PAM, et essentiellement aux pays à économie centralement planifiée, de contribuer au budget du PAM et à la réserve alimentaire internationale d'urgence.

Nous nous félicitons de la contribution annoncée récemment par le Fonds de l'OPEP, car nous croyons que l'aide alimentaire et l'aide au développement en général doivent être le fait de la communauté internationale tout entière. Il nous paraît choquant de voir un certain nombre de pays se désolidariser quasi complètement de l'effort que les autres pays développés et que les pays en développement eux-mêmes consentent en vue de l'amélioration de la situation des agriculteurs du tiers monde et de la restauration des économies paysannes des pays en développement.

La participation de ces donateurs potentiels nous paraît indispensable en vue d'atteindre l'objectif et nous souhaiterions que la Conférence leur lance un appel pressant, afin de les mettre en face de leurs responsabilités, de leurs coresponsabilités devrais-je dire, dans la mise en oeuvre d'un système de sécurité alimentaire mondial et dans l'aide au développement rural des pays en développement.

Les donateurs traditionnels quant à eux feront, nous en sommes sûrs, tous leurs efforts en vue d'aider à atteindre l'objectif de 1 200 000 000 de \$.

La France pour sa part, après avoir quasiment doublé sa contribution pour 1982, continuera à augmenter sa contribution au budget ordinaire du PAM, afin d'aider à ce que l'objectif soit atteint.

Dans le même esprit de coopération, nous avons donné notre accord à l'établissement d'une conférence de contributions pour la réserve alimentaire internationale d'urgence, afin que le PAM puisse être mieux à même de répondre aux besoins d'urgence.

Certains diront qu'en acceptant cet objectif de 1 200 000 000, les membres du CPA, ont fait preuve d'optimisme. Peut-être sommes nous optimistes, mais l'espoir nous paraît être une des données fondamentales indispensables à l'action et à la réussite des entreprises humaines.

En outre, cet optimisme nous semble être le meilleur témoignage de la satisfaction exprimée par la totalité des membres du CPA, satisfaction de l'action des fonctionnaires et des agents de terrain du PAM et de la contribution fondamentale du programme au développement rural des pays en développement et, en particulier, des pays les moins avancés.

Enfin, cet optimisme reflète la confiance que les gouvernements membres du PAM témoignent à M. Brito pour son inlassable activité, pour la compétence et le dévouement avec lesquels il dirige le programme, depuis le décès du regretté M. Vogel, dont nous saluons ici la mémoire. Nous apprécions la façon dont le Directeur exécutif par interim s'acquitte de la tâche qu'il a entreprise, et nous sommes sûrs qu'il continuera à l'avenir à s'en occuper à la satisfaction des pays membres du PAM.

Le sort du programme alimentaire mondial nous tient particulièrement à coeur. Son originalité, son approche spécifique des problèmes de développement en font un des meilleurs et un des plus efficaces outils de la coopération internationale, éloigné des stériles confrontations politiques et tout entier tendu vers l'assistance aux populations paysannes du tiers monde.

Nous souhaitons au programme et à M. Brito d'avoir plein succès dans leur action pour sortir les peuples pauvres de la planète du cycle infernal de la faim et de la malnutrition.

Md. ABDUL AZIZ PASHA (Bangladesh): At the very outset I would like to congratulate Mr. Brito, the Executive Director ad interim, for his excellent introduction to the subject under discussion.

As explained by Mr. Brito, and also in document C 81/LIM/10, the target of the current biennium is near to US\$ one billion, and the proposed pledging target for the biennium 1983/84 is \$1.2 billion.

Taking into account the increased demand from the recipient countries, our country is one of the largest recipients of this programme. For the self-reliance in food production and also of the increased programme delivery of the WFP, the proposed increase for 1983/84 perhaps is the barest minimum.

In this connexion my delegation fully endorses the views of the delegate from India when he said that when a large amount could be spent on armaments, the small enhancement of the WFP target should not present any problems, WFP being one of the most important international agencies for the alleviation of human suffering. My delegation therefore supports the Draft Resolution adopted in the last CPA Council for the pledging target of \$1.2 billion for 1983/84, and urges the affluent donor countries to help reach the target.

My delegation also appreciates the persistent efforts made by the Executive Director to persuade the other international agencies and the affluent countries to be more generous to WFP.

In this connexion, my delegation expresses satisfaction for the US\$25 million contribution by the OPEC Fund, and also thanks Austria and Spain for making voluntary contributions to the International Energy Food Reserve.

My delegation also extends thanks for the generous commitment to the contribution by Argentina, Australia and Italy to WFP, which will not only help reach the target, but will also exceed it.

As regards the cash resources for the programme activities, my delegation is of the opinion that at least one-third of the resources available should be placed in cash, which my delegation believes will give more flexibility and leverage to the effective programme delivery.

Y.A. HAMDY (Egypt) (Original language Arabic): The Egyptian delegation, having read the CFA report and having heard the excellent introduction that was made by Mr. Brito, who is the Director of the Programme, believes that the pledging target set for the WFP for the 1983/84 biennium of \$1 200 million is a balanced figure, and we feel that this is the minimum vital, to remain at the same volume of food aid provided by the WFP.

Therefore my country has approved and continues to support the Resolution in Document C 81/LIM/22 as regards the pledging target for WFP.

My delegation supports the WFP activities. The idea aimed at diversifying the concepts of food-aid programmes so that food aid corresponds properly to the needs of the developing countries. We also support the priorities and targets of the Programme, and we are satisfied with what the Programme has achieved and the way in which it is administered.

S. TAZI (Maroc) (langue originale arabe): La délégation de mon pays voudrait tout d'abord exprimer sa reconnaissance à M. Brito, pour la clarté de l'exposé qu'il nous a fait ce matin. Nous souhaiterions de même féliciter le responsable du programme pour l'amélioration constatée dans les activités et pour les efforts qu'il déploie en vue d'assurer un équilibre entre les opérations relatives aux projets de développement et les opérations exécutées dans le cadre de l'aide d'urgence.

Le Maroc a suivi les discussions qui ont eu lieu sur le point objet du débat, c'est à dire l'objectif de contribution. Nous avons participé au débat au cours des 11ème et 12ème sessions de la Commission des politiques de programmes d'aide alimentaire et au cours de la dernière session du Conseil. Nous estimons que ce chiffre est un minimum, comme l'ont dit les délégués de Tunisie et d'Egypte, nous estimons encore plus que ce chiffre ne nous laisse pas une grande marge de manoeuvre, car il est basé sur deux estimations. On estime que le niveau de l'aide alimentaire demeurera au niveau actuel ou qu'il augmentera peu au cours de l'année prochaine; de même ce chiffre est basé sur une stabilité dans le nombre des cas d'urgence que connaît le monde.

C'est pourquoi nous considérons ce chiffre comme un minimum et un moyen terme entre ceux qui réclament une augmentation des contributions et ceux qui demandent leur maintien au niveau précédent. C'est donc un moyen terme qui tient compte de l'augmentation des besoins et également de la situation économique mondiale actuelle, en particulier, des difficultés que connaissent certains pays donateurs.

De même, nous sommes favorables aux opérations tripartites compte tenu de leurs avantages: tout d'abord, l'achat de produits vivriers dans les régions proches; puis le fait qu'elles permettent de diminuer les frais de transport et d'acheminement de l'aide. En outre, elles contribuent à renforcer la collaboration.

Nous sommes également d'accord sur l'appel tendant à améliorer le niveau de contributions données en espèces ou sous forme de services, afin d'éviter que les frais relatifs au transport et aux services soient prélevés sur les ressources ordinaires du programme.

Nous exprimons notre inquiétude quant à l'augmentation du volume de l'aide alimentaire fournie à travers des systèmes bilatéraux, et nous partageons l'inquiétude exprimée par le délégué de la Colombie, qui a demandé qu'on accroisse l'aide alimentaire multilatérale, en particulier à travers le programme alimentaire mondial, compte tenu des avantages que présente l'aide multilatérale.

Pour ce qui est de la réserve alimentaire Internationale d'urgence, nous avons entendu avec plaisir l'idée exprimée par M. Brito, concernant l'efficacité à donner à cette réserve. Nous avons l'espoir de parvenir à garantir cette efficacité à travers l'adoption de la première recommandation faite par le Directeur généré et par le Secrétaire général des Nations Unies, concernant la transformation de la réserve alimentaire internationale d'urgence en une convention ayant force de loi.

Si nous ne pouvons parvenir à cet objectif, nous aurions souhaité qu'on adopte la solution à moyen terme, préconisée lors de la réunion du CPA relative à la transformation de la moitié de cette réserve en une convention ayant force de loi, et en maintenant l'autre moitié telle quelle. Cependant, il semble qu'on ne s'achemine pas vers cette solution. C'est pourquoi nous exprimons certaines réserves et souhaitons que le CPA, au mois d'avril 1982, étudie à nouveau cette question afin de parvenir à une solution qui soit plus en harmonie avec les besoins de nos pays.

D'autant plus que nous considérons que le caractère volontaire que nombre de délégations veulent maintenir en ce qui concerne l'aide alimentaire ne permettra pas au programme d'établir une programmation de ces activités alors que nous estimons que cette programmation est absolument indispensable.

Nous estimons que l'augmentation de l'efficacité des activités du programme, qu'il s'agisse de l'aide alimentaire ou de la réserve alimentaire internationale d'urgence, ne peut se faire séparément. A notre avis, elle est liée à l'amélioration qui doit être apportée aux dispositions relatives à la coopération, parmi lesquelles figure la Convention internationale sur le blé. Nous lançons un appel afin que cette Convention soit renouvelée et qu'elle comporte des dispositions ayant force de loi pour assurer l'efficacité de la réserve alimentaire internationale.

Je voudrais, en conclusion, dire que le Royaume du Maroc exprime sa profonde reconnaissance pour l'aide qu'il a reçue à travers le PAM et à travers les institutions des Nations Unies cette année, aide qu'il a pu obtenir avec rapidité et qui lui a permis de surmonter une période très difficile due à la sécheresse qu'a connue notre pays au cours de la dernière campagne.

Mme PHAN THI MINH (Viet Nam): Nous pensons que le PAM fait partie des organisations des Nations Unies qui ont le mieux servi les pays en développement. Il a aidé le monde à résoudre le paradoxe cruel que constitue l'accumulation d'énormes excédents agricoles invendables dans un petit nombre de pays développés, avec tout le gaspillage que cela comporte, tandis que la faim est le lot commun d'un nombre incomparablement plus grand de pays.

Le PAM, ce jeune homme de vingt ans, issu de la mère FAO et du père Nations Unies, avec les bons offices de sage-femmes comme les pays de mes voisins de gauche, est là pour servir en même temps les contributeurs et les bénéficiaires. Il les a bien servis durant ses vingt années de son existence. Il a aidé les pays développés à écouler environ 5 milliards de dollars de produits agricoles, et ces produits ont aidé 113 pays à réaliser quelques 1 100 projets de développement.

Le secrétariat du PAM, avec M. Vogel, que nous avons connu et regretté, avec M. Brito qui assume l'intérim, a fait preuve de beaucoup d'efforts louables, de courage et d'initiative.

L'aide importante accordée au Viet Nam, durant les trois premières années après la guerre, récemment le train de maïs du Zimbabwe qui a aidé ce pays à écouler ses excédents pour avoir des recettes en devises, "les Africains nourris par les Africains" comme vient de le dire M. Brito, est une preuve de cet esprit d'initiative.

Nous soutenons entièrement le Programme d'assistance au développement du PAM, en particulier les programmes d'aide des pays du continent africain en déficit alimentaire. Cette organisation, avec toute sa responsabilité dans la lutte contre la faim mérite qu'on cherche à la consolider, à l'améliorer et à empêcher toute tendance d'une utilisation perverse de ce système.

Nous pensons qu'une analyse franche, sans hypocrisie, sans fausse pudeur ou crainte de représailles, est nécessaire pour arriver à des améliorations adéquates.

Tout le monde est au courant du scandale qui a eu lieu au CPA 12 sur le projet du Viet Nam. Je m'abstiens de m'étendre sur le déroulement des faits et l'absurdité de cette scène: la colère indignée d'un grand nombre de membres du CPA, la consternation dans l'auditoire, l'embarras au sein du PAM et même la FAO, dans le personnel, la réaction de l'opinion publique dans les mass médias occidentaux, tout cela en dit déjà long.

Je m'abstiens aussi de profiter de cette tribune pour mener une contre-attaque politique, d'ailleurs bien justifiée, contre cette puissance qui a détruit mon pays.

Je voudrais parler seulement de trois questions préoccupantes:

1. la politique de la faim contre la lutte pour l'indépendance et le développement du tiers monde menée par certaines puissances contre le Viet Nam en particulier;
2. l'attitude pour le moins irresponsable de certaines puissances à l'égard du PAM;
3. nos réflexions sur certaines méthodes de travail.

Quant au premier point, la politique de la faim contre les pays du tiers-monde et le Viet Nam en particulier, dans cette enceinte on parle beaucoup de la lutte contre la faim, des mesures à prendre à l'échelle internationale, régionale et nationale. Mais il faut parler aussi des attitudes et des positions politiques qui entravent et menacent de détruire les résultats de cette lutte. Plusieurs pays, en séance plénière ou dans les Commissions, se sont élevés contre l'utilisation de l'aide alimentaire comme arme politique contre les pays du tiers-monde. Il faut aussi parler des politiques qui agissent dans le sens contraire. Nous savons que grâce à son niveau de développement, et ses conditions naturelles particulièrement favorables, certaine puissance se trouve être encombrée d'excédents agricoles invendables vu le manque de devises des pays dévalorisés. Le gouvernement de ce pays a pris une initiative géniale: une législation permet au gouvernement d'employer l'argent du budget national pour acheter des vivres, ces vivres invendables, et les donner en aide aux pays nécessiteux. Cela permet au gouvernement de ce pays de disposer, en dehors de son arsenal militaire, d'une arme redoutable pour les populations affamées du monde en développement: la nourriture. En plus du titre de puissance industrielle et militaire, on peut encore l'appeler "puissance alimentaire". Récemment cette politique a été proclamée bien haut. On a proclamé la politique de restriction, de sélection, de renforcement des critères -sous-entendu critères politiques - en matière d'assistance au tiers-monde. On impose des conditions politiques, économiques ou même militaires aux pays sur le plan alimentaire, connaissant parfaitement les difficultés actuelles dans les pays déficitaires. On va continuer à abuser encore de l'utilisation de cet excédent de nourriture pour agir contre les pays nécessiteux.

Nous croyons de notre devoir d'apporter à la Communauté internationale quelques témoignages sur cette guerre de la faim qu'on mène actuellement contre le monde, et contre notre peuple en particulier.

L'ancien agresseur a bloqué nos avoirs en devises dans les banques sous son contrôle et actuellement il s'oppose systématiquement...

LE PRESIDENT: Mme le déléguée du Viet Nam, je voudrais vous rappeler que nous discutons actuellement du problème du PAM, et j'aimerais que l'on s'abstienne de considérations politiques qui ne sont pas entièrement liées au sujet que nous discutons actuellement. Je vous prie de faire preuve de compréhension et je vous donne à nouveau la parole.

Mme PHAN THI MINH (Viet Nam): Actuellement, c'est à travers l'aide alimentaire internationale que ce pays agit pour utiliser la politique de la faim contre notre pays...

POINT OF ORDER

POINT D'ORDRE

PUNTO DE ORDEN

J. MOORE (United States of America): I regret very much interrupting this discussion but, as you said a moment ago, we are discussing a document before us and I find that the representative from Viet Nam is using this solely as a political platform, which I regret very much and which I think is totally inappropriate. I would appreciate it if she would follow your instructions.

Mme PHAN THI MINH (Viet Nam): J'en viens à la deuxième question: l'ingérence politique dans les affaires du PAM.

Avec la création du PAM et la vocation des pays du tiers-monde en faveur de l'aide multilatérale, avec toutes les contraintes souvent graves que l'aide bilatérale comporte, cette puissance verse une partie de ses excédents au PAM. Elle est le plus grand contributeur. Mais elle ne laisse pas ses ressources devenir réellement multilatérales. On sait que la presque totalité de l'aide versée par cette puissance au PAM, même à titre d'urgence, est une aide donnée pour tel ou tel pays et non pas à tel ou tel pays. Même l'aide d'urgence est livrée sous une forme discriminatoire.

Le délégué de cette puissance souligne l'aide qui a été donnée aux réfugiés dans plusieurs pays, en particulier au Kampuchea.

Tout en manifestant notre soutien pour l'aide au Kampuchea, et aussi aux vrais réfugiés, je voudrais dire un mot sur l'aide apportée aux soi-disants réfugiés de ce pays.

Il est de notoriété publique que les vivres de cette puissance sont destinés à nourrir et à renforcer les débris de l'armée de Polpot qui, avec les armes fournies à profusion par la puissance qui les soutient, survivent, repassent la frontière pour troubler la renaissance de la population du Kampuchea...

POINT OF ORDER

POINT D'ORDRE

PUNTO DE ORDEN

J. MOORE (United States of America): I find this speech completely inappropriate. It does not pertain at all to the discussion and is totally political. I do not understand how it is allowed to continue to go on this way. The fact that the representative might have made a mistake and mentioned my country by name - and it was fairly obvious whom she was talking about from the beginning - I find totally inappropriate. I certainly wish that she would stick to the subject.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you, the delegate of the United States of America.

Mme le délégué du Viet Nam, il y a un point d'ordre du délégué des Etats-Unis. Est-ce que vous pourriez vous limiter au sujet que nous traitons maintenant?

Mme PHAN THI MINH (Viet Nam): Monsieur le Président, je parle de l'assistance alimentaire du PAM aux différents pays. Je me permets de transmettre ici un message du Gouvernement populaire de la République du Kampuchea.

Nos amis du Kampuchea, qui ne sont pas encore représentés à cette Conférence, nous demandent de relever quelques détails qui figurent dans leur document qui a été distribué sur l'assistance aux réfugiés du Kampuchea en territoire voisin. On mentionne que dans les camps de HCR, le nombre de réfugiés diminue par suite du rapatriement volontaire, tandis que dans les autres, administrés par l'armée de ces voisins, le nombre de réfugiés augmente rapidement. La nourriture achetée dans ce pays voisin leur sera distribuée par le biais de l'armée du pays voisin.

En 1981, le rapport de l'aide alimentaire a fléchi en faveur de l'aide à ces camps de réfugiés par rapport à l'aide à l'intérieur du territoire. En 1982, tandis que l'assistance au Kampuchea proprement dit reste vague, on parle de 2 millions par mois et un mois de réserve pour ces pauvres réfugiés dans les camps administrés par l'armée.

Monsieur le Président, permettez-moi de conclure de cet état de chose qu'il y a un réel danger, sous couvert de l'aide multilatérale, qu'une politique de l'utilisation de l'aide alimentaire se pratique à travers le PAM à moindre frais et à moindre résistance de la part des contribuables, et cela est moins voyant pour le public international.

Nous voudrions joindre notre voix à celle de plusieurs délégués pour demander que l'aide donnée au PAM soit sans condition, sur une base réellement multilatérale.

Mais ce qui s'est passé récemment au CPA 12 nous met devant un aspect beaucoup plus grave de l'ingérence étrangère dans les activités du PAM. Cette même puissance a employé des mesures de pression, de marchandage et l'utilisation de certaines procédures de travail pour bloquer l'aide multilatérale du PAM dans un projet mal vu par elle, à savoir le projet du Viet Nam.

Dans la séance du projet du Viet Nam on assiste...

POINT OF ORDER

POINT D'ORDRE

PUNTO DE ORDEN

J. MOORE (United States of America): On a point of order, I do not know how long it is going to be permitted for this to continue. This is not CFA 12, we are not discussing projects; we are discussing particularly a document in the Conference with regard to the target for the next biennium. The speaker from Viet Nam continues to go back to the same subject, to cast aspersions on my country. Really I am getting enough of it and I hope the Chairman will do something about it.

CHAIRMAN: I have taken note of your statement, delegate of the United States, and I hope the delegate of Viet Nam will return to her subject. Thank you.

Mme PHAN THI MINH (Viet Nam):... dans la séance de l'examen du projet du Viet Nam, on assiste à un véritable veto d'une minorité contre un projet soutenu par la majorité des membres du CPA.

En d'autres termes, on peut dire que non contente de l'emploi de ses propres vivres comme arme politique, cette puissance essaie, à travers le PAM, d'utiliser les vivres d'autres pays...

LE PRESIDENT: Mme la déléguée du Viet Nam, je voudrais bien que vous vous en teniez au sujet que nous discutons maintenant.

Mme PHAN THI MINH (Viet Nam): Je termine en émettant quelques réflexions sur certaines méthodes de travail et de procédure. Le CPA travaille et décide par consensus. Le consensus est une notion très belle, c'est même la meilleure. Nous concevons parfaitement l'attachement des pays au consensus, mais comme les idées des membres du CPA sont diamétralement opposées, quand une nette majorité se prononce pour un projet faut-il laisser une minorité abuser de la notion de consensus, pour bloquer l'approbation? A notre avis, une conception plus souple, plus juste, du consensus, qui a prévalu jusqu'à maintenant dans les activités du PAM, doit être appliquée dans tous les cas sans exception; la minorité des membres qui s'opposent à un projet émettent leur point de vue et s'abstiennent d'envoyer leurs vivres à ce projet. On doit laisser à la majorité favorable le droit de décider, comme dans toute autre organisation démocratique, les donateurs favorables envoyant leurs vivres au projet apprécié. Ainsi, on ne laisse point à une minorité, au nom d'un consensus, imposer sa politique à une majorité. Si cette conception juste du consensus s'avère inacceptable pour certains, il est préférable de passer franchement au vote.

Une dernière suggestion: la procédure demandant que la délégation du pays intéressé quitte la salle pendant la délibération et la prise de décision du Conseil mérite aussi une réflexion. Cette méthode n'a jamais été controversée dans le passé, parce que, sur les 1 100 projets présentés, aucun n'a été rejeté. Mais, après le cas sans précédent du Viet Nam, pourquoi ne pas laisser les délégués du pays auteur du projet entendre les commentaires, les appréciations ou les critiques sur leur projet? Pourquoi ne pas leur donner le droit de le défendre et d'éclaircir les questions en litige?

Il est à remarquer que, dans le cas du projet du Viet Nam, on n'a même pas donné la parole au Secrétariat pour qu'il fournisse des explications, comme pour les 1 100 cas précédents. Mais, pour revenir à notre proposition sur cette procédure, il nous paraît nécessaire et équitable de laisser les délégués assister et participer aux débats, comme on le fait au Conseil du PNUD ou de l'UNICEF par exemple.

Pour terminer, permettez-moi de remercier le Secrétariat d'avoir présenté notre projet au CPA/12. Nous louons chaleureusement l'attitude responsable de la grande majorité des délégués des pays Membres du CPA, en particulier de la Hongrie, de l'Inde, de Cuba, de l'Angola, de la Suède, du Lesotho, des Pays-Bas, du Danemark, de la France, du Kenya, du Sierra Leone, qui ont défendu les principes du PAM, qui ont appelé à l'impartialité, à la non-discrimination, à la sauvegarde du statut et de cet objectif du PAM, à la non-politisation de l'aide alimentaire.

R.E. STENSHOLT (Australia): We join with others in expressing our warm appreciation for the activities of the Programme as described for us today with clarity by Mr. Brito, the acting Executive Director. We too are happy to fully support the proposed target of \$1.2 billion for the regular resources of the World Food Programme in 1983-84.

Australia has been and will continue to be a strong supporter of the World Food Programme. We contribute to all three windows of the Programme - regular resources, additional contributions under FAC and the IEFR - and have been able to increase substantially our support for each of these this year. We appreciate in particular the project orientation of the programme and believe that this has been a significant factor in ensuring continued support for the programme which relies on voluntary contributions. In fact, a feature of the CFA Meeting has been the in-depth discussion of project proposals. A further feature has been the imaginative problem-solving approach of the Programme and its officers which has been felt, for example, in regard to making optimum use of available cash resources, local purchasing of food, and in arranging transport.

We support the emphasis on development projects as well as appreciating the valuable role the Programme plays in providing emergency food aid. Certainly, emergency food aid needs are large and there is a need to ensure that the involvement and the response by all parties, particularly Member Nations or countries of the CFA, is both prompt and appropriate. In this context we look forward to the finalisation of the current review of emergencies at the next meeting of the CFA and its discussion of all the various proposals which have been put before it.

With regard to emergency resources we are pleased that the IEFR target looks like being reached this year, thanks to the numerous contributions by both new and traditional donors. We also believe that the generous response of donors to specific appeals has played a large role in raising the level of the IEFR in recent years.

Furthermore, we welcome the emergent consensus on the holding of a biennial pledging conference for the IEFR jointly with that for the regular programme resources of the WFP and, hopefully, the first such joint one will be held next March. We believe that this could serve to strengthen appropriately the IEFR mechanism and ensure a continuous flow of resources.

Finally, with regard to both the target for the current biennium and the new target proposed for the 1983-84 biennium, we appeal to both traditional and particularly to all potential donors to make every effort to ensure that the targets are reached.

Ms. J. SZANTO (Hungary). First of all let me express our appreciation to Mr. Brito for his excellent introductory remarks on the activities of the programme.

On behalf of the Hungarian delegation I would like to state that Hungary is in full agreement with the pledging target of WFP for the period of 1983-84 outlined in the document before us. In the light of the deliberations performed at the Plenary it is obvious that the demands for food aid are ever upgrading and the requirements for assistance are big challenges from developing countries. On the other hand, donor countries have been unable even this year to accomplish our present pledging target. Nevertheless it is obvious that more pledges are needed in order to meet our objectives.



Hungary appreciates the activities and effects of WFP and has always taken an active part in the work of the CFA. I would like to assure the Secretariat that we will give our fullest support to its endeavours in the future as well. Therefore my Government has decided to raise its contribution to the programme by 10 percent by the first of January 1982. WFP is the best authority where pledges and resources have been used and channelled to those places where disasters and calamities struck or where they were destined for social and economic development. Acknowledging the success of WFP in accomplishing the expectations from developing countries, here I would like to make a further comment on one of the outcomes of the last CFA meeting. As is clear to many delegates the approval of a project for a country has been postponed until the following spring session of the programme, which in our view was not justified. The Secretariat was not able to defend its standpoint in the debate and could not respond adequately to the minority of the CFA members who were against the approval of this project on a so-called technical basis.

If we were all agree that WFP works on a humanitarian basis merely well-based technical criticism should be accepted as to the projects for approval according to the criteria laid down by CFA for development projects. Integrity and continuity of the activities of WFP depend upon whether we can keep free food aid from any political condition. That country is a low-income food deficit country. Their development plan has been severely hampered by a series of natural calamities. There is only one WFP project in operation at present which is to be completed early next year. We very much hope that this project will be finally approved by CFA at its spring session next year.

Finally let me tell you that Hungary has faith and trust in WFP and again my delegation would like to assure you that Hungary endorses the proposed target of US \$ 1.2 billion for the biennium.

WANG SHOU RU (China) (original language Chinese): First of all I would like to thank Mr. Brito for the concise and clear introduction he has given on the subject.

The World Food Programme and the CFA have done excellent work in the past two years. In the activities they have not only taken care of the emergency needs of disaster-stricken areas in the world but have also continued to stress on supporting the development of agricultural production in poorer regions.

At the regional level, the real needs of food-deficit developing countries have already been met and particularly those of some African countries. We believe this is a correct policy for the distribution of food aid.

Practice has already proved that fruitful results have been obtained from the work. Therefore we fully support the work done in the past two years.

As for the pledging target for the biennium 1983-84 the Chinese delegation has already stated its position very clearly in the past sessions. We believe that as the food security situation in the world is still precarious, we think that the World Food Programme's tasks are of still greater importance. Therefore, full guarantees should be given to its resources. It is for this reason that the Chinese delegation endorses the draft resolution.

M.A.M. IBRAHIM (Sudan): The Sudan delegation is fully convinced of the importance of the aid given by the WFP. We think it is a vital aid for the developing countries, whether this is development aid or emergency aid. This morning we heard the excellent introduction given by Mr. Brito, the Executive Director A.I. of the World Food Programme, during which he reviewed aid given to developing countries by the World Food Programme during 1980-81. The Sudanese delegation would like to express its satisfaction at the activities of the World Food Programme not only during the last biennium and but also during the last twenty years because this Programme has been worthy of the task entrusted to it.

We would like to thank the countries who have contributed to World Food Programme. Without their generosity the Programme would not have been able to acquit itself of its task so well.

We support the Pledging target for the next biennium contained in the draft resolution of document C 81/LIM/22 and so that this does not remain simply a pious hope, we would turn to donors and potential donors asking them to increase their contributions so that we can reach the target of \$ 1 200 million.

J.P. WARNIMONT (Belgique): Le point de l'ordre du jour que nous examinons me donne l'occasion de réaffirmer une fois encore que la Belgique a toujours appuyé et continue d'appuyer pleinement l'action du programme alimentaire mondial en faveur du développement.

En effet, la spécificité du PAM réside essentiellement dans le fait qu'il canalise l'aide alimentaire sur des projets précis de développement rural. En outre, l'appui que la Belgique apporte au programme est essentiellement justifié par la qualité de la préparation et la rigueur du suivi des projets qu'il présente.

Ainsi que le signale le document C 81/INF/10, en 1981, 34% des ressources en produits du PAM ont été consacrées aux opérations d'urgence. Cela représente un accroissement considérable au cours des dernières années. Si l'évolution devait se poursuivre à ce rythme, la raison d'être principale du programme pourrait être mise en question. En effet, le PAM ne courrait-il pas le risque de voir ses activités faire double emploi avec celles d'autres organisations des Nations Unies dont le mandat spécifique est de porter assistance aux réfugiés. Ce point nous paraît très important. Tout en comprenant la misère physique et la détresse morale des réfugiés auxquelles il faut remédier, il faut malheureusement constater que les ressources qui leur sont nécessaires sont perdues pour le développement à long terme du pays d'accueil.

Un autre point que souhaite soulever ma délégation a trait au problème du prolongement après plus de 10 ans de certains projets du PAM. Et il nous semble, à cet égard, que dans la majorité des cas les bénéficiaires devraient, après ce laps de temps, avoir la possibilité de prendre eux-mêmes en charge la poursuite de ces projets. Faute de quoi, le risque existe de voir s'instaurer une sorte de routine dans l'assistance fournie.

En ce qui concerne le problème des coûts de transport mentionnés au document C 81/7(a), ma délégation voudrait indiquer qu'elle comprend parfaitement que, dans certains pays, les frais de transport intérieur puissent causer des problèmes de coûts. Mon pays ne se croit pas favorable à la vente partielle des produits du PAM pour couvrir ces frais. L'expérience qu'a la Belgique de ventes semblables montre qu'elles ne sont pas sans danger. De plus, finalement, il peut revenir moins cher de prévoir lors de la préparation initiale du projet une contribution spéciale en espèces ou des aménagements en matière de transport.

En ce qui concerne les paragraphes 23 à 30 du même document, C 81/7 (a), ma délégation souhaiterait connaître pour quelles raisons des ressources importantes tirées des projets n'ont pu être réutilisées rapidement au profit des activités du programme à un moment où celui-ci insiste auprès des donateurs pour qu'ils accroissent leurs contributions en vue d'atteindre les objectifs fixes.

Finalement, je voudrais signaler que, pour la première fois depuis que mon pays soutient l'activité du PAM, la Belgique a demandé à celui-ci d'acheter des vivres dans des pays africains en vue d'aider les autres pays africains et qu'elle compte poursuivre ces achats triangulaires dans l'avenir. Nous pensons que c'est là une forme adéquate de coopération.

SRA. DRA. M. IVANKOVICH DE AROSEMENA (Panamá): Deseamos iniciar nuestras palabras agradeciendo al Director Ejecutivo Adjunto, la brillante y clara presentación que ha hecho de este tema. Programa Mundial de Alimentos/Naciones Unidas/FAO. Durante la celebración del último período de sesiones del Consejo, mi delegación apoyó los objetivos y prioridades del Programa y el objetivo de promesas de contribuciones de 1 200 millones de dólares para los recursos ordinarios del PMA para el bienio 1983-84.

Consideramos que este objetivo es el mínimo absoluto necesario para poder mantener después de 1983, los niveles actuales de entrega de alimentos del PMA, tomados de los recursos del Programa, como lo expresa el párrafo 26 del documento en discusión. Por las características del Programa que concentra sus esfuerzos en mejorar las condiciones de vida en las zonas rurales más deprimidas, destinando alrededor de un 85 por ciento en proyectos en desarrollo en países de bajos ingresos y déficits alimentarios, consideramos que la meta propuesta de 1 200 millones de dólares es el mínimo justo, como lo expresó el Sr. Brito en su exhaustiva exposición.

Por lo tanto, ratificamos el apoyo, nuestra delegación, al proyecto de Resolución que se nos presenta; y para finalizar, deseamos expresar nuestro reconocimiento a la magnífica labor que viene desarrollando el Director Ejecutivo adjunto al frente de este importante Programa. Esperamos verlo próximamente como Director Ejecutivo en propiedad.

Mrs. I. L. PERTUNNEN (Finland): In spite of the tremendous work of WFP during its nearly twenty years' existence there are hundreds of millions of people all over the world who do not regularly reach the desired daily minimum calories and protein intake and that suffer from hunger or malnutrition. When participating in efforts to improve this gloomy situation we see that there should be a systematic linkage between food aid and aid to agricultural development. Food aid should not turn consumers away from products which are or can be produced domestically.

WFP's proposed pledging target of \$1.2 billion for the biennium 1983-84 is based on annual delivery rate of 1 million tons including the anticipated 300 000 tons per year to be provided under the FRC to maintain a current level of deliveries. My Government is supporting this target and will do its best to carry out its share to assist WFP to reach the set goal.

However, we would like to see that new donors give their support to help WFP in handling the acquisition and especially the ever-increasing cross-ocean transportation costs, which may be in many cases twice, even three times, more to the developing countries than to the developed countries from the source of supplies. The lack of sufficient freight, port, handling, storages and other transportation facilities may well hamper the adequate functioning of the food aid system.

Finland is now joining IEFER on a more regular basis and our contribution to it will be additional to our pledges to the WFP. We hope that this will be the common practice in this context so that WFP could keep at least the suggested levels of these two programmes.

We also appreciate the efforts of a large number of countries, including some of the LDC countries, which have taken in substantial refugee populations in spite of the economic difficulties they themselves are facing. WFP's role in providing food aid to these people is therefore of crucial importance. In a spirit of burden-sharing the international community could not cease to support those in need.

With these words Finland is supporting the Resolution which was submitted to the Conference for approval.

J.L.F. BUIST (United Kingdom): We are grateful to Mr. Brito for the very comprehensive statement that he made and especially for the very encouraging facts that he gave us about the geographical distribution and the size of the programme. His explanation of the distribution of resources between the three different channels accruing to the World Food Programme was particularly clear and I thought disposed very thoroughly of a good many points that seemed to be raised by the Vietnam delegation. On geographical distribution generally, it seemed entirely right to us that so high a share should go to African and to other low-income food deficit countries. On this we agree with the Kenya and the Norwegian delegations.

During our presidency of the Community Britain has taken the opportunity to make an informal comparison of experience between Member States of various international agencies through which we channel our food aid and I am glad to say that we found general recognition of the special role of the WFP. This is already reflected in the interventions that other Member State delegations have made during this debate.

We agree with Morocco that the continued rise of multilateral food aid shown in the documents is a very satisfactory trend. But there is increasing concern in Britain and in the Community generally about the need to deploy food aid more effectively to reinforce not just investment by developing countries in food and agricultural production but also their attempts to establish the right policy and administrative framework which has been extensively discussed and widely agreed during the Conference. We are sure that the World Food Programme will also bear these points in mind.

I noted the remarks of the United States delegation about emergencies and I am sure that they will equally be followed up.

More generally, the Community and its Member States have made special efforts to assist the IEFER and we also support the double-pledging solution now reached in relation to the IEFER and the WFP. These points have already been highlighted elsewhere in the Conference, but not I think in this Commission.

We endorse the views of the Netherlands about the ability of the WFP to secure better coordination amongst the different food aid efforts and also to handle food aid of other donors. We have used the programme extensively and have found this arrangement very satisfactory.

I should particularly like to welcome what was said by Mr. Brito about the purchase of grain in other developing countries, including especially Zimbabwe. As he knows, we have informally urged this on the

WFP Secretariat for some time, and we are very pleased by their response.

With these few remarks I would like to say that we also support the Resolution.

M. SALAMEH (Syria) (original language Arabic): I would like to congratulate the World Food Programme on the success achieved in its activities in the interests of the poor and the needy. We also wish to congratulate Mr. Brito on his introductory remarks and for the work that the WFP has been carrying out. We also wish to support the pledging target for 1983-84 of \$1.2 billion. We should always support increases if they are in the interests of the people.

After having heard the other delegate's comments on the volume of food aid I would like to offer a few remarks on the losses incurred by the WFP during the distribution of this food aid and its delivery to beneficiaries.

As you know Mr. Chairman, there are two aspects to food aid for it is provided either in kind or in cash. I would like to add to this a third aspect: the state in which this food aid reaches the recipients.

I believe Mr. Chairman that securing this aspect which deals with the quality of food aid is of the responsibility of FAO and WFP. This can only be achieved by means of food control system, using detailed analysis to control the nutritional elements whether natural or added through industrialization, packaging, marketing or storage etc. The control of quality through the experience acquired and by means of special equipment, is fully in line with FAO's and WFP's role.

Developed countries which provide food aid are also developed from a technical standpoint and they can control the food quality. These countries have at their disposal laboratories, equipments and legislations etc., so they can impose standards on manufacturers and can thus closely control the foodstuffs used by their own consumers. They should thus also safeguard the health of the countries to which they provide assistance. The quality of food aid is a complementary factor to food aid. Know-how and technology is very advanced in this area and the FAO and the World Food Programme could be the arbitrators between the developed donor countries and the recipient developing countries to implement food control technology. We should not allow manufactures to perform at will, but their commodities should be up to food standards.

In the addendum to document C 81/7a on Food Waste, some foodstuffs were considered completely wasted. For example, the loss in maize was 100%, in legumes 48.5%, in wheat flour 47.6% and soya mix 31.2%.

All the foodstuffs could have served as animal feed. Contrary to the expected, the loss percentage was higher than in perishable foodstuffs such as vegetables, fruit and meat.

One could draw the conclusion that this low quality foodstuff was sent out because it had been rejected for consumption in developed countries because of their stringent control system.

This is why I have stated and I reaffirm the need for recipient developing countries to set up a strict control system to ascertain that food aid received is in conformity with nutritional standards and consumer habits and tastes.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, there can be no food security unless quality and quantity are ensured.

A.C. ARCINIEGA (México): Las actividades desarrolladas por el Programa Mundial de Alimentos son ahora estimadas en la Comunidad Internacional no sólo como un necesario recurso para atenuar el hambre, sino como un instrumento eficaz en la promoción del desarrollo de los países mas pobres. El carácter multilateral del Programa, la importancia de los recursos que maneja, las mejoras que ha introducido en la planificación y en la administración de los proyectos hacen del PMA una de las instituciones mas efectivas que hayan sido creadas para ayudar a los que sufren hambre.

Hemos estudiado con atención los documentos que se refieren a la situación financiera del Programa, incluidos los estados de cuentas y las observaciones del auditor externo. Felicitamos a la Dirección del PMA por la información tan detallada que nos ha proporcionado al respecto. Sin embargo, no deseamos hacer observaciones sobre aspectos particulares porque nos parece que el Programa se ha manejado eficientemente, si tenemos en cuenta las múltiples limitaciones que padece. Algunas de las deficiencias que se señalan en los documentos corresponden a la carencia de personal suficiente y al limitado volumen de los recursos que se manejan en cada proyecto. No por ello se deben abandonar los esfuerzos para mejorar la administración, con miras a optimizar los objetivos que se persiguen.

Fortalecer el Programa es un claro imperativo. Por ello México se adhiere al proyecto de resolución en el que se establecen los 1 200 millones de dólares como objetivo de promesas para el bienio 83-84. Nos congratulamos del aumento en el objetivo propuesto, porque, aunque sabemos no será suficiente para satisfacer totalmente las necesidades, ni aún en el caso de que se alcanzara plenamente, reconocemos la gran importancia que tiene el que la Conferencia, a igual que el ECOSOC adopten la resolución y avalen al Programa, reconociendo la gravedad de la situación alimentaria en el mundo.

No podemos omitir nuestro reconocimiento a los donantes que en fecha reciente han anunciado nuevas aportaciones. Son ellos los que mantienen vivos los principios por los cuales se constituyó el Programa y que lo animan desde el principio. Nuestra delegación se une a las felicitaciones de los distinguidos colegas que dirigieran al Director Ejecutivo Adjunto, señor de Azevedo Brito, por el eficaz desempeño de sus labores en un período que sabemos ha resultado especialmente difícil y esperamos que en el futuro, con su dirección, el Programa pueda seguir fortaleciéndose, mejorando su administración, afirmándose siempre, aun cuando se analicen las cuestiones más difíciles y controvertidas, como una verdadera institución multilateral. Muchas gracias.

A.G. NGONGI NAMANGA (Cameroon): Mr. Brito, the Executive Director ad interim gave an excellent introduction to the item under discussion. The World Food Programme, as pointed out by most delegations who have preceded me, is a very efficient organization. This efficiency is a reflection on the strong leadership of the organization.

My delegation finds the priorities of the World Food Programme to be of great relevance to the needs of developing countries. The thrust of WFP project is aimed at increasing food production in the low-income food-deficit countries and thereby make these countries self-reliant. The concentration of 45 percent of WFP's resources in 1981 to African countries which are facing grave problems is an indication of the responsiveness of the World Food Programme to the needs of the poorest of the poor. However, we do regret that over one third of WFP's resources are being devoted to emergency aid. This is due to the failure of the IEFER to attain its target of 500 000 tons. We trust that means will be found of assuring IEFER a regular flow of resources so as to free WFP regular resources for development projects.

The Cameroon delegation strongly supports the triangular transactions now being undertaken by WFP. We note with regret that WFP's pledged resource targets are hardly ever reached. As we all know, these pledges are voluntary, so any amount of aid actually contributed is to be appreciated. But there is no need to set targets except if we intend to attain them. We are heartened that 75 percent of the resources for the present biennium have already been contributed. We hope that potential donors who are in a position to do so will follow the example of OPEC, Austria and Spain. Existing donors can also emulate the example of Argentina, Australia and Italy. We are particularly happy to hear the pledge of France who has doubled her contribution to WFP, and also Hungary has just made a statement pledging a 10 percent increase of her resources as from January. All of these efforts may assure the attainment of the \$ 1 billion target for this present biennium.

The Cameroon delegation supports the WFP resource target of 1.2 billion for 1983-84. We recognize that this will further tax existing donors, especially during these difficult times. However, we hope that the good record of WFP, especially in targeting most of its programmes to the poorest of the poor and its very low overhead costs, will justify the extra sacrifice required. It is indispensable that new donors should come forward to take up their share of the challenge to foster development in the hard-pressed countries of the world.

R.W.M. JOHNSON (New Zealand): We have made our views known at the Twelfth Session of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes which has only very recently been held. I shall therefore be quite brief.

New Zealand has always strongly supported the WFP as an efficient distributor of food aid. New Zealand was therefore happy to raise its contribution to the Programme by 12 percent this year. The Programme is playing a vital role by directly assisting and stimulating economic and social development in recipient countries as well as meeting emergency food needs. We endorse the aim of maintaining a proper balance between these two different types of operation.

As regards the target for 1983-84, New Zealand joined the consensus at CFA 12 in endorsing a total pledging figure of \$ 1.2 billion. The target is something to be aimed for, and we hope that the Programme's efforts to seek an increased number of contributing countries will be successful, particularly as we believe there could arise serious programming difficulties in the years ahead if the gap between achievement and the target were to become persistent and too wide.

On one general point, the WFP is very much an operational body, and we hope that the further discussions which will take place in the Committee will not decrease its operational efficiency.

Finally, the New Zealand delegation places a high value on the work of the Committee on Surplus Disposal and its aim of ensuring that food aid does not disrupt and destabilize local markets through the irregular and harmful disposal of surplus stocks. We believe that increased trade in food will be a very important factor in solving world food problems by encouraging local production and thus facilitating economic growth where the need is greatest.

K. CHOUERI (Liban) (Langue originale arabe): Etant donné que de nombreux orateurs qui m'ont précédé ont déjà parlé de la plupart des points que je comptais aborder, étant donné que nous avons exprimé clairement notre opinion au sujet du PAM lors de la quatre-vingtième session du Conseil qui s'est tenue avant la présente Conférence, la délégation de mon pays se joint aux délégations qui ont appuyé ce Programme couronné de succès et fort bien géré.

Ma délégation, tout en remerciant les donateurs pour leur généreuse contribution qui est un exemple de la coopération internationale constructive, appuie le projet de Résolution relatif aux objectifs de contributions pour le biennium 1983-84 et demande l'adoption de cette Résolution par la Conférence pour permettre au Directeur général de la FAO et au Secrétaire général des Nations Unies d'inviter à la tenue d'une conférence sur les contributions pour la réalisation de ces objectifs.

E. TIZOL (Cuba); Queremos decir, que parece que hay dificultades con la traducción al español ya que las últimas intervenciones no las hemos escuchado en el idioma español.

Señor Presidente, queremos expresar ante todo nuestro agradecimiento al señor Brito por su brillante introducción y a la Secretaría por la calidad del documento que presenta bajo la referencia C 81/LIM/10.

Nuestra delegación considera que la aspiración del Programa Mundial de Alimentos de alcanzar el objetivo de promesas de contribución de 1200 millones de dólares para los recursos ordinarios en el bienio de 1983-84 es una cuestión justa y posible y cuenta, por lo tanto, con nuestro respaldo y total apoyo.

De acuerdo con lo expresado por el señor Brito de manera muy acertada, este objetivo propuesto es equibrado y representa el mejor compromiso entre lo deseable y lo que es posible. Esto constituye el mínimo absoluto necesario para poder mantener después de 1983 los niveles actuales de ayuda alimentaria del PMA.

Consideramos también muy justo el señalamiento hecho de que se hace necesario que se presenten nuevos donantes. Felicitamos en este sentido el aporte hecho por los nuevos donantes.

Por último, nuestra delegación desea expresar su apoyo a la resolución 1/80 que aparece en el documento C 81/LIM/10, la cual concuerda plenamente con las aspiraciones expresadas por los países en desarrollo y por nuestra delegación en múltiples ocasiones anteriores.

No quisiéramos concluir nuestra intervención sin hacer una mención de apoyo a lo manifestado por la delegación de Vietnam en cuanto a evitar por todos los medios que determinados países utilicen la ayuda alimentaria como arma política.

CHAIRMAN: I am sorry for the technical hitch, and I hope it has been acted upon.

H. CARANDANG (Philippines): I shall be very, very brief. The Philippine delegation would just like to endorse the pledging target for the voluntary contributions for WFP resources for the biennium 1983/84 of \$1.2 billion, and the Draft Resolution. We believe the pledging target represents the best compromise between what is desirable and what is possible.

Taking into account the great needs of the developing countries which continue to increase as the overall economic situation of some developing countries continues to deteriorate, we hope the pledging target will not only be reached but even surpassed so as to allow an increase in the programme deliveries.

We note with appreciation the substantial new contribution made recently by the OPEC Special Fund, the significant contribution by Argentina, Australia and Italy, and the first contributions of Austria and Spain.

L. SMITH (Barbados): On behalf of the Barbados delegation, I would like to reiterate our support for the Draft Resolution and for the pledging target of \$1200 million for the biennium 1983/84.

We have noticed that this is a very effective, direct and worthwhile Programme from which my country has had some benefit. We note with pleasure that some member countries such as Australia, Argentina and Italy, as well as Spain and Austria, have recently made significant contributions to the Programme. My delegation hopes that new contributors will shortly come forward with additional pledged contributions so that the target level can be reached in early 1982.

We have listened with interest to the Executive Director of the WFP concerning some of the criteria set out for WFP assistance. We would, however, wish to learn a little more from him of the general criteria for cessation of assistance for non-emergency food aid. We would wish to know whether this is based on competing needs or on some performance characteristics of the recipient countries, and whether this emergency food aid will be a predetermined level.

M. ZJALIC (Yougoslavie): La délégation de la Yougoslavie voudrait tout d'abord exprimer sa satisfaction pour la gestion du PAM et son efficacité dans l'exécution des projets de développement et des opérations d'urgence.

Nous regrettons que l'objectif de contribution du PAM pour l'exercice en cours, fixé à 1 milliard 200 millions de dollars, n'ait été atteint que pour 75 pour cent. Nous avons pris note avec une satisfaction particulière des nouvelles et importantes contributions fournies au PAM récemment.

L'objectif de contribution proposé pour la période 1983-84 représente un accroissement nominal de 20 pour cent et un minimum nécessaire si l'on veut que le Programme puisse maintenir le niveau de livrai-son après 1983.

Mon pays annoncera une augmentation de sa contribution pendant la prochaine Conférence des contributions et nous espérons que les donateurs traditionnels et tous les pays en mesure de le faire fourniront des contributions suffisantes pour atteindre l'objectif fixé et le dépasser.

Ma délégation exprime son plein soutien aux objectifs de contribution et au texte de la Résolution pro-posé par le Conseil.

M. PHOOFOLO (Lesotho): My delegation is highly indebted to Mr. Brito for his concise and succinct introduction on this Agenda Item. We are pleased to hear that all efforts will be taken to improve and identify shortcomings in the World Food Programme emergency operations, especially in the area of shipments to recipient countries.

Our delegation supports the Resolution enunciated in Document C 81/LIM/22, and endorses the proposed target of \$1.2 billion pledged for the 1983/84 biennium, though it may not be sufficient to meet demands.

We are thankful to the OPEC countries for the considerable contribution they have made, and we wish to join the previous speakers in urging other countries to make additional contributions to the Programme in order to assist drought-stricken countries and some countries facing emergency situations as the result of other natural calamities and man-made causes.

We further welcome FAO/World Food Programme endeavours to minimize the discouraging effects of food aid in agricultural production, the dampening effects of such aid on local commodity prices, and unfavourable changes in consumption patterns.

My delegation also applauds for reasons already submitted by our colleagues the mobilization of food supply from developing countries to meet emergency needs; of neighboring countries.

We echo the plea made by the delegate of India that the World Food Programme should emphasize the creation of infrastructure necessary for increased agricultural production. In this connection, we would like to impress upon recipient countries that they should ensure project continuity even after aid termination. Discontinuity of some food aid projects, on road construction and construction of soil conservation structures has resulted in disastrous erosion of otherwise fertile cultivatable soils in any country.

Finally, we support the World Food Programme in its entirety and wish to state that too much emphasis on bilateral rather than on multilateral food aid might jeopardise achievement of World Food Programme objectives.

M.A. GUEVARA MORAN (El Salvador): Seré sumamente breve. Deseamos primeramente felicitar al Sr. Bernardo de Azevedo Brito por la brillante y clara exposición realizada.

Sr. Presidente, la delegación de mi país desea apoyar firmemente el proyecto de resolución 1/80 "Objetivo de promesas al PMA" para el período 1983-84" que asciende a 1 200 millones de dólares, manifestando, al mismo tiempo, que considera dicho objetivo como el mínimo indispensable para hacer frente al grave problema del hambre que abruma a muchos países del mundo.

Consideramos que la ayuda que proporciona el PMA es vital para los países en desarrollo en general, por lo cual deseamos recalcar la importancia que reviste el cumplimiento del objetivo de promesas fijado para el bienio 1981-82, así como también el cumplimiento del objetivo de promesas propuesto en esta oportunidad.

Asimismo, deseamos instar vehementemente a los países contribuyentes para que realicen todos los esfuerzos necesarios a fin de cumplir con las promesas de ayuda, con lo cual se estarán dando pasos firmes para la solución del problema alimentario en el mundo.

Reafirmamos nuestra felicitación al Sr. Bernardo de Azevedo Brito, Director Ejecutivo A.I. del PMA, por la meritoria labor desarrollada al frente de tan importante Programa, y albergamos la esperanza de que sea confirmado como Director Ejecutivo del mismo, lo cual redundará en beneficio de los países donantes, como beneficiarios.

M. SAMBA (Congo): Je tâcherai d'être bref et de ne pas revenir sur certains aspects déjà abordés par mes prédécesseurs.

En ce qui concerne le Programme alimentaire mondial pour le biennium 83/84, dont l'objectif de contributions propose par le Comité des politiques et programmes d'aide alimentaire, se situe à 1,2 milliard de dollars, la délégation congolaise appuie cette proposition. Cependant, elle estime que cet accroissement des ressources ordinaires du PAM de 20% par rapport au niveau actuel représente véritablement un seuil strictement minimal eu égard à l'augmentation prévisible des besoins en couverture alimentaire à l'échelle mondiale, pendant la période considérée, notamment dans les pays en développement à croissance démographique accélérée.

De même, elle soutient fermement l'orientation prise par le PAM de privilégier l'allocation des ressources aux actions structurelles de développement sur toute autre opération de type conjoncturel. Cela, en particulier, dans le domaine de l'agriculture et du développement rural.

C'est pourquoi la délégation congolaise saisit cette occasion pour lancer une fois de plus un appel aux pays qui contribuent au fonds du PNUD afin qu'ils consentent un effort financier plus important pour l'élevation de ses ressources. En effet, pour nous, ce programme est, comme le PAM, d'une importance décisive dans le processus de développement agricole et rural, donc pour l'autosuffisance alimentaire, dans les pays en développement.



D.R. SHARMA (Nepal): First of all I would like to congratulate Mr. Brito for his comprehensive and clear statement this morning. I agree with him that food aid is not the panacea for solving the food deficit conditions of the food deficit countries. This is a fact which the beneficiary countries like ours should understand fully, and I believe it is understood in the same spirit.

I am confident no country would like to come on the world platform requesting food aid, and as far as possible would not like to depend on others, but one is bound to do so under certain natural compulsions. Because of so many unavoidable reasons the recipient countries are compelled to ask for food aid.

At this age of international cooperation it is but natural that countries seeking help when needed look toward external assistance. We feel that donor countries of WFP fully realize this situation and are ready to come forward to help suffering humanity by contributing whatever they can toward feeding the hungry man, and at the same time help WFP in the accomplishment of its target.

I would like to recollect the world situation and the expenditure that is being incurred in armaments, as cited by the delegate of India in the morning session.

International efforts to save mankind from hunger and starvation, we feel, are bound to be most effective, the channelling of food aid through WFP, which we consider to be the food arm of the United Nations System, has been very effective.

My delegation is confident that recipient countries are working toward self-reliance, and the food aid that is provided by WFP has enhanced this process. The idea as put forward by Mr. Brito in his remarks this morning that the food aid be used primarily for development projects has been well recognized.

My delegation has been very much impressed by the work of WFP. Though Nepal is capable of producing a major part of its requirements of food grain, it has been difficult for us time and again fully to meet the needs of the people in the entire kingdom because of the difficult geographical situation which creates insurmountable transport difficulties. Also, we are fully dependent on the vagaries of nature, which I am afraid is not always kind and beneficial. This is where the food aid programme can help us in developing our capacity to help ourselves, even against the cruelties of nature.

We are most grateful to the WFP for the assistance that it has provided to us during the drought period. It has been a very timely help to us. We are also grateful for WFP assistance in so many other development projects. This year we had severe floods in different parts of the country where crops and property worth millions of dollars and precious human lives were lost. We had been working to relieve the drought-stricken people, and a new problem of rehabilitating flood victims has fallen on our shoulders.

Here again I should like to express our high regard for WFP and the belief my delegation has in the leadership of the Acting Executive Director, Mr. Brito.

My delegation fully supports the proposal that is before us recommending the target of 1.2 billion dollars for the years 1983/84.

M.P. KANGA (Angola): Le PAM est l'une des organisations qui collaborent avec mon gouvernement depuis l'accession de mon pays à l'indépendance, en raison de son caractère d'aide aux pays en développement; nous le considérons comme l'une des institutions les plus efficaces.

L'assistance reçue du PAM est considérable en termes économiques, mais il est juste de reconnaître que la situation particulière que vit mon pays depuis l'accession à l'indépendance est telle que l'aide du PAM est indispensable pour son développement économique-social.

Les conditions dans lesquelles se trouvent nos compatriotes, victimes des agressions continues du régime inhumain de l'Afrique du Sud et de la sécheresse, sont l'une des principales préoccupations du gouvernement de la République populaire d'Angola. C'est la raison pour laquelle l'aide du PAM a toujours été appréciée par notre peuple et nous le pouvons exprimer ici que nos vifs remerciements.

Le nombre des réfugiés et des déplacés a sensiblement augmenté ces derniers jours, et l'aide du PAM pour les programmes d'urgence nous est très nécessaire, mais l'accent doit toujours être mis sur l'augmentation de l'aide aux projets de développement.

Ma délégation appuie l'objectif de contribution de 1,2 milliard de dollars pour les ressources ordinaires du PAM pour 1983/84, que nous considérons comme un objectif minimum. C'est avec satisfaction que nous avons appris les nouvelles contributions à la RAIU plus particulièrement celle des fonds de l'OPEP, de l'Autriche et de l'Espagne.

Ma délégation appuie la résolution concernant les annonces de contributions au PAM pour la période 1983/84, avec l'espoir que cet objectif ne sera pas seulement atteint mais dépassé.

O. LUCO ECHEVERRIA (Chile): Mi delegación apoya la meta de contribuciones de 1 200 millones de dólares para el bienio 1983-84 y confía que se logre oportunamente para que así se pueda elaborar un programa de actividades eficientes y cuya relación costo/beneficio sea razonable.

Causa satisfacción a mi delegación que de los envíos totales de unos 1,3 millones de toneladas, el 66 por ciento sea para proyectos de desarrollo y el 34 por ciento para operaciones de urgencia, pues este 66 por ciento significa que se están creando posibilidades de independencia en los países favorecidos.

Deseo aprovechar, además, esta oportunidad para felicitar al Sr. Director Ejecutivo Interino del PMA, por la buena y completa información inicial que nos brindó; confío que pueda continuar por mucho tiempo dirigiendo los destinos de esta importante agencia internacional.

S. AABERG (Sweden): I should like to start by saying that all projections indicate that food aid will still be needed for a long time to come. Food selfreliance is a far-away goal for many countries. In some countries food production per capita is actually falling. Similarly, it seems likely that emergencies of different kinds will not disappear.

While there is a clear long-term need for food aid, we should constantly bear in mind the difficulties and potential dangers inherent in all forms of food aid. This type of assistance possibly demands an even more careful identification, planning and implementation than most other assistance efforts. Food aid can never be a solution to the real problems involved, neither should it be used as an excuse for putting off necessary internal decisions like giving price incentives to local producers or introducing land reforms and other structural measures.

This having been said, we feel that experience has also shown that food aid used in the context and in a careful manner can produce very beneficial results. Here I talk about the World Food Programme. This organisation has an impressive record over the past. There have been successes, and there have also been mistakes and failures. This is, in our opinion, inevitable in a complex area like food aid. On the whole, the record is something the Programme can be proud of.

What the Swedish government views as particularly encouraging is the openness and the frank exchange of ideas between the Secretariat and members in the CFA. There is a constant search for new and better ways of utilizing food aid. Lessons are gradually being learned, and this is how it must be. The search for improvements must be carried on with an even greater force in the future if food aid is to be successfully defended against outside criticism.

For these very reasons, we are particularly pleased with current attempts to introduce innovations and imaginative new ideas in WFP activities. I am thinking of, for example, the regional approach, highlighted this morning by the Executive Director. Efforts of that kind can open up completely new avenues for the utilisation of food aid. We strongly support the WFP maize train operation undertaken in Zimbabwe and similar examples of triangular transactions.

From the foregoing, it should be obvious that the Swedish government has great confidence in WFP. This is demonstrated, *inter alia*, through our contributions to the Programme. Our regular pledges to WFP, our contributions to the Food Aid Convention and IEFR, channelled entirely through the Programme, together make Sweden one of the major contributors to the World Food Programme. The Swedish government has chosen WFP as the channel for its food aid, firstly, because of our high regard for the competence and efficiency of the programme and, secondly, because we support the multilateral institutions. We believe that food aid is an area especially well suited for multilateral channels, both because of the various destinations and complexities involved and also because multilateral food aid should be void of any political measures and does not, therefore, create a recipient's dependence on a single donor.

In that context we are happy to note that the advantages of the multilateral channels are being increasingly recognized by donors. We appeal to both existing and new donors, in the food aid area to give further consideration to the possibilities of their contributions to the World Food Programme.

This goal has a special relevance to the Food Aid Convention. Even a minor increase in the proportion of Food Aid Convention - at present barely 5 per cent - channelled through the World Food Programme could have a major impact on WFP's resources position during the present biennium.

Quite naturally, WFP is involved in both development projects and in emergencies. The role of WFP is quite clear in both cases. Of course it will be desirable if more resources could be devoted to development work. Present circumstances have, unfortunately, prevented this. Consequently, we do not quarrel with the share going to emergencies since we believe that the World Food Programme has a very important role to play as the multilateral channel and coordinator of food aid in emergencies.

Likewise, we should like to commend WFP's emphasis on food self-reliance projects in a broad sense and the priorities accorded to the poorest people in the poorest countries.

I should like to add that the programme has been able to maintain and increase ever more complex activities while keeping down administrative costs to roughly 5 per cent of total deliveries. This is, to our mind, a remarkable achievement.

As to emergencies, these are presently under intense discussions in the CFA. We welcome the proposed shift from emergencies to development assistance whenever feasible. The Swedish government has taken an active part in these discussions, and we expect to be fully involved also in the future as regards the follow-up to the discussions during the last month's CFA session about further improvements in the emergency procedures, including consideration of the role of the Committee itself in this process.

In this connection we very much welcome the agreement in principle reached on the convening of a joint WFP/IEFR conference. We are ready to consult on this matter whenever requested.

In our view, an IEFR pledging conference constitutes an important step forward. It is indeed gratifying to note that, through voluntary contributions, the IEFR will this year for the first time attain its 500,000 tonnes target. This augurs well for the pledging conference.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I should like to give our full support to the 1.2 billion dollar target and the resolution before us. This may be an ambitious goal in present circumstances. Nevertheless, it is necessary. Whether it will be achieved or not depends to a large extent on the chances of attracting new donors. As stated before, the total WFP resources position will also depend largely on FAC contributions. New Food Aid Convention donors and more WFP channelling are of critical importance. Through the Swedish regular FAC and IEFR contributions we shall certainly continue our strong support for this programme.

G. OLIVEIRA (Guinée-Bissau): Je serai très bref. Je voudrais tout d'abord féliciter M. de Brito pour le brillant exposé qu'il nous a fait ce matin sur les nouveaux objectifs du PAM. La délégation de Guinée-Bissau, ayant pris connaissance que les objectifs de contribution du PAM ont été de 20 pour cent, à savoir 1,2 milliard de dollars pour les années 1983-84, tient à exprimer sa satisfaction.

Mon pays bénéficie de l'aide du PAM pour les programmes d'urgence comme pour les programmes de développement rural touchant les couches les plus défavorisées. En conséquence, nous exprimons notre total appui au projet de résolution sur contribution pour la période 1983-84 et prions les Etats Membres donateurs de ne ménager aucun effort pour que l'objectif prévu soit atteint.

KYO-EUN KIM (Korea, Republic of): First of all, I should like to thank Mr. Brito for his excellent introductory remarks on the subject under review. The Government of the Republic of Korea fully supports and endorses the target of \$1.2 billion for the WFP pledges for the period from 1983 - 1984 and the draft resolution for the Conference mentioned in Document C 81/LIM/10. My Government is very happy to note that in 1981, out of the total new commitments for development projects, about 85 percent went to low-income food-deficit countries and about 80 percent was directed to projects in support of agricultural production and rural development.

The Korean Government is also satisfied with the fact that the WFP food purchases were being increasingly made in developing countries to stimulate development and foster cooperation among developing countries. In this regard on behalf of my country I would like to express appreciation of the WFP's efforts.

AMIDJONO MARTOSUWIRYO (Indonesia): I wish to thank Mr. Brito for his detailed and lucid introduction of the subject under discussion which gave us a clear picture of the progress made by the WFP in the performance of its duties. Since the very outset, Indonesia has always been a strong supporter of the Programme and will continue to lend its support. The Government of Indonesia always does its utmost to contribute more to the success of the Programme. Being aware of the growing need for food aid and taking into account also the present national food resource level, the Government of Indonesia has decided to make an additional contribution to the Programme in the form of foodstuffs, namely corn and mung beans.

My delegation is very satisfied to observe the progress made and the increase in the use of food aid for development. In the opinion of my delegation this cannot be interpreted to mean that the Programme does not pay full attention to emergency operations. A slight decrease in emergency food aid must be regarded as a reflection of the success of food aid for rural development and agricultural development.

Due to the success of its development, national governments are in a position to overcome emergency situations and, if they still need food aid from the Programme, the volume or size of food aid should be less than before.

My delegation appreciates very much the triangular transaction and hopes that it can be further expanded. We do understand that this transaction will stimulate development not only in recipient countries but also in countries which are in a position to sell the commodities needed, to strengthen cooperation among developing countries and to ensure the efficient operation of food assistance itself.

I must endorse the statement made by our distinguished colleague from India - if my recollection is correct - that there are various types of famine such as income famine in developing countries. The national governments concerned of course have fought as hard as they can and I understand that FAO and WFP have rendered their assistance in combatting those famines. I wish FAO and WFP could pay particular attention to the elimination of income famine of rural people who are, in fact, the poorest among the poor. In the case of Indonesia, it refers to the group of people who have been resettled in a new area. If they succeed in producing food and other agricultural products, they might slowly go on to produce surpluses. However, they will face the problem of channeling their products to the market. This problem exists in the resettlement area in my country.

My delegation appeals to WFP and to FAO that food aid for development should also include provision for establishing market infrastructure, namely farmer cooperatives, in resettlement areas.

With regard to the pledging target for 1983-84 of \$1.2 billion, my delegation is of the opinion that though there is an increase of 20 percent as compared with the last biennium target, the level is still a very modest one and it must be considered as a minimum target. Hence, my delegation supports the draft resolution as contained in the document under discussion.

M. MORIMOTO (Japan): First of all, I should like to congratulate and thank Mr. Brito for his excellent introductory statement and also express appreciation for the WFP's good performance of activities. My Government is one of the keen supporters of WFP and has in fact recently increased its normal pledging in IEFR contribution year by year. Furthermore, a substantial amount of food aid to the refugees and displaced persons in the world was additionally made by my Government through WFP. My Government will continue to support the activities of WFP.

Finally, my delegation supports the new biennium pledging target of \$1.2 billion for 1983-84 and hopes that the other countries in a position to do so can participate and also contribute in order to achieve the new target.

S. PRACHIMDHIT (Thailand): First of all, my delegation would like to express its appreciation of the excellent presentation of the topic under discussion by Mr. Brito, the Acting Executive Director of the World Food Programme. Having considered the draft resolution in Document C 81/LIM/10 regarding the target for the World Food Programme pledges for the biennium 1983-84, the Thai delegation fully supports the target as proposed.

In my delegation's view, the proposed target fixing at \$1.2 billion would be appropriate for the effective continuation of World Food Programme activities throughout the world. In this connexion my delegation would like to point out that the distribution of food aid in every possible form should be based on the equitable principle, taking into account particularly the urgent need and emergency situation in various parts of the world.

My delegation attaches considerable importance to the aid to refugees and displaced persons for which the volume of aid should not be reduced, for humanitarian reasons they should receive more attention from the international community.

M. ARAFAH (Jordan) (Original language Arabic): I would like to mention three points here. First of all I would like to thank Mr. Brito for his very lucid explanations. I would like to thank the donor countries for their present and future contributions to the WFP and thirdly, Jordan supports the target of \$1.2 billion for the 1983-84 biennium.

We hope that we can now look at projects for feeding animals because breeding is part of the resources of the inhabitants of the developing countries.

K. GADIS (Grèce): Je serai également très bref. Je voudrais surtout souligner l'importance que ma délégation accorde aux objectifs annoncés par le Directeur exécutif par intérim, M. Brito, dans son introduction révélatrice, et cela pour deux raisons.

Tout d'abord, parce qu'ils constituent un mécanisme contre la famine et la malnutrition dans le monde. D'ailleurs ces objectifs visent la bonne exécution et le développement des infrastructures dans les pays les moins favorisés. C'est pourquoi la Grèce contribuera de tous ses efforts au Programme alimentaire mondial.

Je saisis cette occasion pour affirmer qu'à la prochaine Conférence des contributions, le forum le plus approprié, mon pays fixera le niveau de sa contribution.

Ne croyant pas que le soutien le plus fort s'exprime par les phrases les plus longues, je me permets simplement de confirmer le plein appui du gouvernement grec aux objectifs du PAM pour les années 1983-84.

A. LOUCA (Cyprus): I would also like to join the other speakers and congratulate Mr. Brito for his excellent introduction on the subject. I would also like to congratulate the whole staff of the World Food Programme for the high efficiency with which they run this Programme. Cyprus very much appreciates the value of this Programme and has been one of the beneficiaries and is very grateful for all the assistance she has received from this Programme. We are strong supporters of this Programme and we fully endorse the draft pledging target of \$1.2 billion for the year 1983-84.

F. D'ALMEIDA (Bénin): Je serai très bref, parce qu'à ce stade de la discussion je crois que tout a déjà été dit. Je voudrais simplement ajouter ma voix au concert de celles qui m'ont précédé pour donner mon appui total à la Résolution qui nous est proposée.

J'en profite pour complimenter M. Brito pour le dynamisme et l'intelligence avec lesquels il donne de nouvelles impulsions au PAM.

LE PRESIDENT: Je remercie Monsieur le représentant du Bénin pour la déclaration la plus condensée de cette séance (continue en anglais).

May I now invite the Acting Executive Director of the World Food Programme to comment on the points raised during the debate?

B. de A. BRITO (WFP): I think the first observation I should make at the end of this long debate is that we in the Programme are particularly grateful for all the expressions of support the different delegations made during their interventions. I think that your debate proves once again that the World Food Programme is an organization within the UN system which provides effective assistance to the developing countries.

I was particularly pleased with the fact that practically all the delegations which spoke supported the pledging target proposed by the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes and already endorsed by the FAO Council. As many of you have said, this is a minimum target. It is an ambitious target at the same time, but it is a minimum target. The achievement of this target, as I mentioned in my initial intervention, is vital for the carrying out of extremely important development support and emergency operations in the coming years, and therefore I feel that this debate is the best omen for the pledging conference which is now scheduled for early March 1982, probably March the 2nd, to be a successful conference.

Many comments were made on the criteria for the allocation of resources and the way the World Food Programme has been trying to adjust to new realities and new demands. I must say that in the Programme, and I can speak for my colleagues on this point, are proud of that. We have been trying to adjust the Programme to the realities of the eighties to bring food aid in line with what effectively is needed as a developing tool at this point. I was particularly pleased by the fact that full support was given for the concentration of resources on priority countries. There is poverty and poverty; some people are more poor than others and we must recognize this, and I think the priorities which the Programme is following reflect this very simple fact.

I was also particularly pleased to hear the support for our effort to move, together with recipient countries and following their priorities, more and more in support of food production. We feel, and I personally strongly feel, that food aid should be a measure for increasing self-reliance, a step in the direction of self-reliance, otherwise it does not make sense, except, of course, for emergencies. The fact that you supported the strong concentration of development food aid for the support of production is a great encouragement for us, and I think a great encouragement also for those people in the recipient countries who are planning the utilization of assistance received from us, from this Programme, in a way to support food production.

A reference was made to disincentives. I must say that this question of disincentives was recognized right at the beginning of our history. The Programme was created precisely in order to eliminate disincentives from food aid. The idea of project aid is precisely to avoid disincentives to production. That was the basis, our origin, twenty years ago. Precisely because of the need to avoid disincentives we look for clear development objectives, well-defined beneficiaries, looking into the conditions prevalent in an area to see if food aid can be provided in an effective way without causing negative consequences. This is the very reason for our existence and because of that I strongly believe in project food aid and the World Food Programme. Gradually, little by little, we are increasing our activities and this brings me to the point of resources. I indicated that this year \$510 million were committed to development projects. This is in fact a record, with the only exception of the year 1976, when the Programme was replenishing a very depleted pipeline of projects after a crisis. Therefore we see a clear trend of growing activities in support of development.

I must say also, and this debate clearly recognizes the fact, that we are faced with more emergencies. This is not our choice. However, the Programme is trying to respond as much as we can to those critical situations of people whose lives may depend tomorrow on the assistance we give today, and it is therefore so important that our emergency operations be not only developed but further improved in efficacy.

Before continuing on resources perhaps I should go back to one point related to criteria and methods of operation which was made by the representative of Barbados. He raised a very interesting question, when to terminate a project of food aid. Well, it is not a simple question. You terminate a project in many ways; you terminate a project of food aid when you accomplish its objectives. You terminate a project of food aid, in extremely rare cases, when you come to the conclusion that food aid is not the best tool to achieve the objectives which were aimed at. That is another very understandable reason to

terminate a project. We can terminate a project also for the very simple reason that the food situation in the country has changed. We can terminate a project, for instance, a supplementary feeding project, because the government feels it is already in a position to replace our own supplies. There is no general rule. I can only tell you, and those who work closely with the Programme know very well, in each project summary and in each plan of operations, there is a clause indicating how the succeeding phase should take place and in principle how the government should take over afterwards. The idea is always of an interim assistance while it is needed. That is the principle.

Coming back to the question of resources, I would say that the issue of competition is rather theoretical. I made reference to last year with 66 percent for development, 34 percent for emergencies. I think all of us agree that if we can use food aid as investment to promote production that is better. All of us agree also that when there are calamities of larger proportions, obviously, more will go to emergencies. There is no way out. In 1974/75 when in the Indian sub-continent there were special difficulties even among development projects, certain projects were phased out and interrupted and other projects were accelerated; why? For the very simple reason that when a special need comes, special situations occur, you have to react in an intelligent and rational way and therefore I would say that it is too hypothetical to speak about competition in this connexion.

I also would say that the best protection for development activities of the Programme as far as resources are concerned is to ensure that the IEFER, which is the specific arrangement made to cover emergency requirements, is properly filled. The fact that this year, for the first time, we reached the 500 000 tons target, is extremely positive. Right now we have still a balance of resources out of the \$45 million of the regular resources allocated for emergencies. Well, with additional contributions for the IEFER we have better hopes, not only of keeping to the level of \$45 million for emergency allocations, and no more, from our regular resources, but also even of preserving a balance which ultimately would be transferred to the regular resources of the Programme. Therefore I want to make it clear that, by responding to the IEFER, we are also protecting the development activities of the Programme and therefore this is again, to some extent at least, a false dilemma.

Some delegations referred to the cash question and I would like to fully endorse their concern for a need to provide the Programme with adequate cash resources.

The Programme is a food programme. However, we need cash to transport the food. Transport costs are high, as you all know. We need cash also to pay for the internal subsidy in the least developed countries and this subsidy is absolutely essential for those countries to run WFP-supported projects. And of course we need cash for our administrative needs. I must say on this last point that we are particularly proud of the fact that barely over 5 percent is used out of our resources in overheads and administration. This is a record and we are proud of this record. Even with the new administrative budget which the Committee on Food Aid approved a few weeks ago we are still under 6 percent for overheads, and this I believe is an achievement.

Some comments were made by the delegate of Syria on the quality control of food. Perhaps the first remark I should make is that we are not a technical agency, we are a programme which provides food for investment in development or for emergencies. So the larger issue of quality control of food is obviously not of our direct concern. However, I can assure delegates that in all cases quality controls are made of each cargo supplied to the Programme, both at the point of loading and at the point of unloading. Therefore all precautions are taken to ensure that adequate and proper food is supplied to WFP-supported operations.

Reference was also made to losses. Here again I would say that every dollar lost, every minimum fraction lost in quantities of food, is a very bad thing. However, we have also to understand that in moving food in large quantities sometimes a loss is unavoidable. Whoever deals with the movement of cargo, food grains and even worse, other kinds of foodstuffs, knows that a certain level of losses is unavoidable. The fact that the World Food Programme has an average of something like 0.5 percent of pre-c.i.f losses is extremely good, viewed by those who deal with these matters and know the problem involved. However, I still repeat, every dollar lost is very bad and we should obviously try to avoid losses as much as possible. Naturally there is also an element of cost there. In some cases we must also take into account the fact that we are moving cargoes long distances, with problems of humidity, problems of defective transport conditions, and therefore we are not just speaking of moving cargoes from Rotterdam to another European port, we are moving cargoes in specially difficult conditions and, even worse, when we are speaking about inland transportation.

Purchase: I was particularly pleased by the extent of support of the delegations for the policy of increasing purchase. Obviously this is tied to the cash available to us. The Zimbabwe operation is a good example of a successful operation and the simple fact that Zimbabwean maize is reaching destinations as far as Dakar and up to Mali, on competitive conditions, shows that this can be done to the advantage

of all. I am very happy with the support that you give to my colleagues and myself on initiatives of this kind. I think this is the right way that we should be moving.

Sales: One delegation made comments on the need to avoid sales of commodities. I must say that the sale of commodities was a very special arrangement under special conditions and made as an experiment. It will be reviewed by the next CFA, April 1982, and the only reason for going into that arrangement on an experimental basis was because we/were short of cash. But still I can assure delegations here that all care is taken to ensure that there is no negative effect either in normal trade patterns or in production conditions for the recipient countries.

Emergency operations: Several delegations indicated support for an effort to improve emergency operations supported by the World Food Programme. This is, as I think everybody here knows, a question which the Committee on Food Aid is dealing with. The CFA has dealt with it in the last two sessions and will continue to do so in 1982 at the Spring Session of the Committee. As I mentioned in my statement, improvements are possible and we need the cooperation of all parties concerned. We in the Secretariat are doing our best to cut short the time of delivery, to make in many ways our response more effective. In some cases problems are insurmountable. In most cases also it is absolutely essential that we have the cooperation of both donor and recipient countries.

Coordination of food aid in emergencies is absolutely vital, and I must say that the World Food Programme has been trying to provide this coordination whenever requested, whenever conditions suggest that it is needed. The case of the large emergency operations in Somalia, Pakistan and other areas is a good example of that coordination of that coordinating role of the World Food Programme as far as emergency food aid is concerned. I must also say that in trying to improve conditions of our emergency operations we must take extreme care to respect the independence of the Secretariat. You have a Secretariat which assesses requests, processes them, in this case under the authority of the Director-General of FAO, and it would be very detrimental if arrangements instead of moving into faster action in fact detracted from that. I do not want to go further on this point for the simple reason that the CFA will be discussing this matter in April, but I make the point, I want to be extremely clear on that, that the improvements should be in no way to the detriment of the speed of the response by the World Food Programme, in this case under the authority of the Director-General, nor should they be to the detriment of the independence of the Secretariat to assess conditions and requirements. This is extremely important.

IEFR: As all of us know, we are extremely close to a consensus on the way to improve the International Emergency Food Reserve by adopting the procedure of a pledging conference. It is possible, I hope, that consensus will finally be reached before next March. If that happens it will also be possible to have at that time a joint pledging conference for the regular resources of the Programme and for the IEFR. According to instructions I received from the Committee on Food Aid, I am undertaking consultations in this respect to assess if such a consensus exists at this time. I believe that the procedure of a joint pledging conference represents a step ahead in providing a larger measure of assurance for increased resources for emergencies.

A reference was also made here during our discussions to one particular project discussed in the Committee on Food Aid a few weeks ago. This project was prepared by World Food Programme staff. I am responsible for the recommendation of that project. I presented that project to the members of the CFA because I thought it was a good project. I continue to believe that it is a good project. The CFA discussed the project and decided to continue discussion at the next session. In the light of that I feel that I should not make further comments on this specific point except for the fact that I presented a recommendation on the basis of my best judgement of what was a good project and I still think it is a good project.

Reference was made also to one particular emergency operation in South-East Asia and the criteria utilized there. I must say that the United Nations system as a whole, and the World Food Programme as part of it, in extremely difficult conditions tried in that case to provide emergency assistance strictly on a humanitarian basis where it was needed, and with whatever controls were possible, as is usual with any emergency operation. We feel that this approach was the right one, and therefore I must say that my own assessment of our participation in that particular emergency operation is that we performed our duty under extremely difficult conditions, and we apparently will be called to continue to perform that duty, still under extremely difficult conditions.

I think I have covered, if not all, most of the questions raised during your debate. We are approaching now a pledging conference. This pledging conference will determine to a large extent our future, the future of the projects which we are operating in more than 100 countries. I very much hope that governments in making their decisions on what to pledge will take fully into account that this Programme tries to help the really poorest people of the world. Even in the very poor countries, we are not in coastal areas, we are not in areas of easy access. We are in the rural areas, we are where really the difficulties are the greatest. I very well know that the resources are limited, but I very much hope that the fact



that this Programme is so much attuned to the needs and requirements of the really poorest people of the world will be taken into account in the decisions made by governments on the level of their pledges.

I am confident, Mr. Chairman, perhaps because I am an optimist, I am confident that we will have a successful pledging conference. With your blessing, with the support of this Conference, I believe, as I said this morning, we will be launching our effort for the pledging conference in the best possible way.

CHAIRMAN: I thank you, Mr. Brito, for this excellent explanation and these comments.

F. ANBOOL (Yemen, People's Democratic Republic of) (Original language Arabic): I would like to congratulate Mr. Brito, the Executive Director ad Interim, for his introduction this morning of the Programme's activities. We in Democratic Yemen consider the World Food Programme to be one of the important organizations for developing the agricultural sector and rural areas in general. The Programme provides small-scale farmers with the necessary facilities to increase their agricultural output and to provide adequate food supplies. We are grateful to WFP for its efforts to combat the effects of natural disasters such as drought or floods over the past few years. Mr. Brito's efficient directorship is due to his in-depth knowledge of the real problems of developing countries. My country's delegation therefore firmly supports the pledging target of \$1.2 million set for WFP's regular resources. This amount is a reasonable one to enable WFP to meet the demands of the developing countries for food deliveries. This in turn can enable developing countries to achieve self-sufficiency in food production. Our delegation also supports the Draft Resolution of the Pledging target for WFP.

V. BEAUGE (Argentina): Hemos escuchado con mucha atención la intervención final y el resumen efectuado por el Dr. Brito y deseamos felicitarle por ello. Coincidimos plenamente con los conceptos que él ha expresado y con el resumen que ha efectuado de las deliberaciones que han tenido lugar en esta Comisión sobre el tema.

Como sugerencia adicional deseáramos reiterar nuestro deseo, también expresado por otras delegaciones, de que se le conceda la mayor atención a las actividades de cooperación entre países en desarrollo, que tienen lugar en el marco de las tareas del PMA.

CHAIRMAN: That now brings us to the end of this afternoon's debate. We had 53 countries participating in the debate on the World Food Programme, 44 of them this afternoon. Many countries commended the World Food Programme on its operations both in the field of development and emergency operations. Delegates confirmed the substantial multiplier effect the World Food Programme operations are having and welcomed new operational approaches.

All speakers stressed the importance of establishing for the two years 1983-84 a target for voluntary contributions of 1.2 million, of which not less than one-third should be in cash and/or services in aggregate.

And a final remark: I think there was overall endorsement of one of the fundamental principles of the World Food Programme, that is, food aid has to be an instrument to assist countries on their way to self-reliance.

With these words, distinguished delegates, I conclude this afternoon's debate.

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

C

C 81/II/PV/14

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Twenty-first Session

Vingt et unième session

21° período de sesiones

COMMISSION II

COMMISSION II

COMMISSION II

FOURTEENTH MEETING  
QUATORZIEME SEANCE  
14ª SESION

(19 November 1981)

The Fourteenth Meeting was opened at 10.00 hours  
R. Steiner, Chairman of Commission II, presiding

La quatorzième séance est ouverte à 10 h 00, sous la présidence de  
R. Steiner, Président de la Commission II

Se abre la 14ª sesión a las 10.00 horas bajo la presidencia de  
R. Steiner, Presidente de Comisión II

II ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMES OF THE ORGANIZATION (continued)

II ACTIVITES ET PROGRAMMES DE L'ORGANISATION (suite)

II ACTIVIDADES Y PROGRAMAS DE LA ORGANIZACION (continuación)

15. Relations and Consultations with International Organizations, including:

15. Relations et consultations avec les organisations internationales, notamment:

15. Relaciones y consultas con organizaciones internacionales, en particular:

15.1 Recent Developments in the United Nations System of Interest to FAO

15.1 Faits nouveaux survenus dans le système des Nations Unies qui intéressent la FAO

15.1 Novedades de Interés para la FAO registradas en el sistema de las Naciones Unidas

CHAIRMAN: Before we enter the debate, I should like Mr. Regnier, Director of the Office for Inter-Agency Affairs, to give us the benefit of an introduction.

A. REGNIER (Directeur, Bureau des affaires interinstitutions): Comme vous venez de le dire, Monsieur le Président, pour traiter du point 15 à l'ordre du jour, "Faits nouveaux survenus dans le système des Nations Unies qui intéressent la FAO", votre Commission dispose en ordre principal des documents suivants: C 81/19, reproduisant le document présenté au Conseil au mois de juin dernier, C 81/14 contenant mon exposé devant ce même Conseil et C 81/19-Sup.1 mettant à jour ces informations à fin septembre. Ces documents se réfèrent surtout aux questions qui ne sont pas traitées à l'occasion d'autres points de l'ordre du jour de la Conférence. Il y a quelques semaines, le Conseil a brièvement traité de ces mêmes points; et enfin la question très importante de la stratégie internationale du développement a été traitée hier en Commission I.

Je me bornerai donc maintenant à souligner les principaux événements survenus au cours des derniers mois.

Ainsi que cela est mentionné dans le document C 81/19-Sup.1, deux conférences d'importance majeure se sont tenues récemment. La FAO a activement participé à leur préparation, et sa contribution a été fort appréciée.

Je vais d'abord parler de la Conférence des Nations Unies sur les sources d'énergie nouvelles et renouvelables qui s'est tenue à Nairobi du 10 au 21 août dernier.

Le document C 81/25-Sup.1 reproduit le rapport sur cette conférence. Il est en ce moment en cours de discussion devant la Commission I. Je ne m'y étendrai donc pas. Je me limiterai à souligner avec satisfaction que l'énergie rurale a été retenue dans le programme d'action adopté à Nairobi comme l'un des domaines prioritaires. De même, des mesures spécifiques ont été recommandées dans des secteurs d'intérêt direct pour la FAO, comme le bois de feu et le charbon de bois, la biomasse, les énergies solaires, la traction animale, l'énergie éolienne.

La Conférence des Nations Unies à laquelle je souhaite me référer est celle de Paris sur les Pays les moins avancés, tenue du 1 au 14 septembre 1981. Elle a clairement manifesté la volonté politique de la communauté internationale d'accroître son aide aux pays les plus pauvres, et adopté par conséquent un nouveau programme substantiel d'actions pour les années 80, dans lequel l'importance du secteur agricole a été, à juste titre, dûment reconnue.

L'accent a été mis sur l'augmentation de la production agricole, conformément au programme d'action adopté par la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural.

Le programme déclare aussi que l'un des premiers objectifs en matière agricole devrait être d'assurer la sécurité alimentaire. Il mentionne à cet égard le Plan d'action de la FAO sur la sécurité alimentaire mondiale. En fait, le texte approuvé reprend, dans une large mesure, les grandes lignes du programme minimum pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture, que le Directeur général a présentées à cette Conférence dans son intervention en séance plénière.

Je voudrais maintenant me référer très brièvement au paragraphes 14 du document C 81/19-Sup.1 dont vous êtes saisis. Il y est dit que l'ECOSOC, lors de sa session de juillet dernier, a adopté une résolution réaffirmant entre autre: "la nécessité de renforcer la coopération économique internationale pour le développement dans le cadre multilatéral du système des Nations Unies".

Malgré cette résolution, la question des ressources affectées à la coopération multilatérale reste des plus préoccupantes, au point que les chefs de secrétariat des organisations du système des Nations Unies ont décidé, le 30 octobre, lors de la récente session du Comité administratif de coordination, d'en appeler à l'Assemblée générale.

M. de Mèredieu s'y est déjà référé ici même, il y a deux jours. Laissez-moi cependant vous redire brièvement son contenu. Dans leur déclaration, les chefs de secrétariat du système des Nations Unies se disent préoccupés par la détérioration du niveau des ressources en termes réels disponibles pour la coopération internationale multilatérale. Cette situation est aggravée par les incertitudes concernant les ressources futures, les rigueurs budgétaires et le retard dans le paiement des contributions. Cela compromet toute possibilité de saine gestion, en réduisant la capacité de programmer les engagements à l'avance et en forçant à une réduction des activités. Il peut en résulter la perte d'experts qui pourraient ne plus être disponibles plus tard si les ressources augmentaient à nouveau.

La déclaration du Comité administratif de coordination souligne enfin, au moment où l'interdépendance est reconnue comme la pierre angulaire de la prospérité et du développement économique mondial, que l'accroissement des ressources pour le développement ne peut être préjudiciable tant aux pays développés qu'aux pays en développement; la Conférence souhaitera peut être prendre note de cette déclaration.

J'en viens maintenant au Sommet de Cancun qui a réuni, les 22 et 23 octobre, 22 chefs d'Etats ou de gouvernements. Le Secrétaire général des Nations Unies y a également participé comme invité spécial. Organisé en dehors du système des Nations Unies, ce Sommet était très attendu pour faciliter le lancement des négociations globales. Il n'était pas censé prendre de décisions. Il n'y a donc pas eu de conclusions formelles ni de communiqués ou de rapport officiel dont je puisse fait état. Cependant, les deux coprésidents préparèrent, sous leur responsabilité, un résumé des débats illustrant les points principaux discutés et soulignant les éléments de convergence. On s'est déjà, pour cette Conférence, référé à de nombreuses reprises à ce document. Vous trouverez au document C 81/21 la section de ce résumé des coprésidents, traitant de la sécurité alimentaire et du développement agricole. M'aidant de ce résumé, je voudrais cependant souligner ce qui suit: En ce qui concerne le principe des négociations globales, le Sommet de Cancun a convenu "du caractère désirable de soutenir au sein des Nations Unies et en tenant compte de l'urgence, un consensus pour lancer des négociations globales sur une base nettement acceptable, dans des circonstances offrant des perspectives de progrès significatif".

La volonté politique de lancer ce dialogue a donc été exprimée, et la procédure de mise en route n'a pas été définie. Le débat se déplace une fois encore à l'Assemblée générale actuellement en cours, qui va devoir mettre au point l'Ordre du jour et les procédures de négociations.

Jusqu'ici, ces mêmes questions avaient fait échouer le lancement des négociations globales. Il reste à espérer que la volonté collective exprimée à Cancun prévaudra maintenant à l'Assemblée générale, sans quoi le débat risque à nouveau de s'enliser dans la procédure. Cette chance historique du dialogue global sur le développement solidaire de la planète serait alors durablement compromise.

En ce qui concerne les problèmes de fond, les résumés des coprésidents ainsi que les débats ont été centrés sur les principaux problèmes suivants: sécurité alimentaire et développement agricole, produits de base, commerce et industrialisation, énergie, questions financières et monétaires. En réalité, les problèmes alimentaires ont reçu une place prioritaire dans les débats. De sorte qu'on peut penser qu'ils seront un des chapitres majeurs des négociations globales. L'éradication de la faim à brève échéance est citée comme la première priorité à poursuivre. A cet effet, un effort soutenu et à long terme des pays concernés est requis pour accroître leur autosuffisance alimentaire avec l'appui décidé d'une assistance extérieure adéquate.

L'aide alimentaire est également mentionnée ainsi que diverses mesures possibles pour renforcer la sécurité alimentaire mondiale, notamment la négociation d'un accord international sur les céréales, la coordination des réserves alimentaires nationales, le renforcement de la réserve alimentaire internationale d'urgence et la constitution de réserves suffisantes pour couvrir les besoins des pays en développement. Le rôle du commerce international est également souligné; les facilités alimentaires du Fonds monétaire international ont été reconnues comme un important pas en avant, mais on devrait s'assurer que les ressources allouées à cet effet et leurs conditions d'emploi soient à l'avenir compatibles avec les besoins des pays pauvres.

La reconstitution du FIDA devrait également intervenir promptement.

Je citerai d'abord le besoin reconnu de compléter la mise en place du fonds commun des produits de base dès que possible.

La question de la stabilisation des cours a été discutée, mais sans qu'aucune solution particulière n'ait été retenue.

On a reconnu que la nécessité d'améliorer le système des préférences généralisées est de résister aux pressions protectionnistes. Référence a été faite à la proposition de tenir en 1982 une session CAC au niveau ministériel.

A Cancún, l'énergie a également reçu une attention particulière en tant que problème global. Le sommet a rappelé la proposition de lancer un plan énergétique mondial afin d'assurer une transition énergétique ordonnée. La conservation de l'énergie et l'utilisation des énergies nouvelles et renouvelables ont retenu l'attention.

De nombreux participants ont exprimé leur appui à une extension des prêts de la Banque mondiale dans ce secteur. L'idée d'une filiale "énergie" de la Banque a été avancée.

Enfin, dans le domaine monétaire et financier, diverses suggestions ont été présentées pour améliorer la coopération financière internationale, mais aucune conclusion particulière ne semble avoir été tirée.

Comme on peut le voir de cette brève analyse de la déclaration des co-présidents, le sommet de Cancún a attaché une priorité toute particulière aux problèmes agricoles et alimentaires. Ce sera donc, nous l'espérons, un des plats de résistance des négociations locales.

Dans ces circonstances, inutile d'ajouter que le Directeur général est disposé à offrir toute l'assistance possible pour les discussions relatives à l'agriculture et à l'alimentation. En tant qu'organisation du système des Nations Unies chargée de ce secteur, la FAO se trouve naturellement dans une position idéale pour fournir les services requis, l'information de base nécessaire, l'expérience des discussions intergouvernementales et la compétence technique indispensable fondée sur une capacité opérationnelle éprouvée. La Conférence souhaitera peut-être appuyer cette offre du Directeur général.

Monsieur le Président, ces quelques considérations suffiront sans doute pour introduire ce point de votre ordre du jour, et je me tiens, bien entendu, à votre disposition pour toute information additionnelle.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Como siempre nuestro amigo Regnier ha presentado muy bien las cuestiones inherentes a este asunto. El documento CL 81/19 fue publicado hace ya ocho meses, de manera que, en realidad, las notas recientes las encontramos en el Suplemento 1, al cual vamos a limitar prácticamente nuestra intervención.

Deseamos reiterar el apoyo a la participación de la FAO en los preparativos sobre conferencias y reuniones en general que tienen relación directa con los objetivos de nuestra Organización porque todas esas actividades son de beneficio común para la comunidad internacional. En orden de tiempo, la última de esas Conferencias, y sin duda la más importante, fue la de las Naciones Unidas para los Países Menos Adelantados, celebrada en París en septiembre pasado. Creemos que en nuestro Informe debemos destacar la participación de la FAO en esa Conferencia, la asistencia que nuestra Organización ofreció a los Países Menos Adelantados para que prepararan documentos y participaran en esa reunión, así como la presentación del programa global mínimo hecha por el Director General en esa importante Conferencia. En resumen, el Gobierno de Colombia piensa que la FAO debe seguir haciendo todo cuanto pueda en favor de esos países menos adelantados, con los cuales el Gobierno colombiano es plenamente solidario.

Sobre el párrafo 2, del Suplemento 1 sobre negociaciones globales, tendríamos que lamentar que no se haya podido aún alcanzar ningún acuerdo sobre los procedimientos para las negociaciones y para el programa de esas negociaciones. Está muy bien que en el párrafo 3, como ya lo dijo el Sr. Regnier, se mencionen las reuniones cumbres de Ottawa y Cancún, porque si bien esas dos Cumbres no se realizaron en el marco mismo de las Naciones Unidas, es evidente que la implementación de sus recomendaciones tendrán impacto en el sistema de las Naciones Unidas y en sus agendas. Esperamos que la declaración de Ottawa hecha por los siete países mayormente industrializados del mundo, tenga como resultado concreto entre otros la participación y las negociaciones globales por parte de esos países para que esas negociaciones se hagan pronto una realidad.

Celebramos igualmente otras partes de la Declaración de Ottawa, especialmente la relativa a la necesidad que tienen los países en desarrollo de lograr unas políticas agrícolas y alimentarias coherentes y la promesa de examinar los recursos para ese fin.

Sobre la Cumbre de Cancún, estamos un poco desorientados, algo desconcertados porque el Sr. Regnier hizo una referencia muy concreta y positiva sobre el contenido de la declaración posterior a esa Cumbre que hicieron los copresidentes en la reunión, el Presidente de México y el primer Ministro de Canadá, declaración en la cual se manifestaba que en Cancún se había conseguido prioridad a la ayuda alimentaria, la necesidad de lograr la seguridad alimentaria mundial y, en general, a ofrecer atención particular a la grave situación alimentaria en el mundo. Sin embargo en la Plenaria de la Conferencia oímos al señor representante de la Comunidad Económica Europea, suponemos que hablaba en nombre de esa Comunidad, cuyos gobiernos por lo menos tres significativos pudieron participar en Cancún, pues bien, el señor representante de la Comunidad Económica Europea dijo, en lenguaje franco y categórico, que la Cumbre de Cancún había sido un fracaso. De manera que en realidad no sabemos cuál deba ser nuestra reacción frente a esas opiniones opuestas.

Por otra parte, ha sido muy positiva la acción del Gobierno italiano en la Conferencia de los Países Menos Adelantados, así como también en el seno de la Comunidad Económica Europea y también como actitud nacional italiana, hemos tomado nota con satisfacción del anuncio que ha hecho el Sr. Emilio Colombo, Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores de Italia, sobre una proyectada reunión en Roma junto con otros países miembros de la CEE y algunos donantes en estrecha relación con la FAO, lo cual nos complace; reunión en la cual se tratarán propuestas relativas a la proyección de alimentos y a la seguridad alimentaria mundial; como el Gobierno italiano ha manifestado que esa reunión se llevará a cabo lo antes posible, así se expresa en el párrafo 6, y ya en el Consejo que antecedió a esta Conferencia nos permitimos preguntar a los distinguidos representantes de Italia cuándo ellos pudieran transmitirnos las primeras invitaciones acerca del programa, las características, los objetivos, la forma cómo ellos han concebido esa importante reunión, se nos manifestó en el Consejo por parte de los representantes de Italia, que posiblemente en esta Conferencia ellos adelantarían algunas informaciones.

Comprendemos que todo ello requiere tiempo para una adecuada preparación, pero rogamos a los colegas de Italia que tomen nuestra insistencia sólo como una inquietud muy respetuosamente hecha por nosotros, justamente por la importancia y la trascendencia que atribuimos a esa importante reunión.

Creemos que de todas maneras sobre estas Cumbres conviene registrar en nuestro Informe, que tanto en Ottawa como en Cancún así como en también en Nairobi y en París, se ha concedido importancia fundamental a la alimentación y a la agricultura; pero nuestra manifestación a este respecto no deberá limitarse a esa manifestación pasiva, sino al mismo tiempo que registramos complacidos el hecho de que se atribuya esa importancia a nuestros problemas, debemos decir en nuestro Informe, que ojalá todas esas buenas intenciones y todas las declaraciones hechas a tan alto nivel se cumplan y se hagan realidad.

De la Estrategia Internacional del Desarrollo para el Tercer Decenio nos ocupamos en la Comisión I; sin embargo, en cuanto a la FAO creemos necesario registrar con satisfacción la activa participación de nuestra Organización en la elaboración de esa Estrategia, particularmente en la sección sobre alimentación y agricultura y, por lo demás, estamos satisfechos por el hecho de que se nos ha asegurado que los objetivos de la FAO sean adecuados a los principios contenidos en la Estrategia Internacional del Desarrollo. Sin embargo, podríamos afirmar que la acción de la FAO debería ser flexible para ir adaptándose a nuevos hechos si esto se presentare en el curso del Decenio.

El Sr. Regnier, con toda justicia, hizo referencia a la preocupación que causa el problema de la carencia de recursos suficientes para las actividades agrícolas. En el párrafo 11 se habla justamente del tema de los recursos que fue tratado en la reunión conjunta del CPC y del CAC. En realidad los recursos son importantes. En ese párrafo se dice, que con recursos suficientes se espera que el Tercer Decenio tenga más éxito que el Segundo Decenio. Nosotros diríamos que con mayores recursos el Tercer Decenio sería un fracaso menor que el Segundo Decenio.

El Sr. Regnier se refirió también a otros asuntos que nosotros consideramos de importancia y que deberíamos consignar en nuestro Informe. Es la resolución del ECOSOC. Cuando el Consejo Económico y Social estudió ese Informe conjunto del COC y del CAC, el ECOSOC reiteró la necesidad de reforzar la cooperación económica internacional para el desarrollo dentro de un marco multilateral del sistema de las Naciones Unidas. Creemos que sería conveniente que en nuestro Informe apoyáramos esa resolución del ECOSOC.

En los párrafos 26 a 33, siempre del Suplemento 1, se habla de la reunión ministerial del Consejo Mundial de la Alimentación, de la séptima sesión ministerial que tuvo lugar en Novi Sad (Yugoslavia). Asistimos a esa reunión, nos pareció interesante y esperamos que se implementen las recomendaciones, las principales conclusiones que aparecen en el Apéndice B del documento; sin embargo a la delegación de Colombia le interesa esencialmente el futuro del CMA porque creemos que no basta con que triunfalmente se pueda decir que asisten 40 ó 50 ministros a una reunión, sino que es necesario y conveniente extraer

el mayor provecho, los mejores insumos políticos de la presencia de esos ministros para lograr compromisos que puedan en realidad contribuir a la solución de la crisis alimentaria mundial. Por ello, el Gobierno de Colombia ha celebrado las actitudes recientes asumidas por el Sr. Ingeniero Sr. Merino Rabago, Secretario de Agricultura y Recursos Naturales de México, Presidente del CMA, quien está tomando iniciativas que el Gobierno de Colombia comparte y que están dirigidas a procurar que el CMA logre encaminar sus actividades hacia el mecanismo de coordinación, carácter con el cual fue previsto el CMA en la Conferencia Mundial de la Alimentación que recomendó la creación de ese órgano de las Naciones Unidas. Esperamos que la Secretaría del CMA en forma realista y seria apoyará estos esfuerzos del Presidente del CMA y consideramos oportuno incluir en nuestro Informe que las actividades del CMA deberán desarrollarse en plena y estrecha cooperación con la FAO y con las demás agencias de las Naciones Unidas que tengan campos comunes.

Una última observación se refiere al FIDA, el Sr. Régnier se refirió a la reposición de los recursos del FIDA; sin embargo, el FIDA, que es una agencia de las Naciones Unidas no aparece en ninguno de estos documentos. Creemos que a la FAO y a quienes actuamos aquí, nos interesa mucho más el FIDA, por ejemplo, que otras reuniones o actividades que sí aparecen en estos documentos, como la Asamblea Mundial sobre el Envejecimiento, que tendrá lugar en 1982, o el Año Internacional de los Impedidos, en el 81. Por ello proponemos y, ojalá, conste en nuestro Informe, que el Sr. Régnier tome nota de que en los próximos documentos sobre este tema lo que suceda en las Naciones Unidas se incluya en el FIDA. El FIDA, señor Presidente, tiene interés para nosotros y para la FAO particularmente, por tres razones: primera, porque es el único organismo internacional de crédito dedicado exclusivamente a la agricultura. Segundo, porque el centro de inversiones de la FAO ha participado en la identificación y en la preparación de más del 50 por ciento de los proyectos aprobados hasta ahora por el FIDA y, tercero, porque todos estamos preocupados, como lo dijo el Sr. Régnier por el decrecimiento de los recursos para la agricultura, decrecimiento que tiene lugar esencialmente en el PNUD y en el Banco Mundial, dos importantes fuentes de financiación esenciales para el desarrollo agrícola.

Para concluir, señor Presidente, queremos apoyar la manera activa y eficaz como el Director General y los funcionarios de la Secretaría vienen colaborando con otras Agencias de las Naciones Unidas en todas estas actividades y esperamos que sigan desarrollándose esas colaboraciones cada vez de manera más intensa porque sin duda la FAO, como lo ha dicho el Director General no puede resolver los problemas de la agricultura y de la alimentación en forma aislada, sino dentro del contexto global de la economía mundial.

A. RODRIGUEZ PIRES (Cap-Vert): Ma délégation sera très brève et concentrera son intervention sur deux points que nous jugeons très importants et pertinents.

Sur le document C 81/19 présenté par M. Régnier, nous retenons en particulier ce qui nous a été dit au sujet du sommet de Cancún et du lancement des négociations globales. Il est très réconfortant de noter que les problèmes de sécurité alimentaire et de développement agricole ont été reconnus à Cancún comme prioritaires. L'importance de ces deux points avait déjà été prise en compte par les pays industrialisés à Ottawa; on doit donc espérer que ces mêmes questions recevront une priorité lors des négociations globales.

Les modalités de discussion des grands chapitres de ces négociations globales n'ont malheureusement pas pu faire l'objet d'un accord à Cancun. Nous appuyons pleinement la position du Directeur général de la FAO qui a offert l'assistance de notre Organisation pour ce qui a trait aux discussions relatives à l'agriculture et à l'alimentation.

A cet égard notre délégation tient à souligner le rôle que pourrait jouer la FAO aux comités intergouvernementaux pour conduire les négociations dans le secteur agricole, en vue des décisions à prendre selon les modalités agréées par l'Assemblée générale. Ainsi, les négociations ne quitteraient pas le cadre des Nations Unies et tireraient pleinement parti des compétences particulières de notre Organisation qui est indiscutablement la mieux à même à traiter des questions vitales pour la sécurité alimentaire mondiale et le développement agricole en général, telles que, par exemple le renforcement des réserves alimentaires internationales d'urgence, la constitution de réserves suffisantes pour couvrir les besoins des pays en développement, ainsi que la coordination des réserves alimentaires nationales.

Notre Conférence devrait marquer son accord sur cette question, et demande au Directeur général de la FAO de transmettre nos vues au Secrétaire général des Nations Unies, pour que l'Assemblée générale, à sa présente session, en soit très bien informée.

En ce qui concerne la question qui a été soulevée concernant les relations entre la FAO et les coordonnateurs résidents nouvellement nommés dans les pays, cette question intéresse bien sûr nos pays au plus haut point, car nous souhaitons que les activités de la FAO dans les pays aient un maximum d'efficacité opérationnelle.

On sait que la résolution 32/197 de l'Assemblée se réfère entre autres au rôle du coordonnateur résident en ce qui concerne les activités opérationnelles de développement menées au niveau national. Mon pays appuie cette résolution en tenant compte qu'elle indiquait expressément que ses dispositions n'effectuaient pas les relations entre les gouvernements et les divers organismes des services des Nations Unies non plus que les liens hiérarchiques et la communication directe entre les représentants de cet organisme dans les pays et leur chef de secrétariat.

Il nous paraît en effet important que, tout en assurant la coordination nécessaire des activités opérationnelles dans les pays, le nouveau système maintienne les liens directs de communication entre la FAO et ses représentants, ceci pour la bonne marche des programmes de la FAO.

Nous avons été informés à diverses reprises dans le passé, au Conseil, que la FAO avait été consultée avant la nomination des nouveaux coordonnateurs résidents. Nous avons été aussi informés, lors des précédents débats, de ce que les représentants de la FAO dans les pays étaient pleinement conscients des rôles respectifs qui étaient les leurs et ceux des coordonnateurs résidents. De même, référence a été faite à la résolution 35/81, à la suite du premier rapport de M. Dazzie, sur les questions Opérationnelles. Cette question a déjà été présentée à la session de juin 1981 du Conseil, et débattue dans le détail. Le Conseil a reconnu que les politiques du Directeur général répondent parfaitement à cette résolution. La Conférence peut donc être satisfaite des mesures prises par la FAO en réponse à la résolution 35/81.

Pour terminer, je voudrais simplement appuyer la déclaration de l'honorable délégué de la Colombie concernant le FIDA.

J. DAHL-HANSEN (Denmark): Under agenda item 12, Review of Field Programmes, a number of delegations commented on relation between FAO and the UNDP and part of the documentation there dealt with that subject. I stated in my intervention that I intended to take that subject up under the broader context of this Agenda Item, item 15 and that I would wish to comment on behalf of the Nordic countries that is Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden on one aspect of the subject, Agenda Item 15, namely the question of coordination within the UN System and particularly cooperation between FAO and UNDP.

Allow me to start by underlining our strong support for and commitment of the UN system as a whole. As major contributors to the UN, its Agencies and various programmes, the Nordic countries have participated actively in the negotiations on restructuring and strengthening of the operational activities of the UN system. Our primary aim in this process has been to enhance the overall efficiency of the system in the execution of programmes and projects. This is in order to increase the proportion of resources available for activities in the developing countries, while at the same time keeping down administrative and other support costs.

This line was unanimously endorsed by the UN General Assembly in Resolution 35/81 to which also the representative of Cape Verde has just referred.

The Nordic countries continue to believe that coordination between the various elements of the UN system's operational activities is essential quite as self-evidently as it is within any national programme of development assistance. Coordination makes sense also in mere economic terms to donor as well as to recipient countries. We agree with the view stated by the Director-General that coordination must never become an end in itself. At the present time of increasing scarcity of funds within the UN system, it is on the other hand more than ever necessary to keep a balanced perspective as regards the realistic possibilities for such coordination and to take advantage of every opportunity for meaningful coordination and meaningful integration of UN activities. We would therefore welcome the fact that now at headquarters level FAO has on a permanent basis a senior representative in UNDP's interagency task force in New York. We hope this involvement will produce tangible results.

Regarding cooperation in the field, we appreciate the joint letter from the Director General of FAO and the UNDP administrator which was sent to all UNDP resident representatives as well as to all FAO representatives in July 1980. The kind of partnership which has to prevail between the representatives and the respective organizations is clearly spelt out in that letter. We trust that the contents of the letter are reflected in the daily field work and will bring about an increased priority to agricultural development in national development plans.



In this connection I would also like to emphasize the importance we attach to the work of the country based United Nations resident coordinators. We are confident that FAO will participate fully with all its expertise in cooperation with these representatives of the entire UN system. We consider the designation of resident coordinators to be an important step to increase cooperation between various organizations within the UN system and to reduce costs. It should be recalled that this process was welcomed and that it was requested to be completed as expeditiously as possible in UN General Assembly Resolution 35/81.

Another important element in the coordination of operational activities of the UN System is the country programming. The principle of country programming has been generally adopted and its advantages are recognized by all UN members, not least by the developing countries themselves. We would therefore expect full support in the implementation of this principle by all UN agencies. We also hold the view that all specialised agencies should closely cooperate among themselves with the UN bodies concerned, for instance with the Joint Inspection Unit, in their process of evaluation which is a further element.

I would like finally to assure the Director-General and this Commission that the Nordic countries are as worried about the shortfalls in UNDP resources as anyone else. We would like to stress the necessity that the UNDP is in the future assured of resources at a sufficient level and on a more continuous basis. This has proved a prerequisite for any effective coordination of the operational activities of the entire UN system. It is common knowledge that the Nordic countries are by far the largest contributors per capita to the UNDP and we intend to continue our strong support of the programme and urge all countries in a position to do so to increase rapidly their contributions to the UNDP as well, to attain what is our common goal.

E.L. ITON (Trinidad and Tobago): The delegation of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago wishes to compliment Mr. Regnier on his very lucid introduction to this debate. We are indeed delighted to hear Mr. Regnier's remarks on the Cancun summit, especially the fact that food and agriculture were given high priority in the discussions. We hope that this is one step closer to the launching of the global negotiations referred to in Documents C 81/19 and C 81/19-Sup.1.

Our delegation is of the opinion that food and agriculture, food production and food security must be given prominence in these negotiations and it was with particular interest that we noted Mr. Regnier's words when he made a statement to the effect that FAO is ideally placed to provide the services needed, the necessary basic information and the technical competence for dealing with the subject.

Our delegation wholeheartedly supports this view. In this connection we associate ourselves with the remarks made by the delegate from Cape Verde and suggest that this Conference propose that FAO be the negotiating forum for those aspects of global negotiations that relate to food and agricultural production, food security and food aid, emergency food reserves and other related matters. Furthermore, Mr. Chairman, we suggest that this proposal be transmitted by the Director-General of FAO to the Secretary General of the United Nations for transmission to the General Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Chairman,

L. SMITH (Barbados): Mr. Chairman, in document CL79/15 paragraph 7 refers to the elimination of hunger and malnutrition as soon as possible, and paragraph 10 refers to the launching of global negotiations. We, like the delegation from Trinidad have noted with interest the comments made by the Director of the office for inter-agency affairs, and particularly the comment as quoted by the Trinidadian delegation where he points out the role of FAO, because of its special competence, could play in furthering the work of these important aspects that were referred to at Cancun and other conferences, and we would like to wholeheartedly support the recommendation made by the Trinidad delegation. If I may quote briefly from C 81/19 Supplement 1, where it refers to we, the Heads of States of Governments, referring to the Heads of State of Government "we affirm our willingness to explore all avenues of consultations and cooperation with developing countries, in whatever forum may be appropriate". I think from that quotation I would like to suggest that FAO should be the fora for discussing all matters relating to agriculture and agricultural production. I do not think there is a need for any other force since as Mr. Regnier points out FAO has the special competence to perform that role. I would like further to support the recommendation made by the Trinidad delegation that this proposal made by them should be transmitted by the Director-General to the Secretary General of the United Nations for submission to the General Assembly. Thank you.

H. OGUT (Turkey): Mr. Chairman, I would also like to support the statement of the delegate of Cape Verde on the question of the relationship between the FAO Representative and the Resident Representative of UNDP. We too do not see conflicts of competence, as the FAO Representative and the Resident Coordinator have quite different functions. We think that the FAO Representative should have direct access to the appropriate policy and planning authorities of the Government in the fields of agriculture, fisheries and forestry, as well as to the FAO headquarters. For example in the case of TCP, which requires quick action, FAO's direct contact with the related government authorities through its country representative is of vital importance. With respect to the responsibilities even to FAO Representatives for the liaison services, such as informing the governments of the emergency situations in food production, and the Director General's position with respect to these problems, in the solution of which the governments may be called upon to participate, FAO's Representative should select the ways of reaching the governments, which can eliminate the undesirable delays. In the case of UNDP Council Projects the Resident Representative of UNDP should, of course, maintain his role in coordinating UNDP operational activities. Also in FAO programmes implemented at the country level, we believe the UNDP Resident Representative should keep contact with the FAO Representatives to avoid conflicts in the UNDP project ideas. Therefore, we think that the FAO Representative should have its right to deal fully with the FAO Programmes in the countries in which FAO Representatives operate.

Thank you very much.

O. RAMADAN (Tchad): La délégation du Tchad a demandé la parole pour vous annoncer, Monsieur le Président, qu'elle appuie pleinement l'intervention du délégué du Cap-Vert.

MISS C. McASKIE (Canada): Mr. Chairman, Agenda Item 15 covers a number of items and it is not possible in the time available, for all delegations to touch on all matters before us. I shall therefore confine my comments to a few of the recent events in the UN system and the relationship of FAO to some of the organizations mentioned in the documentation as well as to the position of the FAO in the UN development system as a whole.

First of all, may I thank the Secretariat for the extensive information they have provided. There are so many international organizations operating today - both within and without the United Nations System that it becomes increasingly difficult for all of us to remain aware of, let alone retain control of all that is going on. That is why at the outset I would query the Director-General's statement that coordination is not the responsibility of the UN system but the responsibility of governments. Yes, my Government fully agrees it is the responsibility of governments but we believe that it must also be the responsibility of the system to act in a coordinated fashion if governments are to retain confidence in the system. I shall come back to this question of coordination in a moment.

I would like to start by commenting on the two recent UN Conferences. One on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and the other on the Least Developed Countries. Mr. Chairman, it is my belief that these Conferences, following as they did so soon after the negotiation and adoption of the International Development Strategy, confirm once and for all that international development has reached a new level of cooperation. The days of one-way assistance are over and the concept of partnership for development is now the basis for our work both bilaterally and multilaterally. The substantial new programme of action of the Least Developed Conference is an excellent example of this partnership.

Now that the International Development Strategy has been adopted, we look forward to the Global Negotiations. My Government supports their resumption, as we confirmed at the Cancun Summit and believes that responsibility for allocating sectoral responsibility for the global negotiations should be considered at the General Assembly. In addition, as a participant in the Cancun Conference my Government endorses the Conference Statement on food and agriculture which declares the eradication of hunger a first priority at the national level and in the field of international cooperation. That declaration, made by the two co-chairmen one of whom was the Canadian Prime Minister went on to say "the workings of international agricultural and food organizations operating within the framework of the United Nations need to be reviewed in order to avoid duplication of work, to use available resources more effectively and to improve their general efficiency".

The governments who participated in Cancun were asked at the opening of this conference how they could support the fight against hunger and still query the budget of the FAO. You will see from the paragraph I have just quoted that Cancun recognized that administrative and financial efficiency is not inconsistent with the fight against hunger.

Secondly, I would like to refer to my Minister's statement-in Plenary and at the World Food Council in May where he mentioned the 27 organizations which have an impact on the international food sector in food production and agriculture development in distribution and in trade. The Canadian delegation to the World Food Council suggested that the World Food Council should look more carefully at each of these organizations to see how they work together and whether they overlap in their functions and policies. Particularly is this relevant in Africa which contains the regions most affected by hunger and malnutrition and where it is imperative for us to know where we are going and what still needs to be done.

Turning to another matter, Mr. Chairman, Document C81/19 Supplement 1 reports on the coordination of humanitarian assistance and the recent events at the Economic and Social Council in Geneva in July of this year. I refer particularly to paras. 24 and 25 on page 6 of the document, which describes the attempts by ECOSOC to negotiate a coordinating mechanism. I would like to comment on the fact that the Secretariat was represented at that meeting by a very large delegation in order to present the Secretariat's view that coordination would be counterproductive.

Mr. Chairman, I cannot mention humanitarian assistance without mentioning the Kampuchean Relief Programme. The efforts of FAO along with UNICEF and other organizations are effective proof that when we work together we can overcome the most awesome problems.

This leads me, Mr. Chairman, to the main point of my intervention today. The coordination and integration of operational activities for development in the UN system.

My Government at the Economic and Social Council last summer stated as follows: the problems of coordination have been addressed in the General Assembly in the Economic and Social Council and in the governing bodies of operational agencies in respect of both the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the UN system and the comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development.

One of the most concrete results of the continuing deliberations on these questions has been the designation by the Secretary-General of Resident Coordinators in the field with overall responsibility for coordination of UN operational activities at the country level.

No less important, resolutions have been implemented appointing the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation with authority over all services and organs in the economic and social sector.

In addition, General Assembly resolution 32/197 calls for improved coherence of action, effective integration, maximum uniformity of procedures, and for steps to be taken to unify the country offices of the various United Nations organizations in the hope that such physical unification would lead to reduced administrative costs and closer co-operation and co-ordination in the field. Furthermore, agencies were asked to work together on joint planning and programming, as well as on the co-ordinated implementation of programme activities.

Despite these resolutions and reaffirmations of support for the principles of co-operation and co-ordination - resolutions which were adopted by consensus by the various UN bodies - we are disheartened at the slow pace of integration, particularly in the light of Resolution 35/81.

One of the reports before us today is the report of action taken by the Secretariat in response to Resolution 35/81. I refer to the Comprehensive Policy Review of Operational Activities in document C 81/19.

I would commend the Secretariat for the action which they have taken to implement parts of this resolution, in particular their continued representation and the strong part which they play in the Inter-Agency Task Force in New York and also the joint letter which has been sent to field representatives.

I would encourage the Secretariat to continue further down this path in translating the policies of the governing bodies into action in the field.

The General Assembly has just considered the Secretary-General's report on Operational Activities for Development of the UN System. I refer to General Assembly document A/36/478 of 30 September 1981.

What appears to be the reality behind this report is the fact that the Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation in Headquarters and the UN Resident Coordinators in the field, while they receive a great deal of support, are not perhaps getting the full support of all the elements of the System. Part of the difficulty lies, we believe, in the fact that resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly are not legally binding on the Specialized Agencies, who can be placed in the understandable and awkward position of receiving conflicting mandates from their own governing bodies.

My Government believes that the General Assembly should remain the final authority in defining the objectives of the UN Development System, and, with that in view, it may be that we should have another look at the relationships between the various components of the system.

Mr. Chairman, we have been advised that participating in the UN co-ordinating mechanism is a costly matter. This is true. What is not quantifiable, however, is the cost to the system of a lack of co-ordination. My Government cannot, therefore, endorse the statement in paragraph 18 of document C 81/19 which implies that further exercises in co-ordination are unnecessarily complicated and unproductive.

To close, our Director-General told us at the opening of Commission II: "Co-ordination begins and remains with governments. It cannot be imposed upon them by the system." I believe that the reverse is also true. We are not suggesting that the UN system impose co-ordination on governments. We are suggesting that governments request the UN system to act in a coordinated manner.

P.N. RANA (Nepal); I should like to thank the Secretariat for providing all the necessary information.

I should like to speak on the relationship between the FAO representative and the UNDP representative. We have had an FAO country representative in our country for the last fifteen years. His presence has been very useful for providing all the necessary information regarding food aid, food production, etc., for the development of agriculture as a whole in our country. Our experience is that the relationship between FAO and UNDP representatives is very congenial. The presence of the FAO representative in Nepal has helped the proper utilization of UNDP and IPF, etc. Therefore, my delegation feels that the process of decentralization in FAO is a welcome step.

E. MAZURKIEWICZ (Poland): The Polish delegation has studied with careful interest the documents under consideration: that is, document C 81/19 and C 81/19-Sup.I. I should like to congratulate the Secretariat of FAO for the very clear, concise and interesting information which is contained in these documents.

Although these documents are mainly of an informative character and were partly presented at the 79th Session of the FAO Council, the Polish delegation would like to emphasize with pleasure that the Secretariat of FAO take an active share in preparing and organizing very important international conferences with the aim of developing international co-operation in such important areas as increase of food production, energy and water supply for agriculture and rural population, improving living conditions for old people, and so on. My country has always supported wide international co-operation to solve many difficult problems for the benefit of all member countries, in particular for the developing countries, who most need international assistance.

For these reasons the Polish delegation support all the efforts of the Secretariat of FAO to organize wide co-operation between countries in terms of the whole United Nations system, and particularly regions, because only co-operation, assistance and mutual understanding can accelerate the achievement of the aims of our organization and of each country.

Sra. G. SOTO (Cuba): Quisiéramos expresar ante todo, en nombre de nuestra delegación, nuestro agradecimiento por la detallada y exacta exposición hecha por el Sr. Regnier de los documentos bajo discusión en este momento.

Como bien han expresado otros oradores, mi delegación coincide con que las novedades a que debemos referirnos con mayor atención están contenidas en el Suplemento I.

Sobre las principales reuniones Cumbres a que se hace mención en el párrafo 3, consideramos que en la reunión de Ottawa el propio documento que analiza esto, expone en los párrafos 4 y 5 dos aspectos de esta declaración aprobada, que se refiere específicamente, uno a las negociaciones globales y el otro a la producción alimentaria en los países en desarrollo y la seguridad alimentaria mundial. Consideramos que esta preocupación expresada en los mencionados párrafos no debe quedar en letra muerta y que, efectivamente, los Jefes de Estado de Gobiernos asistentes a estas reuniones deben llevar a vías de hecho las ideas que allí se aprobaron. Elogiamos, asimismo, la iniciativa del Gobierno italiano de convocar una reunión entre los miembros de la Comunidad Económica Europea y otros países donantes en estrecha relación con la FAO y otras organizaciones y órganos de las Naciones Unidas, donde se tratarán las propuestas relativas a la producción de alimentos y a la seguridad alimentaria, aspectos que son de tanto interés para todos nosotros.

Sobre la Estrategia Internacional para el Desarrollo, ya nos referimos exhaustivamente en la Comisión I; sin embargo, considerando que la Estrategia Internacional para el Tercer Decenio de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo, ha sido concebida como parte de los esfuerzos permanentes de la Comunidad Internacional para acelerar el desarrollo de los países menos desarrollados y establecer un Nuevo Orden Económico Internacional y, teniendo en cuenta también que en realidad la Estrategia Internacional para el Tercer Decenio es una continuación de las metas y objetivos que no se alcanzaron en el Segundo Decenio, siendo iguales las metas fundamentales, consideramos que no deben escatimarse esfuerzos por parte de todos los organismos especializados de las Naciones Unidas conjuntamente con los países para que se cumplimente esta nueva Estrategia.

De especial interés para la FAO es en realidad la sección dedicada a la agricultura y a la alimentación; sin embargo, nuestra delegación está convencida de que el carácter integral del desarrollo a que aspiramos, impone también la consideración integral y centralizada de los problemas relacionados con las materias primas, la energía, el comercio, el desarrollo y los asuntos financieros y monetarios.

La tarea fundamental radica en materializar la cooperación en programas concretos que satisfagan las más variadas necesidades e intereses, teniendo en cuenta todos los aspectos señalados.

Sobre el Consejo Mundial de la Alimentación, consideramos que, efectivamente, el mismo está concediendo gran importancia a que se refuercen los programas de cooperación mutua en materia de alimentación y agricultura, y está dando verdadera prioridad a temas tan vitales como el de la seguridad alimentaria mundial, entre otros.

En términos generales, señor Presidente, consideramos que la FAO está actuando de manera loable en los aspectos referentes a la coordinación dentro del sistema de las Naciones Unidas. Nuestra delegación apoya todos estos esfuerzos.

Para terminar, quisiera referirme a dos aspectos tratados en esta reunión por otras delegaciones. Con relación a la vinculación entre los representantes de la FAO y el PNUD en los países, nos parece que no sólo es necesaria, sino fundamental. Apoyamos la declaración sobre este aspecto de la delegación de Cabo Verde y nos complace decir que en nuestro país ambos representantes actúan de manera muy coordinada a pesar de la gran actividad que despliegan ambas representaciones.

Por último, apoyamos los planteamientos sobre el FIDA, expresados por la delegación de Colombia; es preocupante entre otras cuestiones, que aún los fondos de esa Organización sean iguales a aquéllos con los que comenzó su labor. Este, entre otros aspectos referentes al FIDA, deben ser preocupación de la FAO.

Finalmente apoyamos que la presentación del Informe del ECOSOC sobre Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural se basen en los análisis que prepare la FAO dentro del marco de las actividades complementarias de la Conferencia.

M. CHOUERI (Liban) (langue originale arabe): Je voudrais d'abord remercier le secrétariat, et M. Régnier en particulier, pour les renseignements très utiles qu'ils ont bien voulu nous donner.

Je voudrais centrer mon commentaire sur le document relatif aux différentes conférences qui se sont réunies récemment. La dernière en date a été la réunion au sommet qui s'est tenue à Cancún.

A ce sujet, je voudrais rappeler ce qu'a dit le Chef de la délégation de mon pays à la séance plénière. Il a dit que les participants à ce sommet ont quitté cette réunion après s'être mis d'accord sur la nécessité de mener des négociations globales. C'est là pour nous un espoir qui démontre que la Communauté internationale est solidaire et que ses membres doivent travailler dans une interdépendance totale.

La production agricole a été l'un des sujets les plus importants qui ont été discutés au cours de ce sommet. Nous espérons toujours des résultats concrets car nous nous posons la question: est-ce que le sommet de Cancun est vraiment une réussite? L'essentiel est que les représentants du sud rencontrent les représentants du nord. Ils ont eu l'occasion de s'exprimer et de faire prendre conscience aux représentants du nord des problèmes du sud, problèmes qui étaient pratiquement ignorés par le passé.

Le tiers monde a besoin plus que jamais d'une évolution positive dans le domaine des négociations globales. Selon nous, ces négociations globales doivent soulever les véritables problèmes de la coopération internationale qui touchent la base et parvenir à définir l'assise sur laquelle sera construit le nouvel ordre international que le sud réclame depuis longtemps.

J'ai écouté avec attention les déclarations des délégués qui m'ont précédé et je voudrais que l'on utilise les possibilités offertes par la FAO pour donner une suite efficace aux recommandations du sommet de Cancun dans le domaine de l'agriculture et de l'alimentation.

Je voudrais également mentionner les autres réunions qui ont eu lieu récemment, dont la plus importante est la réunion concernant les pays les moins avancés à laquelle la FAO a participé. Cette réunion s'est tenue à Paris. La Conférence s'est inspirée des recommandations de la FAO pour mettre au point son Programme d'action.

Je voudrais enfin mentionner la question de la coopération. Il ressort des différents documents et du discours du Directeur général que la FAO déploie des efforts substantiels dans le domaine de la coopération. Le Directeur général a bien appliqué la Résolution 80.35. Il a allégé le poids de la bureaucratie, et il a augmenté les activités sur le terrain. Je dois dire que la coopération est avant tout une question qui relève de la responsabilité des gouvernements et on ne peut pas leur imposer cette coopération. Toutefois cela ne peut pas être une raison pour augmenter le nombre des agents et celui des experts; il s'ensuivrait d'ailleurs une augmentation des charges au Siège même.

En ce qui concerne les activités du CAC, selon nous les résultats sont satisfaisants.

En ce qui concerne l'évaluation, problème qui a été mentionné par plusieurs délégations, nous réaffirmons notre position à ce sujet, position qui a déjà été exprimée par deux fois.

Quant au niveau local et au niveau national, nous avons eu l'occasion de dire que les représentants de la FAO dans les pays ont une expérience très certaine qui permet aux représentants du PNUD de faire appel à eux dans le domaine agricole et dans le domaine alimentaire pour la mise au point des programmes nationaux. A ce sujet, nous sommes tout à fait satisfaits de la coordination qui existe entre les représentants de la FAO et ceux du PNUD.

La majorité des délégations ici présentes a appuyé la décentralisation préconisée par la FAO dans ce domaine.

Enfin, je ne m'étendrai pas longuement sur la nouvelle stratégie de développement. Je me contenterai de dire que la FAO a contribué à la mise au point de cette stratégie. Mais cette question sera discutée au sein de la première Commission.

H. REDL (Austria) (original language German): First of all, I should like to thank Mr. Regnier for his excellent introduction. Quite rightly, he mentioned, first of all, the Nairobi Conference and he also referred to the fact that they are discussing energy at the present time in Commission I. We know that 25 percent of international energy needs have to be saved, as far as possible. We are happy to note that FAO has taken steps in that regard. The Austrian delegation to Commission I will speak at greater length on this matter.

With respect to the Cancun talks, I once again emphasize that Austria feels it is necessary to work towards a new economic order. It is well known that Chancellor Kreisky mentioned, *inter alia*, at Cancun the programme and steps for food security and that he emphasized the need for an increase in production of foodstuffs. In addition, Austria suggested a programme for the improvement of the infrastructure of various economic sectors in the developing countries. We believe that here FAO can play a very important role. Austria has already stated in the past that it is in favour of greater coordination between the work of different UN organisations. In this way we can avoid over-lapping.

B.O. JOBE (Gambia): I merely wish to add my support to the statement made by the distinguished delegates of Cape Verde and Trinidad and Tobago concerning food security and agricultural development. I also wish to support the proposal put forward by them that the Director-General of FAO should transmit the decision of this Conference to the Secretary-General of the United Nations that there is a need for FAO to be the competent authority, on account of its expertise, to implement the decisions reached both at Cancun and in Ottawa as far as food security and agricultural development are concerned.

I also wish to express my delegation's appreciation to FAO for producing such an excellent document. I would add that, in order to maintain the momentum of the UN/Paris Conference on the LDCs, the Ottawa conference and the Cancun conference, the FAO should continue its good work and active participation and assist in the coordinating effort made in all these fields in order to bring the good intentions expressed at these conferences on food security and agricultural development to fruition.

M. ZJALIC (Yugoslavia): I should like to limit my comments to two aspects of this very complex problem. The first is coordination and the second the role of FAO and our tasks after Cancun.

My delegation appreciates the fact that the operational activities of the United Nations system have largely contributed to the accelerated development of developing countries. We also note that the restructuring of the United Nations is largely complete. Coordination in national or field activities, we see as a series of measures to improve coherence of action and effective integration at national levels. In this regard we note the decisive role of the recipient countries or the countries where these activities take place. We endorse, by and large, the conclusions contained in the relevant document on this agenda. We would also like to commend FAO and the Director-General on the action taken in this respect.

We recognize the complexity of the problem, particularly the fact that some 30 agencies, bodies or programmes deal partly or wholly with food, agriculture, and rural development. Nor do we overlook the need for a certain level of coordination at Secretariat level, provided that the governing bodies of UN agencies are sovereign under their own constitutions and that they represent a coherent policy approach by member governments. As for our task after the Cancun summit, we have expressed our position at the Plenary session. I would just like briefly to reiterate the fact that we consider that the recent summit at Cancun was an important step and hopefully a turning point in our endeavor to overcome the crisis in international economic cooperation. We also expressed our hope that the international community would soon be in a position to negotiate the many urgent present and future problems in an open and effective manner and that these negotiations on food and agriculture would be given the prominence which they must have.

In this connection we expressed our opinion that FAO is the most competent UN agency to assist in the preparation of these negotiations and to provide the necessary Secretariat services. The location of global negotiations has still to be decided by consensus in the UN. In the past we have had two quite different and opposite approaches, one centralistic and one decentralised, as far as starting negotiations is concerned. It is possible that a new approach and a new consensus will be reached in the near future but at the present time we are not in a position to accept any firm stand on the location of global negotiations. Nevertheless, we insist that the role of FAO as the most competent UN agency be safe-guarded and developed during this process of global negotiation.

Finally, I should like to express the satisfaction of my government at the new initiatives of the governments of France, Italy, and Austria in the sphere of international cooperation in food and agriculture.

A. TRAORE (Guinée): Le fait que, dans un très grand nombre de Conférences internationales, il est toujours fait mention du problème alimentaire montre combien essentiel est le rôle de la FAO dans le système des Nations Unies. De ce fait, nous reconnaissons avec M. Régnier que la FAO est l'organisme le mieux indiqué parce qu'ayant la compétence requise pour discuter de ce programme.

Compte tenu du caractère vital de l'intervention de la FAO dans les programmes de développement des pays les moins avancés, nous notons avec satisfaction la déclaration du porte-parole des pays nordiques, en l'occurrence le Danemark, qui a fait état de l'importance de leur participation au fonds du PNUD dans le passé, et d'une contribution encore plus grande à l'avenir.

Pour terminer, ma délégation fait sienne la requête du délégué du Cap-Vert.

Ms. S.M. MAIER (Netherlands): There has been a lot of activity on the international level within and outside the UN system. The supplement to document 19 was issued seven months after the appearance of document 19. It shows that many meetings have taken place in those past months which will have their effect on FAO's work. The subjects are wide ranging from the Cancun meeting last month to the preparation of the World Assembly on the aging in 1982. Like the other specialized agencies, FAO takes its share in the preparation of and the participation in those international gatherings.

Many of those conferences and meetings have increasingly stressed the importance of food production and agriculture as a top priority for their development. I am thinking for instance of the recent conferences on new and renewable resources on the least developed countries and of the Summit Meeting in Cancun. Indirectly this implies a further strengthening of FAO's role within the UN System.

This immediately brings us to the question of how FAO plays its part as a member of the UN family. FAO has taken an important step two years ago by convening a World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. This Conference successfully resulted in the adoption of a Programme of Action which has a far reaching impact on the rest of the System. The complex nature of the question and the many aspects involved are the reasons for the existence of an ACC Task Force on Rural Development of which FAO is a leading agency. The WCARRD illustrates that FAO could not and should not try to realize this action program on its own. Coordination of policies and activities is not easy and sometimes not quite rewarding. We experience this constantly within our own national administration. Moreover, it is not always possible to directly assess the benefit of the time spent on national and international coordination. The need to coordinate, nevertheless, becomes more and more pressing as awareness grows that nearly all aspects of development are closely interrelated.

Together with the necessity to avoid time and money consuming overlaps in the work of the agencies it has resulted in an international consensus on the need to coordinate, but at what cost must coordination be pursued? None of us would like to see heavy and unproductive mechanisms created because those are time and money consuming as well. Of course a cost benefit analysis should be at the basis of any coordinating mechanism in the UN family, but being a member of this family in our opinion also implies a loyal participation even when a member does not expect to get the maximum out of it. In the case of WCARRD, FAO is the lead agency that rightly works together with the other ACC members when efforts were made to strengthen the capacity of the UN system to respond to emergencies during the ECOSOC session last July it became apparent that there were clearly different ideas about how this system should be rendered, more efficient in cases of emergency. Some member countries were in favour of a relief coordination unit of the agencies concerned in the countries struck by disaster. They were also in favour of the possible establishment of an emergency unit at headquarters level. The ACC members on the other hand were of the opinion that ad hoc arrangements only in exceptional emergency situations would be sufficient. Such a difference of opinion is fair enough but we have doubts about the activities which have been undertaken by some agencies during the ECOSOC to get rid of the proposals before the meeting. I would not like to dwell on this any further Mr. Chairman, but I would simply like to stress that we feel that the best way to settle a difference of opinions on such a problem of coordination is to come out into the open.

When speaking of coordination of activities one will always have to ask oneself how useful these efforts are. We understand that the statement in paragraph 18 of document 19 which says that the question of resources for development is far more important than further complicated and unproductive exercises in coordination, but these are essentially two different questions. The question of resources for development is important, and the question of making the coordination less complicated and more effective is another one but equally important. Effective coordination will eventually be time and money saving.

Mr. Chairman I will not go into details of the document before us. Many of the subjects dealt with will come up or already have come up on a separate agenda item. It is impressive to see how many subjects tackled in other international fora are of great relevance for FAO's work. FAO has shown that it is capable to absorb all these recommendations, decisions and trends into its daily work. We would like to express our appreciation for the way FAO deals with the extra task which will grow in complexity that the world community has laid upon it. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

B.E. PHIRI (Zambia): We would like to say one or two things on this particular topic we are now considering, and this is taken with a background of the Ottawa and the Cancun Meetings. Mr. Chairman we think that the international community at the summit level is trying to coordinate activities although we do not see much progress since no specific decisions are taken as to what to do, but coming to the question of coordination as put in this particular paper, Mr. Chairman, we think that the question of coordination at country level is something we have to look at pragmatically. In the past, Mr. Chairman, the UNDP resident representative was in charge of coordinating all the



activities of the UN agencies, and we are aware, Mr. Chairman, that this situation did not work satisfactorily or as well as one would have expected it. There were instances, Mr. Chairman, where the UNDP resident representative and say the senior agricultural advisor found that they could not get on very well together, sometimes because of personality clashes, sometimes because of their duties, and this affected the work of the agencies as far as the country was concerned, and it was decided as a possibility of improving the situation that FAO should appoint fully-fledged representatives at the country level. I think the decision was taken by the Conference, if I remember correctly, in 1975, that the position of the senior agricultural advisor should be upgraded to that of a fully fledged representative of FAO, and this decision is right now in the process of implementation.

Now as the work goes on in countries, we note that the Heads of various agencies, whether they be multilateral or bilateral do meet quite regularly to coordinate their work, and the UNDP resident representative attends these meetings. Sometimes these meetings are held by the Heads of these organizations on their own, or sometimes in attendance with the representatives of the planning Ministries. So coordination one might say is going on right now, and this kind of coordination is what the Conference of this Organization found feasible in view of the problems we have had in the past so far as the Commission is concerned.

Then Mr. Chairman I think that at the country level there is a system whereby the various agencies produce reports which are given either to the UNDP resident representative or to other agencies so that they know what each particular agency is doing, and in this way the UNDP resident representative already is in a position to write a composite paper on what development work is going on in a particular country. But we are hearing of people saying that either the UNDP resident representatives or somebody else should be appointed as a coordinator of the UN agencies. Now with what has already taken place in the countries, I do not know what sort of coordination the people who are making these proposals are considering, whether they want to go back to the old system where there was an obvious Head who controlled everything and the other agencies routed their report through him, we do not know, but if this is what they have in mind we do not support it because it means we shall go back to the old feuding which impeded the work of operation by multiple agencies in developing countries.

Mr. Chairman when it comes to coordination we have been hearing about and we know about the indicated planning figures of the UNDP resident representative, and in making their location of these facts from the IPF's, the UNDP resident representative has all the power to decide where the funds will go, possibly in conjunction with a government but quite often developing countries do not have the machinery to examine the papers when they are put before them clearly so that they can participate fully in the decision making.

Quite often they are told, "This is good for you". I am sorry to be speaking in these terms but I just want to put the situation as we have seen it happen in a number of countries. It is put to them, "We think this is good for you, we have funds for you for this and funds for you for that", and the country just says, "Oh yes, thank you very much"s and they sign the documents and the matter is finalized.

I wish to mention particularly here that in Africa we have the problem of trypanosomiasis and there is a programme now to try and eradicate the tsetse fly. This is a project which affects a number of countries together, but when you go to look at the funds allocated to this particular project you find that they do not match the immensity of the project, the funds are so meagre. In fact, the resources are such that possibly by next year the funds will, dry up and the project will come to a standstill. We sit here in our meetings at FAO, whether in COAG or in other committees, we discuss these action programmes, we have been supporting such programmes as the control of trypanosomiasis. But look at the funds that have been given under the IPF; so little that one wonders what coordination it achieves in that respect. If the coordination is such that the UNDP resident representative meets with other people and accepts their submissions, one would expect that possibly more funds would be put into this.

I wish to mention this particularly to try and make the point that whereas governments are said in theory to be making decisions as to where the funds should be put, when you look at this programme you wonder where in practice they do this. It would appear that in practice possibly the UNDP resident representative, who may probably not even see the necessity for putting funds into a project like the control of trypanosomiasis or a forestry project, will decide where the funds go. If he does not like a particular project, he will not put the funds there, and will not in fact persuade the government to put the funds there.

So whereas this may be a case for coordination, I think it just shows that the coordination can best be done by the country working in conjunction with competent organs. If the countries were to make a decision, say, in Africa on this particular project of trypanosomiasis, the chances are they would have requested more funds to go into this, had they worked with FAO directly on this item.

Therefore we think that as far as coordinating activities, say, in food and agriculture are concerned, the country should be left to coordinate these activities with the competent organs. In this particular case FAO which is a competent organ in food and agriculture should be allowed freedom to look at issues coordinate the issues and see where the funds are needed because it is this organization which gets requests from developing countries for assistance of one kind or another.

I do not want to appear to be attacking the UNDP, but I am just using this as an example on coordination, that it is better to leave the competent agencies, the technical agencies, to carry out the work and to coordinate their work as they see fit, depending on the requests that they get.

Talking about the activities in the various fora, we are in a way disappointed that quite often noble aims, high ideas, are expressed but when it comes to putting those ideas into effect we see very little action taken. I started by mentioning the summits at Ottawa, Melbourne and Cancun; we have had expectations that when heads of state meet because they feel that a situation demands their attention, they will discuss things not only at their level but possibly emanating from this, their whole concern would permeate the fabric of government and international cooperation so that it affects the activities in the field. We tend to have things said at a certain level but what we do at different levels is quite the contrary. The pronouncements we have heard in these summit meetings do not match the kind of stand that we see representatives of countries taking at meetings such as ours here.

So we would like to end by supporting the role of FAO and allowing it as a lead agency in food and agriculture to continue doing its work and coordinating activities at country level.

G. KELLEY SALINAS (México): Quisiera hacer una breve referencia a algunos de los temas presentados en los documentos que nos ocupan.

Para México los esfuerzos en pro de la cooperación internacional son fundamentales y deben acelerarse. Confiamos que la diplomacia prevalezca sobre las relaciones de fuerza, y sobre esto se refirió la Conferencia de Cancun que constituye un paso si no espectacular, sí importante.

En cuanto a la coordinación entre organismos del sistema de las Naciones Unidas, consideramos que cierta pluralidad es siempre saludable, pero debe cuidarse el evitar duplicidad y procurar lograr también la mayor coordinación posible sin sobrecargar el aparato burocrático, Apoyamos por tanto los esfuerzos encaminados a una mejor coordinación, sin que ello signifique un centralización inoperante que obstaculizará además la acción independiente que por sus constituciones corresponde a los organismos especializados, y entre ellos la FAO.

Finalmente, Sr. Presidente, no debemos olvidar el apoyo que puede dar el Consejo Mundial de la Alimentación para ayudar a vencer los obstáculos de índole política a la reestructuración del orden económico internacional en el campo de la agricultura y alimentación.

MS. G. ROSSI PEROTTI (Italy): My delegation was sitting in Commission III this morning and was not present when Mr. Bula Hoyos delivered his speech today. We would like to answer the delegation of Colombian request over the Italian initiative. As for the terms of the Conference to be held in Rome, they were mentioned in the intervention of the head of our delegation, Minister Bartolomei. As for the timing? the Italian government is planning to convene a preparatory technical meeting in January or February with the Rome conference at a political level later on in the spring.

This action will be taken in cooperation with the European Community members and other donor countries and in strict cooperation with the UN agricultural institutions in Rome, especially FAO.

I would hereby also like to put on record our appreciation of the reference made to our country by the delegate of Yugoslavia.

B.R. FURNESS (United States of America): I will limit my remarks today to the subjects of the Cancun conference, which recently concluded, and of global negotiations.

With respect to the Cancún conference, let me start by indicating that the United States does not share the negative opinions regarding the Cancún Summit that we have heard from some speakers. The United States believes that Cancún was a positive step forward towards greater international cooperation. The spirit of the Conference was highly constructive and positive, the exchanges were direct, frank, wide-ranging and the Conference did achieve a number of important understandings which may have a significant impact on the North-South dialogue in the months that follow.

The United States is prepared to build on the climate created at Cancún. We shall be seeking ways to translate the Cancún Summit spirit into pragmatic and specific solutions.

With respect to the subject of global negotiations, a number of speakers have spoken about the relationship of these to the Cancún Summit and to the role of the FAO in these negotiations. At the Cancún conference, President Reagan discussed global negotiations in his opening remarks, stating that "we are prepared to carry out the commitment in the Ottawa summit declaration to conduct a more formal dialogue bilaterally with regional groups in the United Nations and in specialized international agencies. We take seriously the commitment at Ottawa to participate in preparations for a mutually acceptable process of global negotiations in circumstances offering the prospect of meaningful progress."

If the participants can agree on the understandings that would make progress possible, President Reagan made clear that the United States would be willing to engage in a new preparatory process to see what may be achieved.

With respect to the role of the FAO in global negotiations, we believe it inadvisable to pre-judge the decision of the General Assembly, which is, as we have been reminded here by other speakers, the appropriate body for deciding this matter. I would note, however, that we and others in the context of global negotiations have underlined the need to respect the competence of the specialized international agencies. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

M. SANKARANARAYANAN (India): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the opportunity given to my delegation to speak on these two documents, C81/19 and the supplement to it. At the outset my Delegation would like to compliment the FAO Secretariat on the remarkable clarity with which these documents have been brought out.

This intervention on behalf of my delegation is brief and will be restricted to two matters which have been referred to in these documents. The first of these is paragraph 29 of the main document, that is the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, in that I would like to read and quote, "at the time of writing FAO is associated with four of the nine projects confined within the framework of the interim fund. Pledges for the interim fund stand at \$40 million. Out of a target of \$250 million so far \$15 million have been deposited with the interim fund". This situation, Mr. Chairman, my Delegation views with some concern. It is the hope of my Delegation that the pledges for the target will be fulfilled by all concerned, and that FAO through its initiative will be able to ensure that this is done.

The second point of intervention of my delegation is something on which several other delegations have already spoken before Commission II. This is with reference to strengthening the capacity of the United Nations system to respond to emergencies. Earlier, in Commission I, my delegation, while speaking on the International Development Strategy has underlined the fact that the Cancun Summit Meeting was taking initiative in re-starting global negotiations for a new international economic order. We had said in that Commission that when these global negotiations come under way, FAO as the United Nations Specialized Agency in Food and Agriculture, should take a very major role, and that it should take considerable initiative in all matters relating to food and agriculture. This, Mr. Chairman, my delegation would like to reiterate in this Commission. On this subject my delegation has noted with concern the fact that in the name of coordination attempts are being made to build up other organizations and other mechanisms. We do not think that this kind of initiative is at all necessary. We are therefore in agreement with what is said in paragraph 25 of the Supplement, that while FAO is following this matter closely that it is anxious that in the name of coordination assistance mechanism should not be set up when their usefulness is doubtful and their creation may result in the delaying of the provision of aid that is urgently needed by the developing countries in emergency situations. When we see the efforts being made in this direction in the name of so-called coordination, in the name of a kind of response to ad hoc situations, certain words from an English poet comes to the mind of our delegation, that for forms of government let fools contest but what is best administered at best. A proverb also comes to our mind that the way to hell is paved with good intentions.

Mr. Chairman, there is a juggernaut-like inevitability, if I may so, and juggernaut comes very appropriately, speaking on behalf of my delegation in bureaucratization, because when you bureaucratize more these really lead to complication of the issues that are sought to be resolved, and these, in fact, do not contribute much to solution.

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, in conclusion my delegation would like to urge with all the emphasis at our command that FAO with the commencement of global negotiations for a new international economic order, should not only take but also retain the initiative in responding to emergency situations.

F. d'ALMEIDA (Bénin): Je pense qu'il faut laisser à chaque agence la possibilité d'intervenir comme elle l'entend, dans le cadre de l'agriculture et de l'alimentation. Je ne vois pas la nécessité que la FAO soit guidée par le PNUD pour savoir ce qu'elle a à faire. Je pense qu'au niveau des Etats c'est le gouvernement qui fait la coordination. Il ne faut pas confier ces problèmes à une autre agence des Nations Unies.

P. KANGA (Angola): Je n'ai malheureusement pas pu assister au début de la discussion, mais ma délégation a étudié le document dont nous sommes saisis. Elle ne prétend pas en faire ici un commentaire élargi. Nous nous limitons à appuyer la déclaration de l'honorable délégué du Cap-Vert.

J.L.F. BUIST (United Kingdom): I too shall be very brief. I first of all wanted to assure the distinguished delegate from Colombia that the positive view of the community and its Member States on the outcome of Cancún was expressed in the Presidency speech in Plenary, which I am sure he will be able to read.

Secondly, on the question of the global negotiations and the role of FAO in that process, we would endorse the points made by Canada, the US, Mexico and others, about the specific role of the General Assembly. I think that is incontestable. At the same time I think we believed there would be general agreement that FAO, with its special role and expertise, should stand ready to employ all its assistance to help in the global negotiations as and when they might be launched, if the UN General Assembly should so decide, and I suppose that that proposition might command some fairly wide support. Thank you very much.

K. GADIS (Grèce): Je voudrais, moi aussi, ajouter ma voix à ce qui a été dit à propos de la coordination par plusieurs délégués. Cette question a été soulevée à plusieurs reprises à la sixième session du Conseil mondial de l'alimentation à Arusha, et également par d'autres délégués.

Je voudrais donner l'appui de mon gouvernement aux déclarations du distingué délégué de Colombie à propos du FIDA.

Cette question de la coordination est la seule que je voudrais évoquer ici pour exprimer l'importance accordée par mon gouvernement, en l'occurrence.

A. REGNIER (Directeur, Bureau des affaires interinstitutions): Je voudrais avant tout remercier la Commission pour le grand intérêt du débat que nous venons de tenir. Du côté du secrétariat, nous avons été très sensibles à l'intérêt manifesté par la Commission à ce sujet.

Je voudrais également remercier les nombreuses délégations qui ont manifesté leur satisfaction pour la documentation disponible traitant de ce point de l'ordre du jour, et les assurer qu'à l'avenir, ainsi que cela a été demandé par une délégation, nous nous efforcerons de présenter de manière aussi claire que possible les développements dans le système des Nations Unies.

J'en profite pour répondre en passant au distingué représentant de la Colombie qui a fait remarquer que le FIDA n'était pas mentionné dans les documents sur l'ordre du jour que nous discutons, et lui dire que le FIDA n'est pas mentionné effectivement dans ces documents, de même que ne sont pas mentionnées les activités du PNUD ou des organismes de financement, non pas parce que nous n'y

attachons pas d'importance - nous y attachons effectivement énormément d'importance - mais parce que cela est traité dans d'autres documents de notre Conférence. Donc, pour éviter de faire double emploi, ces questions ne sont pas traitées dans les documents 19 et 19 Supplément 1.

Je voudrais faire quelques commentaires sur un certain nombre de points soulevés.

D'abord, nous avons pris note de la satisfaction manifestée par la Commission sur le fait que la FAO participe activement à la préparation et au déroulement de grandes conférences, comme celle sur l'énergie et les pays les moins avancés qui s'est tenue récemment à Paris. Nous ferons certainement de notre mieux à l'avenir pour participer encore à ce genre de manifestation globale.

Nous avons également noté que la Commission a partagé notre préoccupation quant à l'évolution des ressources disponibles pour la coopération multilatérale, que ce soit la question du replenishment du FIDA ou des niveaux du Programme des Nations Unies pour le développement. Comme le distingué délégué de l'Inde, nous sommes préoccupés de voir que les ressources du Fonds intérimaire pour la science et la technologie sont très loin d'atteindre les objectifs fixés.

Au cours du débat, la question du sommet de Cancun et des négociations globales a été abordée par presque toutes les délégations. Nous avons noté la satisfaction de ces délégations de voir que la question du développement agricole et de la sécurité alimentaire est au cœur de leur préoccupation, et je voudrais remercier les nombreuses délégations qui ont indiqué, qu'à leur avis, la FAO était l'organisme le plus approprié pour préparer les discussions des négociations globales lorsqu'elles sont lancées et assurer le service de secrétariat selon les procédures définies par l'Assemblée générale. Je voudrais les en remercier.

Un autre point abordé a été celui de la coordination. Je ferai quelques commentaires concernant la coordination générale, laissant peut-être à M. de Méredieu le soin de répondre aux observations qui ont été faites en ce qui concerne la coordination au niveau local entre le représentant de la FAO et les coordonnateurs résidents.

En ce qui concerne la coordination au niveau global de l'ensemble du système, elle a, depuis longtemps, retenu l'attention de la FAO. Le Directeur général, lui-même, s'y est référé dans son introduction au début des travaux de votre Commission. Certes, la coordination est importante lorsqu'elle peut assurer un meilleur service au pays, mais elle ne doit pas devenir une fin en soi, et je suis heureux de voir que nous sommes d'accord sur ce point, puisque le délégué du Danemark, parlant au nom des pays scandinaves, a tenu les mêmes propos dans les mêmes termes.

En réalité, cette question de la coordination est un sujet qui a fait l'objet d'un débat très fouillé au Conseil de la FAO en novembre 1980 sur la base du document CL 78/13. Je ne voudrais pas détailler les conclusions qui ont été tirées des discussions sur ce sujet, sinon pour dire que le Conseil a estimé qu'il y avait déjà au sein du système des dispositifs perfectionnés de coordination et que de nouveaux mécanismes ou procédures supplémentaires devraient être évalués à la lueur d'une analyse coût/bénéfice. Là aussi je constate que nous sommes d'accord, la déléguée des Pays-Bas l'a mentionné très clairement.

Je voudrais ajouter que le Conseil a souligné la responsabilité et la compétence exclusive des organes directeurs de la FAO pour juger du déroulement et de la gestion de la totalité des activités de l'Organisation.

Je voudrais maintenant me référer à un point particulier. La déléguée du Canada a mentionné la lenteur, selon elle, de la mise en œuvre de la Résolution 35.81 sur l'examen des activités opérationnelles pour le développement. Je souhaiterais à cet égard attirer son attention sur le fait que la Résolution en question a été soumise à l'attention du Conseil en juin de cette année, avec toutes les explications nécessaires portant notamment sur les efforts du Directeur général pour attirer des fonds extra-budgétaires particulièrement en faveur des Programmes d'action spéciaux, conformément au paragraphe 7 de ladite résolution sur les efforts du Directeur général pour accroître toujours davantage l'efficacité de l'action de la FAO et réduire les coûts, répondant ainsi aux préoccupations 8 et 9 de cette Résolution, et enfin les précautions prises par le Directeur général pour s'assurer que l'action de la FAO coïncide avec les objectifs et les priorités des gouvernements qui sont, comme cela a été reconnu ce matin même, les responsables de la coordination au niveau national.

Ce document ayant été soumis en juin au Conseil, celui-ci en a délibéré en détail et ses conclusions apparaissent au paragraphe 101 de son rapport. Je ne voudrais pas le citer dans sa totalité, mais seulement souligner que "le Conseil est convenu que les politiques du Directeur général répondent parfaitement à cette Résolution, en particulier parce qu'elles mobilisent des ressources accrues,

prévoient diverses mesures visant à exécuter tous les programmes avec la plus grande efficacité possible, et a noté avec satisfaction l'action menée par le Directeur général pour améliorer la coordination des activités de terrain au niveau des pays, comme en témoigne la lettre signée conjointement avec l'administrateur du PNUD le 30 juin 1981."

Ces différentes conclusions, ainsi que le matériel de base, ont d'ailleurs été communiqués officiellement au Directeur général pour le développement et la coopération économique internationale. Elles apparaissent in toto dans le premier rapport soumis par le Secrétaire général à la section de l'Assemblée générale sur les activités opérationnelles pour le développement du système des Nations Unies.

Pour les délégations intéressées à consulter ces informations, je précise qu'il s'agit du rapport A 36/478.

J'ai donc été surpris d'entendre la déléguée du Canada se plaindre de la lenteur avec laquelle il y avait eu mise en oeuvre de cette Résolution 35/81, mais je crois que ces informations additionnelles sont de nature à la rassurer.

Je voudrais enfin faire un bref commentaire sur un point particulier qui a trait à la coordination pour les opérations d'urgence. Référence a été faite par les délégués du Canada et des Pays-Bas aux délibérations qui ont eu lieu à l'ECOSOC sur cette question.

Il est évident que lorsque les secrétariats des organisations internationales, au cours de délibérations de ce genre, sont questionnés par les délégations qui y participent, ils répondent en donnant leur point de vue mais bien entendu la décision reste entre les mains des gouvernements. La question est toujours en discussion à la Commission II à New York. Nous ne sommes pas au courant des derniers développements et des conclusions qui pourraient apparaître. Je veux signaler qu'effectivement les délégations ont donné leur point de vue parce qu'il apparaissait que collectivement le point de vue du Comité de coordination avait été élaboré peu avant la délibération de l'ECOSOC, et l'ensemble des chefs d'agences souhaitait qu'il n'y ait pas, en matière de mécanisme d'urgence, de nouvelles constructions bureaucratiques, mais au contraire des décisions de type ad hoc de manière à faciliter les prises de décision et non à les retarder, comme l'a souligné il y a quelques instants le délégué de l'Inde. D'ailleurs la référence qui a été faite par la déléguée du Canada à l'action au Cambodge montre que de telles coordinations ad hoc peuvent avoir, et ont eu, une efficacité non négligeable. C'est pourquoi la décision du CAC a été prise; elle apparaît d'ailleurs en Annexe au document 19 Supplément 1. Je pense que ceci rassurera les représentants du Canada et des Pays-Bas.

Si vous le permettez, Monsieur de Meredieu pourrait ajouter quelques points sur la coordination au niveau local.

J. DE MEREDIEU (Sous-Directeur général, Département du Développement): Ayant déjà eu le privilège de formuler certains commentaires sur le problème de la coordination au niveau des pays mardi soir, je pourrai être bref. Je me permets aussi de vous rappeler que Monsieur le représentant de l'administrateur du PNUD s'est également exprimé à ce sujet à la même occasion. Ceci m'évitera d'avoir à décrire à nouveau en détail les relations qui existent entre représentants de la FAO et résidents coordonnateurs des Nations Unies, car elles sont analogues, si ce n'est identiques, à celles qui existaient auparavant entre représentants de la FAO et résidents représentants du PNUD. Ceci est facile d'ailleurs, puisque, comme vous le savez, les hommes sont les mêmes. Je crois qu'il n'y a pas un seul cas, sur la centaine de représentants coordonnateurs qui ont déjà été nommés, où ce nouveau fonctionnaire n'est pas, en fait, la même personne que l'ancien représentant résident du PNUD.

Cette circonstance nous a, d'ailleurs, grandement facilité la tâche. Lorsque le Directeur général pour le développement, M. Dadzie, soumet les noms de ses candidats à notre agrément, nous avons toujours le plaisir de constater qu'il s'agit de personnes avec qui nous sommes habitués à coopérer et que nous estimons.

Pour toutes ces raisons, la lettre conjointe, à laquelle de nombreuses délégations ont fait référence, reste pleinement valide, dans son esprit et dans sa forme.

De plus, le paragraphe 7 de la Résolution 34/213 de l'Assemblée générale, dont je vous ai déjà donné lecture mardi dernier, qui concerne les canaux de communication et d'autorité des représentants des organisations spécialisées dans les différents pays, a été repris intégralement au paragraphe 3 de l'Annexe à la lettre de désignation que le Secrétaire général des Nations Unies signe chaque fois qu'il nomme un nouveau représentant coordonnateur.

La délégation du Canada et d'autres ont dit qu'elles ne souhaitent pas la prolifération d'organisations faisant la même chose. Nous sommes, bien entendu, entièrement d'accord.

Je suis heureux de dire, à cet égard, à Madame le Représentant du Canada - et je me réfère là à une question qu'elle avait posée mardi dernier et que je n'avais pas reprise à ce moment-là - que la situation est d'ailleurs plus claire qu'elle ne semblait le penser, au moins dans le domaine agricole. Si je ne me trompe, en effet, elle s'était demandé pourquoi la FAO semblait opposée à l'idée que le Programme alimentaire mondial et le FIDA pouvaient être chargés d'exécuter certains projets du PNUD dans le domaine agricole. En fait, le problème ne se pose pas, car les Constitutions de ces deux organisations n'en font pas des agences d'exécution du PNUD. Ce sont là des organisations qui n'ont pas vocation d'être des agences d'exécution du PNUD, et il en va de même, d'ailleurs, du troisième organisme des Nations Unies qui se trouve également à Rome, le Conseil mondial de l'alimentation, qui n'est pas un organisme opérationnel.

Si nous avons parfois certaines réserves en ce qui concerne la désignation d'une autre agence pour exécuter des projets qui nous semblent principalement agricoles, c'est justement parce que, dans ce cas, l'agence qui est désignée n'est pas une organisation ayant des responsabilités principalement agricoles, puisque les quatre qui ont une telle vocation se trouvent toutes à Rome, et que la seule parmi elles qui est une agence d'exécution du PNUD est la FAO. Ce n'est pas là, je crois, un point qui soit contesté par quiconque au sein du système des Nations Unies.

Nous avons noté avec plaisir les commentaires favorables qui ont été formulés en ce qui concerne la participation de la FAO à l'"Inter-agency task force" qui existe au sein du PNUD à New York. J'ai le plaisir de vous faire savoir que cette participation semble avoir été appréciée, puisque les pairs de votre représentant ont bien voulu lui demander d'agir comme coordonateur de leur groupe. Je pense que ceci illustre bien l'esprit objectif et constructif dans lequel nous lui avons demandé d'interpréter sa mission.

Je suis heureux, monsieur le Président, de noter que les commentaires qui ont été faits par la délégation du Cap-Vert, ainsi que par de nombreux pays qui l'ont appuyée, indiquent que la très grande majorité de nos pays membres est satisfaite de la façon dont le Directeur général aborde le problème de la coordination au niveau des pays, dans le plein respect de la souveraineté de ces pays, dans la recherche de la plus grande efficacité opérationnelle possible et dans le plein respect de la Constitution de notre Organisation; Constitution qui a vu le jour il ya 36 ans à Québec, et que je ne crois pas que quiconque ici ait proposé d'amender.

Le PRESIDENT: Je remercie Monsieur de Meredieu pour ses explications supplémentaires.

This morning we have had 20 countries participating in the debate on recent developments in the United Nations system of interest to FAO. Quite a number of delegates stressed the need for effective cooperation between the organisations of the system, and welcomed the moves towards partnership initiated by the Director-General. A number of delegates noted with regret that the programme and procedures on global negotiations had not yet been established. There were delegates who drew the attention of the conference to the fact that the recent Cancun and Ottawa summit meetings attached great importance to agriculture and also to the fact that FAO would have to be taken into account because of its central role of tackling world food and agriculture problems.

That brings us to the end of this morning's debate. We shall resume the discussion this afternoon and I adjourn the meeting until 2.30 p.m.

The meeting rose at 12.30 hours.

La séance est levée à 12 h 30

Se levanta la-sesión a las 12.30 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

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C 81/II/PV/15

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Twenty-first Session

COMMISSION II

Vingt et unième session

COMMISSION II

21° período de sesiones

COMMISSION II

FIFTEENTH MEETING  
QUINZIEME SEANCE  
15ª SESION

(19 November 1981)

The Fifteenth Meeting was opened at 15.00 hours  
R. Steiner, Chairman of Commission II, presiding

La quatrième séance est ouverte à 15 h 00, sous la présidence de  
R. Steiner, Président de la Commission II

Se abre la 15ª sesión a las 15.00 horas bajo la presidencia de  
R. Steiner, Presidente de Comisión II



II - ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMES OF THE ORGANIZATION (continued)

II - ACTIVITES ET PROGRAMMES DE L'ORGANISATION (suite)

II - ACTIVIDADES Y PROGRAMAS DE LA ORGANIZACION (continuación)

15. Relations and Consultations with International Organizations, including: (continued)

15. Relations et Consultations avec les organisations internationales, notamment: (suite)

15. Relaciones y consultas con organizaciones internacionales, en particular: (continuación)

15.2 Relations with Intergovernmental and International Non-governmental Organizations

15.2 Relations avec les organisations intergouvernementales et les organisations internationales non gouvernementales

15.2 Relaciones con organizaciones intergubernamentales y organizaciones internacionales no gubernamentales

A. REGNIER (Director, Office for Inter-Agency Affairs): Document C81/17 entitled Relations with Intergovernmental and International Non-governmental Organizations to which I would like to call your attention provides information on selected important aspects of relations between FAO and the world of intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations. FAO is conscious of the importance of expanding cooperation with these organizations and so are they. In this biennium seven additional organizations have established formal relationships with FAO, bringing the total number to 227. Just to take an example, I would like to stress the excellent cooperation that FAO has with regional organizations like the OAU and with a number of regional or sub-regional economic groupings.

This cooperation includes the formulation of development strategies, preparation of agricultural and related projects, emergency operations and so on. FAO is aware of the growing role of these organizations in many fields of economic, social and especially rural development and is ready to foster future cooperative arrangements with them. This is important not only to avoid duplication but also to ensure that we join our efforts in seeking to stimulate development at a time of severe financial constraints.

The past biennium cooperation with International non-governmental organizations has taken on a new momentum, especially as part of the follow-up of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, which adopted a programme of action stressing the importance of sectors such as the participation of people in rural development, and the integration of women into rural development. In order that FAO may optimize results in these sectors close cooperation with interested non-governmental organizations is highly desirable. FAO has started a series of discussions with non-governmental organizations, including trade unions, women's organizations and cooperative organizations, to decide on how to work out joint activities. An exchange of views on practical cooperation in the field has already taken place. It proved stimulating and fruitful and should auger well for the future, as it is a new dimension in cooperation between FAO and non-governmental organizations. Some aspects of this cooperation were discussed during the informal meeting of intergovernmental, non-governmental organizations, as you can see from the document C81/INF/15.

Mr. Chairman, before concluding, and in order to update one paragraph of the document C81/17 may I add on paragraph 8 of the document, the second paragraph, I would read the text. The text says, "The Director-General is convening a Plenipotentiary Conference of Latin American and Caribbean countries with a view to formalizing the final version of the agreement on establishment of the Regional Centre for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development in Latin America." May I just say on this subject that the meeting did take place; that the agreement was signed, and that the Centre will be established as soon as possible in Quito, Ecuador.

With these few words I submit document C81/17 for your consideration.

D. RIJKS (Observer for the World Meteorological Organization): Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, colleagues, ladies and gentlemen, I bring to you all, participants in this FAO Conference, greeting and every wish for success from Professor Wiin Nielsen, Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization.

Weather plays an important role in crop growth, development and yield. This fact has been clearly recognized by national and international agencies alike. The World Food Conference in 1974, called for increased use of agrometeorological information in agricultural planning and operations. It was

recognized by national and international agencies alike. The World Food Conference in 1974, called for increased use of agrometeorological information in agricultural planning and operations. It was recognized by the 1977 Conference of FAO in its Resolution 12/77 and by the World Food Council in its Mexico Declaration in 1978.

The eighth Congress of WMO agreed that the Agriculture and Desertification Programme is a priority programme of the Organization and that during the eighth financial period which is now halfway through its existence, more assistance should be given to its Members in establishing and developing national Agrometeorological Services, particularly those in developing countries. The basic objectives of the Agricultural and Desertification Programme are: (a) to assist Members, particularly in developing countries in providing agricultural and other responsible authorities with meteorological and hydro-logical information for the planning, management and development of agriculture; (b) to collaborate with FAO and other appropriate organizations in joint projects which require meteorological input or support. The objectives clearly indicate the desire of WMO Congress to strengthen the hands of FAO and other organizations in their fight against hunger and production of food.

In this connexion it is noted with satisfaction that FAO and WMO are co-operating closely in the application of meteorology to agriculture. FAO has reacted positively to an invitation from WMO to designate representatives in all working groups of the WMO Technical Commission for Agricultural Meteorology. Jointly WMO, FAO and Unesco have completed successfully five agroclimatological surveys, most recently one for Southeast Asia, now ready for printing. WMO, FAO and European Space Agency have been involved jointly in the conduction of training courses in Satellite Remote Sensing Application and its member states have arranged for the necessary meteorological input into Global Information and Early Warning System on Food and Agriculture and into the campaign against desert locust. FAO is also associated with the World Climate Applications Programme of WMO, which has as one of its major objectives the practical application of meteorology to agriculture. WMO and FAO have a joint Secretariat unit for day to day operations.

While this is certainly a good beginning, even more can be done. In the planning and implementation of many integrated rural development projects, it is most desirable, if not essential, that careful consideration is given to climatic aspects. Careful analysis of rainfall and evapo-transpiration data provide a rational basis for the planning of irrigation systems, as several FAO publications witness; examination of rainfall and temperature data may be used in the assessment of the climatic aspects of introducing new crops or animals in a given area; due consideration may be given to meteorological and climatological aspects in the protection of the soils; long series of rainfall records may be used in assessing the probability of the occurrence of drought of long or short duration, at the beginning or in the middle of seasons. Timely warnings based on agrometeorological information may be used as useful components of integrated pest and disease control systems, that have been developed and that need more development, while in the field of food supply surveillance, crop-weather models have been developed which may play a major role in national crop monitoring and early warning systems. A recent publication by the World Meteorological Organization entitled "The Role of Agrometeorology in Agricultural Development and Investment Projects" provides guidelines on the use of agrometeorological information and advice in the planning and implementation of integrated rural development projects.

In view of the many useful applications of agrometeorology in agricultural development projects, and many more can be mentioned, FAO might endeavour to ensure that there is a comprehensive agrometeorological input to the planning and implementation of FAO field projects in which climatic factors are seen or known to have an influence. At national level such input may be sought from National Meteorological Services.

In several of its field projects WMO has solicited and obtained the presence of an FAO agronomist. Reciprocally WMO would give the appropriate positive consideration to requests from FAO for the presence of WMO agrometeorologists in those of its field projects that are oriented towards the practical application of meteorological, and especially climatological knowledge, to increase food production.

It is appropriate to mention in this connexion that the 33rd session of the Executive Committee of WMO in May 1981 attached considerable importance to having close collaboration between agricultural and meteorological sectors at the national and regional levels and suggested that FAO and WMO should jointly foster such collaboration. At all times the collaboration between FAO and WMO should serve operational purposes and aim to supply information that is directly useful to the end user, the men who really produce the food in the field.

Finally, if it is indeed the wish of this Conference that collaboration between FAO and WMO should be reinforced, I may submit that you may consider adopting a recommendation along the following lines:

“Considering the important role of climatic factors in agriculture and rural development generally and the consequent desirability of utilizing all available agrometeorological information and advice in the planning and implementation of operational integrated rural development projects; considering the availability of agrometeorological methods for the estimation of the effects of meteorological hazards, such as droughts, floods and frosts, on rural development; the FAO Conference recommends that careful consideration for the provision of agrometeorological components be included in those field projects in which climatic factors are seen to be important, and that this should be done in close co-operation with National (Hydro.) Meteorological Services and the World Meteorological Organization”.

Mohd. YASIN bin MOHD SALLEH (Malaysia): First of all I would like to commend FAO for the outstanding cooperation it has given to International and non-governmental organizations, as contained in document C 81/17. We hope FAO can continue to play this role as lead agency in the UN system on matters relating to food and agriculture, so that the vast knowledge and experience of FAO in this sector could help this Organization to implement their programmes successfully. While many organisations with whom FAO has cooperation are mentioned in the document, we understand FAO has also cooperated with, and contributed substantially to other organisations which did not appear in the document, for example the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC). The cooperation between FAO and ASEAN has benefitted the member countries, and we hope this cooperation can be expanded and continued in the future.

Ms. G. GARZERO (Observer for the International Non-Governmental Organizations): In the absence of Professor Cépède, Chairman of the meeting of the International non-governmental organizations at this Conference, I have been requested to draw the attention of Commission II to the report of that meeting which is presented to the Conference as document C 81/INF/15.

Since the last Conference and especially this past year the coordination between the NGO Representatives residing in Rome and the FAO Secretariat has improved. We appreciate the time and effort expended and look for results in the field as a consequence where similar coordination is expected.

We should explore and study other institutions and arrangements for more involvement of NGOs. And it should be known that the cooperation between the International and National NGOs is not limited to what is reported in Conference documents. Many International NGOs maintain continuing working relations with FAO, while each organization carries out bilateral arrangements.

The concept of People's Participation has received increased attention in the international fora and we have heard here in this Conference the importance governments attach to the involvement of non-governmental organizations in rural development. With NGO participation, especially in training, such organizations become natural partners of the governments and of FAO programs in the follow-up of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (WCARRD).

Especially noteworthy is a growing awareness of the importance of the role of women in food programs: from credit, to producing, to marketing, to security, to consuming.

As we listen to the testimony from member governments of FAO we can only agree that there will never be rural development unless the rural people themselves have the responsibility of drawing up and initiating their own programs.

C.J.A.M. de BONT (Netherlands): The improvement of agricultural production and rural development are the main objectives of the discussions during this Conference. In this respect it is important to recognize that the fulfilling of these objectives is for a large part the task of the rural population. Organizations such as FAO can only assist them, and it is a duty for FAO to do this in the best way possible.

In practice this means that the work of FAO can only have the desired results when it is in line with the feelings of the rural population. These feelings of farmers, women and rural workers can be represented by their local, national and international organizations. While FAO is an organization of governments, there are good reasons to strengthen the relationships with the given non-governmental organizations.

We think that the difficult task that must be done by FAO and national governments to improve the agricultural and food situation can be stimulated by the collaboration with non-governmental organizations. This is our experience, since in the Netherlands agricultural policy was developed seriously more than 100 years ago.

The improvement of the food and agricultural situation in our country in this period is particularly the result of the participation of the rural population in governmental policy, for example in training, research, extension, land improvement and price-policy for agricultural products.

We hope that our experience is useful in particular for the developing countries. Looking forward to our next agenda item, the follow-up to WCARRD, we should appreciate more detailed information from FAO for discussion.

L. BLAJAN (Observateur pour l'Office international des épizooties): Je vous remercie de me donner la parole, ce qui me permettra de dire quelques mots des relations entre la FAO et l'OIE.

Je voudrais tout d'abord rappeler que l'Office international des épizooties a été créé par un arrangement international signé à Paris en 1924 par 25 Etats. Le nombre des pays membres de l'Organisation est actuellement de 100. Les trois fonctions principales qui lui sont assignées sont: 1) l'information sur la situation des maladies épizootiques dans le monde et les moyens appliqués pour les combattre; 2) la promotion et la coordination des études sur les maladies du bétail pour lesquelles il y a lieu de faire appel à la collaboration internationale; 3) et troisième fonction, l'étude des projets d'accord internationaux relatifs à la police sanitaire des animaux.

La FAO et l'OIE ont donc comme but commun la lutte contre les maladies animales qui est un préalable au développement de l'élevage, et, en définitive à l'objectif d'amélioration des conditions de vie des populations, objectif qui est inscrit dans l'Acte constitutif de la FAO.

Il est donc normal que les deux organisations coordonnent leurs efforts pour atteindre leur objectif commun.

C'est en 1953 que le Comité international de l'OIE a adopté le texte de l'accord qui régit les relations de travail entre nos deux organisations. Par ce texte, la FAO reconnaît l'OIE comme organe consultatif pour les questions qui sont de la compétence propre de l'OIE. Notre organisation, en premier lieu et en consultation avec la FAO assume les responsabilités suivantes: - rassembler et diffuser rapidement les informations et statistiques sur la fréquence et l'évolution des maladies du bétail dans le monde entier; - convoquer des réunions d'experts dans le domaine des maladies du bétail; - diffuser les informations techniques sur la recherche et la lutte contre les maladies des animaux domestiques; - et enfin étudier les méthodes de lutte contre les principales maladies du bétail et transmettre à la FAO des avis à ce sujet.

La FAO et l'OIE collaborent notamment par l'échange réciproque de rapports, de publications et d'informations, par la participation de chaque institution aux réunions et conférences de l'autre. La coopération entre la Division de la production et de la santé animales de la FAO et l'OIE a été particulièrement active au cours des derniers mois, grâce à des rencontres périodiques sur les questions d'intérêt commun. C'est ainsi que, récemment, les deux organisations ont, avec l'OUA, mis en place une stratégie d'éradication de la peste bovine du continent africain qui devrait avoir un retentissement considérable pour l'avenir de l'élevage en Afrique, si les moyens de financement peuvent évidemment être obtenus.

Dans le même esprit, la FAO est associée aux travaux du groupe de spécialistes de l'information de l'OIE qui a pour mission de rechercher les moyens d'accroître l'efficacité des systèmes existants d'information sur la santé animale.

Toutes ces actions menées en commun ont pour objectif d'éviter les doubles emplois, souci auquel sont très sensibles les Etats Membres. Mais nous sommes convaincus que nous pouvons encore améliorer la concertation entre les deux organisations, dans l'intérêt de nos mandants, et, à cet égard, je pense que la solution se trouve dans l'article 5 de l'Accord FAO/OIE qui prévoit que le Directeur général de la FAO et le Directeur général de l'OIE, au cours de la préparation de leurs programmes de travail respectifs se communiqueront le projet de leur programme pour avis. Je ne doute pas que nos deux organisations appliqueront ces dispositions importantes pour l'efficacité de la coordination souhaitable.

E. TIZOL (Cuba): Queremos expresar, en primer lugar, nuestro agradecimiento al Sr. Regnier por su presentación al documento que está siendo objeto de análisis. A este respecto, nuestra delegación quisiera destacar que considera de una gran importancia el énfasis que se le ha dado en el documento C 81/INF/15 a la participación popular en los programas de la FAO por parte de los organismos internacionales gubernamentales. Creemos en este contexto que resulta válido enfatizar nuestro apoyo a los párrafos 8 y 17 de dicho documento, donde se expresa de manera sucinta la prioridad que concede la FAO a la población rural pobre, por una parte, y la enorme importancia que tiene para el desarrollo la participación directa de las organizaciones populares independientes y plenamente representativas, auténticas y activas por la otra. Nuestra delegación está además convencida de que sin la participación activa de la mujer en los planes nacionales de desarrollo, ninguna nación podrá alcanzar plenamente las metas trazadas.

Resulta por tanto necesario apoyar el incremento de la participación de la mujer en los programas de la FAO, así como en los planes nacionales de desarrollo de cada país.

Por último, opinamos que lo expresado en los párrafos 22, 23, 24 y 25 del documento C 81/INF/15 resulta de un gran valor en las esferas de la seguridad alimentaria y la energía a partir de fuentes renovables. Nuestro país cuenta con una valiosa experiencia en materia de creación de cooperativas compuestas por pequeños agricultores privados, los cuales son incentivados por el Estado a través de créditos y facilidades para llevar a cabo su producción, al tiempo que se les asegura un mejoramiento del nivel de vida a sus integrantes. Los resultados de esta iniciativa hablan por sí mismos.

Queremos finalmente, señalar a la Secretaría que consideramos que en el párrafo 27 del documento C 81/INF/15 se presta a confusión la utilización de la palabra, en el primer renglón donde dice: "participación actual", en el texto en español, y pensamos que quizás se quiera decir: "real". Esto quizás venga del inglés "actual". En español se presta un poco a confusión.

E. HAMERNIK (Observer for the World Federation of Trade Unions): On behalf of the World Federation of Trade Unions, I should like to thank you for giving us the opportunity to take the floor when this Commission is considering relations between FAO and NGO's.

In the opinion of the WFTU, which re-groups in its ranks more than 200 million members, millions of whom live and work in rural areas, it is only with the support and general participation of rural workers that one can envisage the solution of serious problems that weigh heavily today upon the world agriculture.

That is why the WFTU is seeking to strengthen and expand its co-operation with FAO in the interest of the rural workers we represent and for the general development of agriculture and the food industry.

In this respect, we value the new type of relations that has started to develop between FAO and the international trade union organizations as it was confirmed during the seventh FAO/trade union consultation in May this year.

As is mentioned in document C 81/17, discussions at this consultation covered WCARRD follow-up and trade union participation in projects under FAO's People's Participation Programme. As far as this subject of WCARRD follow-up is concerned, I should like to express our views later when this item is under consideration.

At this moment I should like to emphasize that we consider these consultations to be important and useful for both parties and therefore we stress the necessity that the FAO Director-General holds them regularly, if possible every year, including consultation at regional level.

HIDAYAT GANDA ATMAYA (Indonesia): My delegation would like to suggest that the FAO, as the body of the United Nations most responsible for food and agriculture, should take the initiative in developing links between, and mutual cooperation with, various international organizations outside the UN family as well as non-governmental organizations, in order to avoid overlapping and duplication of work and - more important - to aid the efficient implementation of programmes and activities to combat hunger and malnutrition.

A good example of FAO/agency cooperation has been experienced in Indonesia in the FAO/UNDP

project on supply and demand in strategic food commodities. This sort of worthwhile cooperation should be continued and developed further in programmes and activities undertaken with many more local, national and regional, as well as international organizations, and also with non-governmental ones such as farmer's associations, fishermen's associations and women organizations. In the implementation of programmes and activities in agricultural and rural development, as conducted at grassroots level, my delegation would like to urge to pay more attention to strengthening the workings of such associations, thereby strengthening agricultural and rural development. The Government of Indonesia has found that the role of farmers' associations in transforming the activities taking place at grass-roots level is very important.

WANG SHOU RU (China) (original language Chinese): From Document C 81/17 we have learned that the FAO has been actively engaged in various activities in collaboration with governmental and non-governmental organizations. Some of the activities, particularly those in Africa and the Near East, have earned close attention from the Organization for African Unity and other organizations in the countries concerned. Some of the activities are in the process of leading to possible practical action to promote agriculture, food production and trade development in their own areas. Obviously, these are all beneficial.

In particular, these activities are conducive to the promotion of economic and technical cooperation among developing countries and to the solution of common problems by collective efforts. The Chinese delegation wishes to express its appreciation of this. It is our hope that the FAO will continue, at the request of the organizations concerned, to take these high-priority projects through to a successful conclusion, and that such results will be used to the benefit of the other developing countries.

M.M. MUKOLWE (Kenya): My delegation, along with others, wishes to place on record its opinion that an increasing relationship between FAO and other international organizations is a very worthwhile thing. All the efforts which are made are complementary and have as their ultimate aim rural development, increased food production, alleviation of hunger and poverty and the creation of employment. These are the concerns of all of us. They are in line moreover with the objectives of the WCARRD conference and this is what we have all been here to discuss in the past few days.

The efforts made by these organizations, especially the non-governmental ones, are great, particularly at times of grave distress such as droughts, floods or other natural catastrophes and particularly on the African continent; we find that these organizations have played a very important role. When it comes to the development of such areas, these organizations have found in the forefront, fostering development at the grass roots and organising mobilisation. We should, therefore, foster this sort of relationship in all Member Countries if possible.

My delegation supports the two documents C 81/17 and C 81/INF/15.

K. GADIS (Grèce): Il y a deux points que je voudrais évoquer au cours de cette brève intervention. Le premier se réfère au paragraphe 8 du document C 81/17 qui vise la création de centres de développement rural intégré. On lit au dernier alinéa de ce paragraphe: "Le Directeur général organise une conférence de plénipotentiaires des pays d'Amérique latine et des Caraïbes (Caracas, septembre 1981) pour faire adopter officiellement la version finale de l'Accord sur la création d'un Centre régional de réforme agraire et de développement rural en Amérique latine".

En dépit des difficultés rencontrées pour la conclusion d'autres accords, j'exprime le souhait qu'on puisse voir établis d'autres accords de cette nature.

Le deuxième point se réfère au document C 81/INF/15 paragraphe 2. On peut y lire qu'à la réunion officielle du 10 novembre 1981 "il avait été convenu que le thème principal de la réunion serait la participation populaire aux programmes de la FAO". Je ne vais pas entrer dans les discussions techniques mais j'indique l'importance que mon gouvernement attache à cette participation populaire aux programmes de la FAO.

M. SALAMEH (Syria) (Original language Arabic): Our delegation, after going through Document C 81/17, in particular, would like to thank the organisation for giving details of its relations with other organisations which cover those areas that benefit the organization and the people who work so that their agricultural and food production may be improved. We feel that these diverse relationships should be consolidated so that we ensure that the needy and deserving people of this world benefit from all possible courses of action. We also grant great importance to the relationship of the organisation with the International Food Policy Research Institute, referred to in paragraph 27, its relationship with the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Centre, mentioned in paragraph 13, and also with the Sixth Conference of the Arab Ministers of Agriculture on fisheries development mentioned in para. 9. We give particular importance to this relationship. We are sure this relationship will be strengthened and will guarantee the improvement of nutrition and its incorporation in national policies.

Sra. L. ELIZONDO C. (Nicaragua): Nuestra delegación quisiera apoyar las principales líneas de acción trazadas en el documento C 81/INF/15 en lo que se refiere a la participación popular y la integración de la mujer al desarrollo rural. Consideramos particularmente importante el hecho de que la participación popular se convierta en el elemento clave de la política de la FAO. En este sentido, nuestro país ha tenido recientemente experiencias muy interesantes al implementar una campaña de alfabetización basada en la participación popular que permitió la reducción del analfabetismo del 70 al 13 por ciento en un período de seis meses. Igual buen resultado ha tenido la participación popular en los programas de salud que han permitido erradicar recientemente la malaria e, igualmente, trasladados al campo de la agricultura se ha iniciado recientemente una campaña de autoconstrucción de 30 000 trojas como parte de un programa de conservación de grano por cosecha que se está llevando a cabo con el apoyo de la FAO. Estas experiencias que hemos vivido nosotros corroboran la acertada orientación de dedicar una mayor atención al fortalecimiento de organismos populares como un medio legítimo de promover el desarrollo de nuestro país.

Asimismo considerando que más de la mitad de la población mundial es femenina, lo cual desafortunadamente no se ve reflejado en esta Conferencia, la participación femenina es sumamente minoritaria y considerando que en nuestros países la mujer constituye en muchos casos el principal soporte familiar, consideramos urgentemente necesario el fortalecimiento y apoyo de los programas de capacitación a la mujer.

M. ARAFAH (Jordan) (original language Arabic): I should like to concentrate on the International cooperative Alliance and the International RAIFFEISIN Union which I think have not been mentioned in our document. I shall not mention the benefit of cooperative associations throughout the world because I think it is self-evident. However, I do feel that some reference should be made to the relations with the two above-mentioned organizations.

A. REGNIER (Directeur, Bureau des affaires interinstitutions): Je ne crois pas qu'aient été posées des questions précises auxquelles je doive répondre. Cependant, je voudrais remercier toutes les délégations qui sont intervenues dans ce débat pour leurs encouragements. Je crois effectivement pouvoir traduire le sentiment de la Commission en disant qu'elle apprécie le fait que les relations entre la FAO, les organisations non gouvernementales et les organisations intergouvernementales en dehors du système des Nations Unies, objet de notre débat d'aujourd'hui, se sont renforcées au cours du biennium qui s'achève.

La Commission a également donné, me semble-t-il, un encouragement pour qu'à l'avenir une collaboration encore plus poussée soit réalisée. On a en particulier mentionné des relations nécessaires pour maximiser les opérations de la FAO avec des organisations aussi importantes que les associations de producteurs, la participation populaire, les associations féminines. Il est bien évident que la FAO attache une très grande importance à ces questions, et la Commission peut être assurée que c'est également le souci du Directeur général de la FAO de renforcer autant que faire se peut cette collaboration et qu'il a l'intention à l'avenir de faire tout son possible à cet effet.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you Mr. Regnier. There is nothing to add to what you have said. That brings us to the end of the debate on item 15.2 on our agenda.

I now would like to make a suggestion to the distinguished delegates. There is an item on the agenda which we still have to debate which is item 13, Follow-Up to the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. We also have draft resolutions which will be passed to the Commission for debate. My suggestion now is that we invite the Assistant Director-General of the Economic and Social Policy Department, Dr. Islam, to introduce the subject on the Follow-up to the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, and after this introduction we adjourn until tomorrow.

13. Follow-up to WCARRD

13. Suite donnée la CMRADR

13. Actividades complementarias de la CMRADR

N. ISLAM (Assistant Director-General, Economic and Social Policy Department): As requested in the FAO Conference Resolution 7/79, adopted during the 20th Session of the FAO Conference, the Conference document (C 81/23) reports on the progress so far achieved in the follow-up of WCARRD Programme of Action; it raises certain issues for consideration by the Conference; and seeks comments and guidance in regard to future lines of action.

The distinctive message of WCARRD, Mr. Chairman, as you recall was the stress on growth with equity and people's participation. This orientation is reflected in the overall priority accorded to the WCARRD Follow-up in the current and proposed Programme of Work and Budget of FAO. Apart from a review of existing projects and programmes, from the point of view of the new orientation, an attempt is made to influence the formulation of the country programmes and projects through WCARRD Follow-up missions, as well as FAO's various project identification and formulation missions.

An Inter-Departmental Committee on Rural Development has been engaged in providing guidance and promoting coordination between various departments and disciplines in the FAO Secretariat keeping in view the objectives and contents of the WCARRD Programme of Action. The Committee also works through various interdepartmental sub-groups relating to specific subjects such as people's participation, monitoring and evaluation, nutrition etc.

Mr. Chairman, the main focus of WCARRD'S follow-up is at the country level, where, needless to say, the primary responsibility for implementation lies with the Member Governments. FAO's objective in this context is to provide such help and assistance as required. We are active in responding to government's requests for assistance in formulating national programmes of agrarian reform and rural development. In this connection, the first step was to prepare operational guidelines to assist countries and aid-giving agencies in 'formulating projects in the directions identified in the Programme of Action. Further, more specific guidelines have been prepared to assist countries in such subject-matter areas as people's participation and women in development.

A major means of follow-up at the policy level is through WCARRD policy review missions organised by FAO, including in several cases representatives of other UN Agencies. These missions undertake to review, together with the governments concerned, overall policies and programmes in the area of agrarian reform and rural development; they identify priority areas for action and assistance, further, they assist in the formulation of poverty oriented agricultural and rural development projects. Apart from these policy review missions, we have also helped formulate a number of catalytic projects in the light of the WCARRD Programme of Action.

Among specific areas of action for which so far Member Countries have requested FAO assistance, the following are the most prominent: People's participation, the integration of women in development, education, training and extension. The new orientations given to these programmes are outlined in the document under consideration.

An important aspect of WCARRD follow-up is the need to establish a system of monitoring and evaluation with a view to reporting periodical progress in the area of agrarian reform and rural development. Under the Programme of Action, Member Countries undertook to collect on a regular basis, quantitative data on a number of socio-economic indicators relating to rural poverty. They also agreed to establish benchmarks relating to such indicators for the year 1980, and to report changes therein at every other biennial Conference thereafter.

FAO was called upon to assist governments in this task. As a first step in this direction, FAO, in consultation with other UN Agencies, prepared a provisional list of socio-economic indicators. Pilot studies have been initiated in a number of countries to test the feasibility of the proposed indicators. Regional Workshops are being organized in early 1982 to prepare an agreed list of indicators "based on country experience and to draw up, for use by Member Countries, guidelines relating to socio-economic indicators, as well as for the establishment of appropriate benchmarks.



To assist in the task of reporting by Member Governments on the progress in agrarian reform and rural development, and to facilitate its consideration by the next FAO Conference, it is necessary that several steps are taken urgently.

First, all countries would need to set in motion programmes for the formation of socio-economic indicators, as well as for monitoring and reporting immediately. Second, in order to synchronize country reporting and its consideration by the FAO Conference, it would be desirable if the first report on monitoring could be made available to the 22nd Session of the Conference in 1983, thus initiating the four-yearly cycle of reporting provided for in the Programme of Action.

Thirdly, in order to reduce this exercise to manageable proportions and to provide a uniform and consistent basis for country reports, the Secretariat proposes to assist Member Governments in this task by providing a format for reporting. Fourth, the FAO Secretariat would produce, drawing upon country reports prepared according to an agreed format, a consolidated and comprehensive overall report for consideration by the Conference at its 1983 Session.

This report will not only be a statistical, but also an analytical document reviewing policies and programmes. We hope that this procedure, suggested by us, has the support and endorsement of the Conference.

Such a report, moreover, will provide the basis for FAO, in cooperation with other UN Agencies, to prepare a progress report on agrarian reform and rural development for the consideration of ECOSOC in early 1984: The ECOSOC, of the UN, at its July 1981 session, has already agreed to the consideration of such a report in mid-1984 and every four years thereafter. The report would be entitled 'Review and Analysis of Agrarian Reform and Rural Development'. Such a report, considered by the FAO Conference, could thus emerge as an authoritative statement on world agrarian reform and rural development, for consideration not only by ECOSOC, but also by other international fora concerned with international development issues and strategy.

I now pass on to a consideration of some aspects of implementation at the regional level. Special inter-country consultations on the follow-up of WCARRD were organized at the regional level during 1980 and 1981, one in Latin America, two in the Asia and Pacific Region. These inter-country Consultations have stimulated the exchange of relevant national experiences among the countries of a region and served to highlight the priority areas most relevant to the region and to identify possibilities of regional cooperation.

WCARRD Follow-Up has been included on the agenda of Regional Conferences to be held in 1982. Apart from guidance regarding regional priorities, it is hoped that FAO Regional Conferences will provide an opportunity for discussion not only of socio-economic indicators, but also of the format and content of the 1983 Report.

The most significant development at the regional level, is the establishment of Regional Centres for Rural Development, in each of the developing regions. Two centres, one in Asia and one in Africa have already been established. The agreement for a Centre in Latin America and the Caribbean is the process of ratification, while arrangements are underway, for a similar Centre in the Near East Region. The role of Non-Governmental Organizations, that is, self-reliant and representative rural organisations is explicitly recognised by the 1979 FAO Conference Resolution. We have undertaken useful consultations relating to the WCARRD Programme of Action with national and international NGOs, including international trade unions. Experience in Latin America and Africa has shown how NGOs, with support and cooperation from government representatives, have helped to identify projects for the benefit and participation of various rural poverty groups. It is planned to replicate this approach in other regions. The Conference may wish, in this connection, to call upon countries to promote NGOs participation, to urge NGOs to cooperate positively and to request NGOs and donors to provide them with support in the follow-up of WCARRD.

I turn now, to the question of inter-agency cooperation and FAO's role as the lead agency in the follow-up of WCARRD Programme of Action. We are glad to report that the ACC Task Force has drawn up its own programme of work on the basis of the assessment of its own past activities and in the light of responsibility entrusted to it for the follow-up of WCARRD. This programme of work, which has now been approved by the ACC and has been subsequently endorsed by the ECOSOC, centres around three major areas of the WCARRD programme of action; joint action at country and regional levels, promoting people's participation in rural development; and monitoring and evaluation of rural development. We are also working in close collaboration with individual UN agencies, taking advantage of their specialized fields of competence. For example, the World Bank, in view of its interest and expertise, at the invitation of FAO, has just convened an Inter-Agency Workshop on the Monitoring and Evaluation of Rural Development. Meanwhile, the ILO, in view of its long-standing experience, has agreed to convene an Inter-Agency Panel on People's Participation.

FAO has also taken the initiative to ensure such cooperation at the regional level for WCARRD Follow-Up, by convening regular regional inter-agency meetings for this purpose. At the country level, several WCARRD Review Missions, with active participation by UN Agencies, have provided a concrete expression of such inter-agency cooperation.

In close cooperation with member Governments we have intensified our efforts for the dissemination of systematic information on the WCARRD Programme of Action. The WCARRD Programme has been translated in five vernacular languages and a popular version has been printed for worldwide distribution. This is intended to sensitize public opinion at all levels towards the ideals and objectives of the WCARRD Programme of Action.

Lastly, the 1979 FAO Conference Resolution called for financial support for WCARRD Follow-Up through voluntary extra-budgetary contributions of resources up to a sum of US \$20 million. So far, US \$9.3 million have been pledged, while projects already identified cost a total of US \$19 million, or almost the full amount of the proposed target.

In view of the urgent need for financial resources, a flexible approach has been adopted to tap all possible sources of funds. Regular Programme resources have been mobilized in every way possible. It is essential that the momentum achieved so far in the follow-up of WCARRD should be maintained. Therefore, the minimum extra-budgetary funds already envisaged are badly needed, and we hope the Conference would call upon potential donors for the urgent commitment of additional resources.

I may draw the attention of the Commission to the various proposals, which are summarized in the concluding section, Section VIII, paragraph 36 (pages 8 to 9) of the document. We seek the support and endorsement of the Conference to the specific issues raised and suggestions made in this section.

CHAIRMAN: I thank the Assistant Director of the Economic and Social Policy Department for that introduction to tomorrow's debate on the Follow-up to the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. I am convinced that this introduction will assist in spelling out clearly the positions taken by the Member Governments on the Follow-up actions.

The meeting rose at 16.15 hours

La séance est levée à 16 h 15

Se levanta la sesión las 16.15 horas



## conference

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

## conférence

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

## conferencia

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION

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C 81/II/PV/16

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Twenty-first Session

COMMISSION II

Vingt et unième session

COMMISSION II

21° período de sesiones

COMMISSION II

SIXTEENTH MEETING

SEIZIEME SEANCE

16ª SESION

(20 November 1981)

The Sixteenth Meeting was opened at 10.00 hours

A.A. Khalil, Vice-Chairman of Commission II, presiding

La seizième séance est ouverte à 10 h 00, sous la présidence de

A.A. Khalil, Vice-Président de la Commission II

Se abre la 16ª sesión a las 10.00 horas bajo la presidencia de

A.A. Khalil, Vicepresidente de Comisión II

II - ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMES OF THE ORGANIZATION (continued)

II - ACTIVITES ET PROGRAMMES DE L'ORGANISATION (suite)

II - ACTIVIDADES Y PROGRAMAS DE LA ORGANIZACION (continuación)

13. Follow-up to WCARRD (continued) (C 81/23)

13. Suite donnée à la CMRADR (suite) (C 81/23)

13. Actividades complementarias de la CMRADR (continuación) (C 81/23)

CHAIRMAN (original language Arabic): This meeting will discuss Item 13, included in Document C 81/23. Yesterday Dr. Islam presented this document to us in an excellent manner. He talked about the measures and guidelines which the organisation follows in implementing cooperation with the other agencies and non-governmental organisations in the follow-up of the conference. He also discussed the other major issues put before you.

A. ACUÑA (Panamá): Resulta realmente satisfactorio el conocer de documentos como el C 81/23 que nos informa de los progresos realizados por la FAO en la ejecución de la Resolución 7/79 de la Conferencia, relativa a las actividades complementarias de la Conferencia Mundial sobre Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural.

Y decimos que nos resulta satisfactorio Sr. Presidente, porque frente a los pronunciamientos que se han venido dando, a diversos niveles, muchos de los cuales conllevan buenas intenciones en la búsqueda de los medios más eficaces para resolver el hambre a ese 20 por ciento de la humanidad que la padece en forma trágica, no deja uno de preguntarse si se lograrán los medios para realmente llegar a esa legión de hambrientos.

Hacemos esta puntualización, Sr. Presidente, porque somos de la opinión de que frente a los problemas del desempleo, subempleo, el hambre, y la desnutrición, especialmente en las áreas rurales, uno de los medios más eficaces para resolver estos problemas en forma duradera es la ejecución de programas de desarrollo rural y reforma agraria. Y en esto, la Conferencia Mundial sobre Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural precisó adecuadamente la necesidad de una participación popular por intermedio de instituciones rurales adecuadas, la asignación de recursos al desarrollo rural, reformas estructurales para garantizar a los pobres del sector rural un acceso suficiente a la tierra y demás recursos.

Es por esto que expresamos nuestra satisfacción por los adelantos que en cumplimiento y concorde con la Conferencia Mundial sobre Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural la FAO ha venido logrando. En esto, Sr. Presidente, felicitamos sinceramente a la Secretaría, máxime si tomamos en cuenta que para la realización de estos adelantos, esta Organización recurrió muy correctamente a la movilización flexible de recursos de todas las fuentes disponibles y no contó con organización, ni personal adicional, ni con recursos del Programa ordinario previamente asignados.

Creemos que lo sustantivo de las actividades de esta Organización se tiene que errumbrar por actividades como éstas, apoyadas, claro está, por otras que le vienen a dar integridad, mayor alcance y consolidación a estos proyectos.

Como bien lo aceptó la Conferencia Mundial sobre Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural la responsabilidad primaria en la aplicación de sus recomendaciones recaería en los gobiernos miembros. Pero, si bien, esto es así, y está fuera de discusión, no es menos cierto que es también misión de estas conferencias, y como bien lo expresara en el día de ayer el Sr. Nury Islam debe influir positivamente en los países.

En relación a los diferentes aspectos del contenido del documento C 81/23 y en lo referente a las principales esferas de acción y asistencia, señalamos que sobre la promoción de la participación popular no solo en los dos últimos Consejos de la FAO, sino en los Comités de esta, en donde se debatió el tema, el mismo contó con una alta prioridad debido a la aceptación general que existe de que éste es un aspecto que en suma decidirá la eficacia o no de cualquier programa.

Y sobre este particular, destacamos lo señalado ayer por la distinguida delegación de Países Bajos, cuando se discutió el informe de las organizaciones no gubernamentales, al expresar que el apoyo a la participación popular fue en la que se basó el desarrollo agrícola de su país hace 100 años.

Sobre la integración de la mujer en el desarrollo, esta integración debe verse, como se señala en parte del párrafo 11, integrando en todos los programas posibles componentes relativos a la mujer.

Sobre este aspecto, ya hay un claro consenso, debiendo superarse ahora los atavismos y prejuicios existentes sobre el particular.

En cuanto a la esfera de acción que tiene que ver con la enseñanza, capacitación y extensión para el desarrollo rural, la misma debe estar claramente dirigida a la renovación e introducción de metodologías innovadoras que tiendan a reforzar las capacidades nacionales en este aspecto.

Por otra parte, estamos de acuerdo con que la Conferencia reitere la petición de la Conferencia sobre Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural sobre la presentación de informes por parte de los países cada dos conferencias bienales, esto como forma eficaz para darle seguimiento a lo aprobado por esta Conferencia. Al respecto, la FAO tiene la experiencia de los informes por países que se prepararon en 1979 para la realización de este evento.

Igualmente, el aspecto referente a las actividades complementarias de la Conferencia Mundial sobre Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural debe ser tema de las Conferencias Regionales de la FAO. Creo, Sr. Presidente, que a este respecto las experiencias tenidas son positivas, por lo que proponemos que este aspecto sea aprobado por esta vigésima primera Conferencia de la FAO.

Sobre el importante tema de los centros regionales de reforma agraria y desarrollo rural nosotros esperamos y confiamos, especialmente en cuanto al de América Latina se refiere, que los mismos realmente contribuyan en dos aspectos a nuestro juicio muy importantes: en la investigación en los aspectos socioeconómicos de la reforma agraria y desarrollo rural; y en la preparación de personal que tenga que ver con la planificación y ejecución de estos programas.

Finalmente, Sr. Presidente, y para terminar aquí nuestra intervención, consideramos eficaz los esfuerzos que se hagan en materia de comunicación para el desarrollo rural. Decimos esto por la oposición a que se ven enfrentados, en no pocas veces, estos programas, lo que viene a exigir la necesidad de una adecuada y correcta comunicación.

E. MAZURKIEWICZ (Poland): My delegation studied very carefully document C 81/23 which is before us. It is two years since WCARRD was used by FAO with benefit to popularise and improve the targets of this conference. WCARRD brought up many very important subjects which are significant for the world community; emphasising ways to achieve growth of agricultural production, indispensable changes of agricultural structures, necessity of access to land, water and other foods for the poorest groups of the population; indispensable improvement of working and living conditions for rural women.

The conference emphasises the big role of universal and professional knowledge and education for the rural population, and the significance of non-agricultural activity for this population. We highly praise the FAO's activity in this field. Agrarian reforms are the initial steps to further those changes in agriculture and rural development. This order of changes confirms our own experience, as many other countries.

Mr. Chairman, I want to draw your attention and all members of our Committee to the 3 following problems in our discussion. The first is connected with countries where a deficiency of land exists. In these countries it is suitable, with agrarian reforms, to develop on a parallel line non-agricultural activities for the rural population. These activities connected with agriculture make possible the faster growth of income for the rural population, and improvement and better living standards. These changes in Poland's agriculture gave positive results. Poland widely developed cooperative farms in rural regions in small scale manufactures, in supply and sale, and also in agricultural production, which now play a very important role in the national economy.

Poland submits its offer to organise seminars and training courses for developing countries on organisation of small scale industry in rural regions by using manpower surplus. We developed this kind of production in work cooperatives and we have had interesting experiences in the leather industry, fisheries processing, timber industry, food processing and others.

Poland has multi-sector agriculture. We have State farms, cooperative and family farms. The State and cooperative farms are the main producers of quality seed and animals for breeding purposes. They are also centres for the training of skilled staff and for practice by pupils and students of agricultural schools and universities. Poland could organise for developing countries the training of management of State, cooperative and family farms. The second problem. In the life of the rural family women perform a significant role. In small family farms in fact they manage them because the men very often are working outside of agriculture. From our experiences it follows that the integration of women in their professional organisations makes it easier to introduce improvements in agricultural production and in family life. For these purposes we organised in Warsaw Agricultural University the Faculty of Rural Home Economics as an important research centre to educate instructors for cooperation with rural women and their organisation. We believe that our experience may be interesting for many developing countries.

Third problem. Improvement in agricultural production is closely connected with the professional knowledge of the rural population and known different methods of education. I want to emphasise the good results which were achieved in Poland in the union of schools and after-school teaching at agricultural schools.

But a better level of agricultural education must be connected with a good market for commodities which the farmers use for agricultural production. A deficiency in this matter has had a very bad influence on social relations and on agricultural production. These few remarks which I make bring me to the conclusion about the big role of FAO in the realisation of WCARRD's targets. Poland strongly supports FAO in this activity.

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Sra. G. SOTO (Cuba): Nuestra delegación quisiera, en primer lugar, agradecer a la Secretaría por este breve pero sustancioso documento C 81/23, que nos brinda una clara idea de lo que se ha venido realizando para poner en práctica el Plan de Acción aprobado por la Conferencia Mundial de Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural en julio de 1979 y que ha sido complementada por la presentación hecha ayer por el Profesor Islam.

Consideramos, que dicha Conferencia constituyó un momento histórico en el cual se contrajo el compromiso de llevar a cabo políticas de Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural como una vía para transformar la vida y las actividades rurales en todos sus aspectos económicos, sociales, culturales, institucionales, ambientales y humanos.

Con esta Conferencia reafirmamos nuestra convicción de que la reforma agraria es un factor decisivo del desarrollo rural y de que el mejoramiento constante de las zonas rurales requieren un acceso más equitativo y completo a la tierra, el agua y otros recursos naturales; una amplia participación en el poder económico y político, puestos de trabajo cada vez más numerosos y más productivos, un mayor aprovechamiento de la capacidad y la energía humana, la participación e integración de la población rural en los sistemas de producción y distribución, teniendo muy en cuenta la participación de la mujer, así como el aumento de la producción, la productividad y la seguridad alimentaria para todos los grupos.

Si en ocasión de la Conferencia Mundial de Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural, los cientos de delegados reunidos en esta misma sede vieron con satisfacción la Declaración de Principios y el Plan de acción aprobados, hoy con mayor satisfacción aún, vemos que no fue aprobado un documento más y que muchos gobiernos y la FAO han comenzado a adoptar medidas concretas para el cumplimiento de los fines propuestos.

Consideramos que todas las delegaciones presentes en esta Comisión podrán expresar su satisfacción por los activos esfuerzos realizados por la FAO para cumplir con las obligaciones que le fueron encomendadas por el Programa de Acción de la Conferencia y la Resolución 7/79 de la Conferencia de la FAO. Nos complace, además, que el principio rector en las disposiciones organizativas haya sido el de integrar la orientación y actividades complementarias de la Conferencia en las organizaciones y labores ya existentes en la FAO y no crear otras dependencias organizativas.

Con relación a lo planteado en el párrafo 3, sobre la orientación de las actividades de la FAO, nuestra delegación encuentra apropiados los métodos utilizados, especialmente en la orientación contenida y asignada de los recursos a los programas técnicos especializados. Consideramos, sin embargo, que se debe continuar trabajando en la introducción de nuevos proyectos complementarios, orientados directamente a la población rural mas necesitada, y financiados con fuentes extrapresupuestarias para estas actividades complementarias de la Conferencia Mundial de Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural con el fin de promover futuros proyectos de campo en ese sentido.

En lo referente a la Acción a nivel de países, nos parece muy acertada que la misma se rija por las peticiones específicas de los países efectuadas individualmente, o por conducto de consultas intergubernamentales a nivel regional. Es digno de elogio también, las adaptaciones que se han hecho en algunas misiones FAO/PNUD lográndose que las mismas abarquen la formulación de proyectos en actividades complementarias de la Conferencia Mundial de Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural, además de cumplir con la tarea habitual de preparar proyectos para el ciclo de programación del PNUD.

El número y la utilidad de proyectos y actividades de apoyo de los programas nacionales de reforma agraria y desarrollo rural los cuales, según se indica en el párrafo 8, eran de más de cincuenta hasta julio de 1981, y que han sido financiados algunos con recursos del Programa Ordinario, principalmente con el PCT, nos indica la necesidad de incrementar en la medida posible los fondos de dichos programas.

Nuestra delegación también considera digno de elogio la identificación y formulación de proyectos realizados para propiciar la participación popular en el desarrollo y especialmente los esfuerzos relativos a la participación de la mujer. Estimamos que el Programa "Acción de las comunidades en favor de las mujeres desfavorecidas", es un magnífico ejemplo de cómo tanto la FAO, como los países, han respondido al contenido del párrafo 15 xvi) de la Declaración de Principios de la Conferencia de Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural referente a la participación de la mujer.

Igualmente nos parece acertada la labor desplegada en lo referente a la capacitación y extensión para el desarrollo rural, sin embargo, pensamos que pudiera analizarse la posibilidad de incrementar los programas especiales de capacitación, especialmente para las mujeres y, muy fundamentalmente, para la mujer campesina, que incluyen hábitos de consumo, higiene de los alimentos y preparación de los mismos, entre otros aspectos.

En cuanto al seguimiento posterior de este importante tema, consideramos acertada la idea de la Secretaría en el sentido de que los países informen sobre los progresos realizados en el desarrollo rural después de la ejecución de sus Programas de Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural y que dichos informes se presenten en el próximo período de sesiones de la Conferencia General en 1983. La importancia de estos informes está perfectamente recogida en el párrafo 18 del documento C 81/23. Asimismo, estamos de acuerdo con que el tema de las actividades complementarias de la Conferencia Mundial de Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural sean incluidos en los programas de las próximas Conferencias Regionales.

La acción complementaria a nivel regional es muy importante, y si bien coincidimos en que el centro de esas actividades complementarias debe ser a nivel de país, consideramos que especialmente a través de los Centros Regionales de Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural, recientemente constituidos para las regiones de Asia y el Pacífico, Africa y más recientemente aún, en septiembre de 1981, para América Latina, suministrarán el principal apoyo regional de los países mismos a la acción a nivel de países.

Esta Comisión, y lo que es más, esta Conferencia, deben instar a los Estados Miembros que no lo han hecho, a que se adhieran y apoyen a estos centros en las respectivas regiones en que se hayan establecido.

Con relación a la Cooperación con organizaciones no gubernamentales, es importante que tanto los Gobiernos Miembros como la FAO promuevan el desarrollo de organizaciones de pequeños agricultores haciendo especial hincapié en los más desposeídos. A nivel nacional es muy importante también la participación de las organizaciones no gubernamentales en la formulación de proyectos para la participación popular en su ejecución. En nuestro país, la Asociación Nacional de Agricultores Pequeños juega un rol importantísimo y prioritario en el desarrollo rural, siendo nuestros campesinos tanto beneficiarios como protagonistas de este desarrollo.

Igualmente vemos con interés y agrado la acción desplegada por la FAO al promover la cooperación económica entre países en desarrollo y la cooperación técnica entre países en desarrollo por conducto de grupos económicos regionales y los centros regionales de desarrollo rural, lo cual posibilita la promoción de proyectos de desarrollo rural interpaíses.

Una última cuestión a la que quisiéramos referirnos es a la necesidad de que se complementen los fondos mínimos de 20 millones de dólares a fin de poder movilizar más recursos para la acción complementaria



de la Conferencia Mundial de Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural.

Una vez más, señor Presidente, agradecemos a la FAO por permitirnos analizar este importante tema y esperamos que en reuniones tan importantes como la Conferencia General, Conferencias Regionales, Consejos y Comités de Agricultura se sigan analizando estas importantes actividades complementarias para dar cumplimiento al Programa de Acción aprobado en la Conferencia de 1979.

G. ERICSSON (Sweden): The following statement on document C 81/23 is made on behalf of the four Nordic countries, Denmark, England, Norway and Sweden. The Nordic countries were actively involved in the preparation of the WCARRD as well as in the Conference itself and we attach great importance to FAO's work on the follow-up to the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. The resolutions adopted by that Conference are very much in conformity with our notion of major problems in the rural areas such as widespread poverty, low productivity in agriculture and a low rate of participation by peoples themselves in the development process.

Experience from several countries clearly shows how economic growth can only be a self-sustained process if the majority of the target group becomes actively involved. Economic growth can be achieved in the short run by concentrating development efforts on the relatively more educated opinion leaders in the local society. Sustained growth, however, is only possible if the target group as a whole can be actively involved in and reap the benefits of development efforts. We consider it important to favour the approach with regard to people's participation that ascribes to participation the decisive role in the development.

There are two reasons behind this idea: firstly, the approach implies a strong belief in the ability of people to change their situation if the conditions for change are created. A development approach based on people's participation does imply not only an attitude to good human relations but it simultaneously implies a decision on how a rapid economic growth can be achieved. Secondly, there is a strong relationship between the distribution of results of growth and people's participation.

Participation of the target group in the choice, design and implementation of different development activities will increase the probability of achieving the social and economic equality in accordance with the WCARRD principles.

So far we have made general references to target groups. In the WCARRD context, the rural poor are often mentioned as a target group. Women in rural areas, landless people and the unemployed and under-employed are examples of other more specific target groups given in the WCARRD document. In this context, however, we would also like to draw this Commission's attention to the fact that the United Nations have declared this year, 1981, the International Year for Disabled Persons. There is reason to underline that even people with disabilities of different kinds must be mobilized in and be able to benefit from the development work. Today there are some 500 million disabled persons in the world, not less than 400 million live in the developing countries and 80 percent of these in the rural areas. This clearly points to the need for including the disabled persons as one of the target groups for the WCARRD activities.

We believe that an important aspect of the follow-up to WCARRD will be to make it possible for these people to support themselves through productive work. A private project which includes such elements would, as a matter of fact, be desirable since it could provide valuable information and practical experience.

We trust that these specific remarks will be reflected in the Report of this Commission. We are informed that by July 1981 the total sum of U.S. \$9 292 000 had been pledged in response to the 79th FAO Council Resolution 7/79 which called for contributions of extra-budgetary funds up to U.S. \$20 million in the 5-year period, 1980-85. This means that only half the target set by the 20th Conference had been met. Only five countries have contributed and the Nordic countries have provided some 80 percent of the total sum pledged.

The Nordic countries would like to compliment FAO for its competence and dynamic approach in the utilization of available resources, as well as its attempts to mobilize new resources, which we hope will be forthcoming. Thus we note with satisfaction that 6.5 million U.S. dollars have been raised from various non-governmental organizations, and that 2.4 million dollars now have been supplied by the Islamic Development Bank. We strongly endorse these efforts by FAO for engaging the NGOs in

WCARRD activities. We feel this is very encouraging, the approach which has been taken vis-à-vis nongovernmental organizations. Several of these WCARRD type projects are likely to catalyse further investment. It is therefore very important that further funds can be raised as the follow-up of WCARRD progress.

The main criteria for selection of projects are the power of catalytic action and ability to mobilize existing local resources. This means that successful projects will have a catalysing effect. New projects may add further projects.

From the outset the Nordic countries have offered to cooperate through their aid agencies in the work of FAO on WCARRD follow-up. The role of women and people's participation have been identified as key areas in the WCARRD approach, calling for re-examination of both the mortalities and contents of field projects and a deliberate orientation towards meeting the specific needs of small farmers and the rural poor. We are eager to incorporate the experiences made by FAO in our work and assistance strategy. We strongly support the monitoring and reporting system built into the action programme to ensure a continuing follow-up of WCARRD. The country reports on progress in rural developments, arising from the implementation of the various programmes, could provide a basis for a general analysis of the progress and problems in rural poverty.

The Nordic delegation would also like to raise a few other points. A truly coordinated approach will be a prerequisite, for success in the implementation of the WCARRD resolution. It is obvious that FAO has taken some important steps to coordinate WCARRD follow-up. Organizational arrangements have been made. The new orientation is reflected in the documents to FAO bodies, and in FAO technical publications. Furthermore a new staff orientation and training programme has been introduced to ensure this WCARRD orientation in all of FAO technical activities.

In regard to the field programme, a review and presentation of existing and new projects is being undertaken on the basis of WCARRD criteria and components. A very strong and efficient coordinating machinery is certainly needed if, as it is stated in Document C 81/4, paragraph 4.38, and I quote, "The influence of WCARRD and the rural development approach will in time permeate all of FAO's field activities." Unquote. However, it is not easy to see from the documents how this machinery is functioning in practice. We would, therefore, like to hear the Secretariat what sort of practical experiences FAO has had as to the coordination of the WCARRD follow-up. We believe that only with a strong element of people's participation can rural development projects become self-sustaining and survive beyond the temporary input of external assistance. This is an area where considerable innovative thinking will be required by FAO/ The talk-down approach to identifying and implementing projects should be allowed to give way for an approach giving more emphasis to active people's participation. However, we know that it is difficult to mobilize general participation in the strongly stratified society. In such societies the local elite tend to take over the control of local organization, and uses them to their own advantage. This risk is very real, as in many countries significant popular movements involving rural poor, rural women and landless people do not exist. Where popular movements do arise they are often undermined by the central bureaucracy. Aid efforts to force the cooperative development, for example, have often paradoxically meant support for the governmental organizations which have been created to organize and monitor cooperative societies. The essence of this programme is not only that people's participation is difficult to achieve, it also presents a very delicate issue with regard to the relationship between the UN organization like FAO and governments. Political conflicts may arise. People's participation is, in fact, impossible to initiate from the outside, without acceptance from the governments concerned. It is clear from paragraph 4.40 in Document C 81/4, Review of Field Programme, which we discussed the other day. A logical conclusion is that not all countries are susceptible to carrying out WCARRD type projects, at least not to the full extent as given by the principles. An interesting question is, therefore, how does FAO try to overcome this problem?

Then, Mr. Chairman, to end we are aware of all the difficulties which will be met in the implementation of the WCARRD follow-up action programme, but we do hope that the new efforts being made, we have been discussing during a number of years, the integrated rural development approach, but it seems to us now that the WCARRD follow-up programme has given a new direction, and we wish FAO success in that. We also will continue to, support in different ways, financial as well as by cooperating more directly these important fields of FAO activities. Thank you, Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (original language Arabic): I thank the delegate of Sweden. We have taken note of the questions he has asked. Dr. Nurul Islam will respond to those later. I shall now give the floor to the representative of India.

M. SANKARANARAYANAN (India): My delegation is deeply and sincerely appreciative and grateful for having been given permission to make our brief intervention at this juncture.

My delegation has very carefully considered the document C 81/23, follow-up of WCARRD. This, like all the other presentations of FAO for this conference, has been brought out with remarkable succinctness, simplicity and clarity. My delegation would, therefore, like to convey our appreciation to FAO for its efforts in the follow-up action taken by it subsequent to the World Conference on Agrarian Reforms and Rural Development, which took place in July 1979. All of us here are aware of the fact that FAO has played a very active role for the conclusion of the WCARRD programme of action, and this is already part, in a sense, of India's development policy. India has participated in the regional follow-up consultations, and it has taken an active role in formulating specific recommendations appropriate to the Member countries of the regions. We have also agreed to collect data on a continuing basis on the lines suggested in the social economic indicators formulated by the FAO. However, since some of these indicators require modifications to suit local conditions a review is being effected. The Indian delegation would, therefore, urge the FAO to accelerate its efforts in monitoring rural development activities in Member countries, and in assisting them in priority areas.

The resolution of the FAO Conference had called for voluntary contributions by donor countries up to a target of 20 million dollars, as against which the total pledges up to July 1981 amounted to only 9.3 million dollars. The follow-up action on WCARRD has identified projects covering more than 12 million dollars. While, therefore, my delegation would commend the call of the FAO Conference for urgent commitments and allocation of at least 20 million dollars in voluntary contributions as per the resolution 7/79. My delegation would also suggest that the agencies of the UN system should be invited to allocate more resources to WCARRD follow-up activities, along with direct bilateral assistance. Our delegation would like to express its concern over this low funding of the total fund of 20 million dollars, and ask for more help for this purpose.

In conclusion, my delegation would like to inform all the other delegates of all other countries that we are fully implementing the programmes of agrarian reform, integrated rural development, national rural employment, etc. which are all signals of the competence of India's sixth five-year plan, and which are fully consistent with the directions for the further follow-up activity suggested by WCARRD.

Sra. D. SANCHEZ (Colombia): Gracias Señor Presidente; muchas gracias también al Profesor Islam por la completa e interesante presentación que ha hecho del tema que nos ocupa.

La delegación de Colombia hará algunas observaciones acerca de cómo se ha venido cumpliendo lo dispuesto en la Resolución 7/79 de la pasada Conferencia, en relación con actividades complementarias de la Conferencia Mundial sobre Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural. Pensamos que se ha procedido bien al crear el Comité Interdepartamental y el Grupo Interdireccional sobre Desarrollo Rural en la sede, así como grupos de trabajo en las oficinas regionales, para que a través de esos mecanismos se haya movilizado el personal y los recursos de organización, en favor del implemento de las medidas dimanantes de esa importante Conferencia.

Pensamos que corresponde principalmente a la FAO, de acuerdo con los gobiernos, estimular los principios de equidad y la participación de la población en esas actividades, tal como está previsto en el Programa de Acción. Por ello, nos complace que se hayan elaborado proyectos complementarios orientados directamente a la población rural pobre, y financiados con fuentes extrapresupuestarias.

La FAO, en la medida de lo posible, deberá atender las peticiones de los gobiernos dentro de sus respectivas soberanías para formular y ejecutar sus propios programas nacionales de reforma agraria y desarrollo rural.

En el párrafo 8, queremos destacar el hecho positivo de que las misiones de la FAO hayan preparado proyectos y actividades, en general dentro de los parámetros del Programa de Acción, y base de específicas solicitudes de los gobiernos. De esos 50 proyectos, la mayoría están destinados a promover la asistencia a las inversiones a más largo plazo, lo cual asegura la continuidad de los beneficios sociales. La participación popular es importante; ya lo dijo este Consejo en su anterior período de sesiones. Debe estimularse la participación de los grupos más vulnerables de la población campesina para que los beneficios de ese desarrollo rural lleguen directamente a los pequeños y medianos agricultores.

La delegación de Colombia ve con gran interés y suma importancia los programas de integración de la mujer en el desarrollo, y espera que el método doble que está adoptando la FAO, de integrar en los programas de actividades complementarias un fuerte componente relativo a la mujer, de modo que esta orientación llegue a formar parte integrante de todos los programas ordinarios y actividades de campo de la FAO,

y la acción de la comunidad en favor de las mujeres rurales desfavorecidas tenga un éxito rotundo, se extienda a todos los países donde deba implantarse y se convierta la FAO en la abanderada de mejorar las condiciones socioeconómicas de la mujer y utilizar así su invaluable aporte para el desarrollo.

También sobre enseñanza, capacitación y extensión nos preocupamos en América Latina. En abril de este año, 22 países de América Latina y del Caribe participaron en un simposio regional sobre el reforzamiento de los sistemas rurales de extensión en América Latina, en el cual se consideraron medios posibles para orientar y reforzar los sistemas de extensión en favor de los pequeños agricultores.

Al final del párrafo 14, quisiéramos preguntar a la Secretaría en qué fecha va a celebrarse en América Latina, la consulta interpaíses para cooperación técnica entre países en desarrollo en capacitación, consulta que deberá ser financiada por el PNUD.

La delegación de Colombia piensa que las Conferencias Regionales son foros adecuados para estos temas. Por ello, estamos de acuerdo en que este asunto siga figurando en los programas de las conferencias regionales de 1982.

En el marco de América Latina y el Caribe, nuestros representantes de Gobiernos, se reunieron en Caracas, Venezuela, del 8 al 11 de septiembre pasado, y decidieron crear el Centro Regional de Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural, con sede en Quito, Ecuador.

Esperamos que la FAO y los demás organismos competentes de las Naciones Unidas y fuera de éstas, apoyen nuestro Centro Regional. Debemos solicitar el apoyo de los donantes que quieran contribuir directamente a este Centro, así como a los demás centros de otras regiones. Pensamos que la FAO viene cumpliendo bien su función de Organización líder en las responsabilidades que se le atribuyen en el Capítulo XII del Programa de Acción, y la resolución de la Conferencia Mundial sobre Actividades Complementarias, muy bien igualmente que la FAO, esté colaborando con otros organismos componentes de las Naciones Unidas, en su condición de organismo principal del grupo de acción del CAC sobre desarrollo rural.

Para lograr buenos éxitos en estos campos se requiere el apoyo total de la comunidad internacional, incluidas las organizaciones no gubernamentales. Debemos insistir en una mayor financiación para los proyectos en países que lo soliciten. Lamentamos que solo se haya alcanzado la mitad de los 20 millones de dólares extrapresupuestarios solicitados por la Conferencia pasada en la Resolución 7/79, sólo cinco países han hecho contribuciones, y sería inconcebible que se dejaran de financiar por carencia de recursos los proyectos ya identificados por 12 millones de dólares y los nuevos que habrán de presentarse. Hay que hacer un llamado a los donantes en este sentido.

Al mismo tiempo agradecer a China, a los países escandinavos, a Norteamérica y a la República Federal de Alemania, a los organismos árabes de financiación y a todos los que hayan ofrecido contribuciones y seguramente las seguirán haciendo en el futuro.

En el Capítulo VIII Resumen de la cuestiones para consideración de esta Conferencia, estamos de acuerdo en general con esos planteamientos; en particular, con la necesidad de que los gobiernos de países en desarrollo concedan más alta prioridad al desarrollo rural y a los beneficios a las clases más desposeídas, la conveniencia de asegurar a los campesinos un mayor acceso a la tierra, a los insumos y servicios, y la presentación de informes por parte de los países sobre el seguimiento de estas actividades y el asesoramiento de la FAO para que los gobiernos elaboren esos informes en forma adecuada, que permita una evaluación real de la situación.

J. BARBOSA (Portugal): C'est avec les félicitations de ma délégation pour les progrès réalisés dans la mise en oeuvre des suites données à la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural, que je vais évoquer les mesures prises dans mon pays.

La réforme agraire, qui a consisté au Portugal en des occupations de terres des grandes propriétés de l'Alentejo et de quelques propriétés de Ribatejo, est un sujet de grande préoccupation pour le gouvernement qui s'efforce de légaliser les situations irrégulières en appliquant la loi de base de la réforme agraire, approuvée par l'Assemblée de la République.

Cette loi prévoit la distribution de terres aux petits agriculteurs, aux fermiers et aux métayers, après avoir attribué à l'ancien propriétaire la part qui lui revient, suivant l'évaluation de la propriété et le système de "ponctuation" institué par la loi. Les terres expropriées ou nationalisées qui étaient gérées par l'Etat sont divisées en parcelles constituant des unités économiques qui sont distribuées aux intéressés.

Les nouveaux agriculteurs bénéficient de l'appui technique, administratif et comptable, y compris la formation professionnelle, l'application de techniques appropriées dans la planification et l'exécution des programmes d'exploitation, la concession de crédits, de facteurs et de moyens de production, l'enregistrement comptable, développement associatif et, à titre supplétif, d'équipements.

Quant aux exploitations de petite dimension qui existent surtout dans le Nord du pays, la loi de base de la réforme agraire en prévoit le dimensionnement physique et économique moyennant les mesures suivantes: promotion de l'intégration coopérative horizontale et de la constitution de coopératives complémentaires de production; promotion du remembrement, de l'affermage ou de l'acquisition de parcelles ou de propriétés, interdiction de la division des propriétés et des exploitations inférieures à des limites fixées, droits de préférence à la vente et à l'affermage de propriétés et concession d'une pension de réforme ou d'une rente viagère pour abandon des exploitations.

A ce sujet, je dois ajouter qu'il y a beaucoup de petites exploitations agricoles qui, n'ayant pas des divisions physiques ou économiques convenables, sont cultivées à temps partiel par des propriétaires qui sont des ouvriers travaillant dans des activités proches des champs.

Je dois ajouter encore que ces pluriactivités ont une très grande importance dans les régions de mon pays où les ouvriers de l'industrie et du commerce font de l'agriculture à temps partiel avec l'aide de leurs femmes et de leurs enfants sur de très petites parcelles.

Depuis quelque temps, nous avons des contacts avec la FAO et avec certains pays qui ont déjà étudié le problème, envisageant un projet sur le terrain.

Nous souhaitons qu'un tel projet réussisse, en tenant compte du fait que beaucoup de familles habitent dans les environs des villes et villages plus importants du Nord du Portugal, et qui sont éventuellement intéressées. Les pluriactivités seront probablement incluses dans un programme de la FAO. On projette le remembrement de 15 000 hectares dans le Bas-Mondego, de 11 600 hectares dans le Tras-os-Montes et de 6 000 ha dans la Gova da Beira. Dans le Bas-Mondego, l'Etat procède à l'acquisition de propriétés en vue de leur distribution aux termes de la loi sur le remembrement.

Quant aux autres propriétés qui ne peuvent être divisées en unités économiques viables, après l'attribution des réserves aux anciens propriétaires, elles sont retirées des superficies variables en vue de leur distribution à de petits agriculteurs, fermiers et métayers.

Une législation de 1979 définit plus rigoureusement les objectifs à atteindre pour l'agriculture de groupe et énonce les principes qui doivent en réglementer la constitution et le fonctionnement.

Le domaine et le concept en sont étendus à d'autres modalités d'association, y compris l'intégration partielle des exploitations et l'utilisation de l'équipement en commun.

Les associations constituées pourront contribuer à surmonter une grande partie des obstacles découlant des insuffisances structurelles, en particulier en ce qui concerne la nature foncière et l'organisation des entreprises localisées dans les régions de petite propriété qui se limitent à leur fonction de subsistance.

Un autre texte de loi de la même année tend à modifier la structure par âges de la population active agricole où 27 % a moins de 35 ans, représentant 11 % des entrepreneurs agricoles.

Sont déjà créées les conditions nécessaires en vue de préparer, d'encourager et de fixer les jeunes qui désirent exercer une activité agricole sous la forme d'entreprises individuelles ou collectives.

Nous trouvons dans le programme du gouvernement les objectifs envisagés qui englobent totalement le pays et la zone de la réforme agraire en particulier. En effet, les principaux objectifs de la politique agricole globale, définie dans le programme du gouvernement pour 1981, visent l'amélioration des conditions économiques et sociales de la population rurale, l'augmentation de la production et de la productivité, la protection des ressources naturelles et la reconstitution des ressources renouvelables.

Des mesures d'une portée générale ont été prises relativement au problème du crédit et de l'assurance agricole, forestière et des récoltes, à la coopération, à l'enseignement agricole et à la formation professionnelle, ainsi qu'à l'aide aux zones rurales défavorisées. Diverses actions ont été entreprises portant sur l'usage de la terre, la production agro-pastorale et forestière, ainsi que sur la commercialisation et la transformation des produits. On s'efforce d'adapter la politique agricole aux règlements, aux directives et aux résolutions de la CEE.

Le financement concédé à l'agriculture (et aux pêches) est centralisé à l'Institut d'appui au développement de l'agriculture et des pêches (IFADAP). En 1979, a été créé le Système de financement à l'agriculture et aux pêches (SIFAP) qui, par respect des normes et des règles de l'IFADAP est chargé des opérations de crédits, de bonification d'intérêts, de garantie et de subventions. Ce système est entré en fonctionnement en 1980.

En 1980 a été institué le "Programme de financement concédé aux fermiers ruraux" (PAR), destiné à donner aux agriculteurs travaillant en régime de fermage la possibilité d'acquérir les propriétés qu'ils exploitent, moyennant un système d'appui technique et financier. Le crédit sera concédé pour un délai de 20 ans, à faible intérêt.

L'assurance agricole a été instituée en septembre 1979 et les opérations correspondantes ont commencé en avril 1980. L'assurance couvre les risques suivants: incendie, foudre, explosions, tornades, trombes d'eau, grêle et gelées affectant les cultures.

En octobre 1980, a été publié le Code coopératif qui a institué officiellement le "coopératisme", texte légal unique qui englobe les dispositions sur la matière jusque là dispersées ou dépassées.

La formation professionnelle a englobé une vaste gamme d'enseignement des simples tailleurs d'arbres ou greffeurs, à la préparation d'agents en vulgarisation, d'agents de coopérative, de comptables et de gestionnaires.

L'enseignement de l'agriculture dans les écoles primaires et secondaires et dans les universités, complète la préparation technique à tous les niveaux des professionnels qui se consacrent aux problèmes agricoles.

La politique des prix tend à garantir au producteur une rémunération juste et, en même temps, à protéger les consommateurs. En 1981, comme chaque année, on a continué à déterminer les prix de beaucoup de produits agricoles.

On a défini les relations de travail entre entrepreneurs et travailleurs ruraux; on a fixé l'horaire de travail, le régime des congés annuels et d'autres privilèges sociaux, de manière à tenter d'aligner la situation de ces travailleurs sur celles des travailleurs d'autres activités. Le salaire minimum a été ajusté.

On s'attache à la rationalisation de la structure du Ministère de l'agriculture, du commerce et des pêches, en vue de garantir une meilleure articulation entre les organes périphériques et les organes centraux; l'activité des services de vulgarisation et d'assistance technique a été intensifiée. On ne peut pas dire que le suivi de la réforme agraire dans mon pays soit en accord avec toutes les résolutions de la Conférence mondiale, mais, compte tenu de l'évolution politique qui s'est déroulée et des conséquences dans la constitution des gouvernements depuis 1979, nous croyons que les efforts qu'on est en train de faire aboutiront à des résultats satisfaisants.

J. NEUMANN (Czechoslovakia): May I also begin by expressing our appreciation of Dr. Islam's introductory statement.

I would like to make some comments regarding document C 81/23.

We are glad to note that the FAO follow-up action to the conclusions of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development has already shown significant progress.

I wish to reiterate the standpoint of my delegation, as well as that of other socialist countries expressed during WCARRD, which is mainly that agrarian reforms have to be considered as a large complex of political and economic questions, including the removal of striking economic discrepancies in countries and regions. By no means can agrarian reform be implemented as a simple technical matter.

May I refer to the positive historical experience of my country and to the completely successful development of the large-scale and highly productive socialist cooperative agriculture, as shown in FAO statistics on Czechoslovakia for several years.

May I mention here the cooperative or state farms, I believe that any well organized modernised pilot plant is important also for the small farmer as a demonstration unit: it allows him to gain experience and learn the appropriate technology, which means greater progress in agricultural development.

It would be impossible to find a developing country which has not lived through a period of liberation wars and of damage to its food production. We strongly believe that, without fertilizers, pesticides, energy inputs and other components of modern agriculture, a rapid increase in production is impossible.

Agrarian reform and rural development vary according to social and economic systems. We are confident that the cooperative movement will be the main solution for the poor small farmer, providing him with access to the technological means of high productivity.

In the whole European region, at the beginning of agrarian revolutions, access to agricultural credit for the small farm was essential. This is also valid for other regions.

Exaggeration of private capital's contribution to rural development is extremely dangerous, because the objective of such an idea, in reality, is to support the return to the multinationals. This should be refused by the developing countries.

Allow me to emphasize the important role of the forestry sector for rural development and for intensification of agricultural food production.

In conclusion, my delegation would like to insist that the WCARRD follow-up be planned and implemented in such a way as to be sure that the farm level is ultimately reached.

M. SALAMEH (Syria)(original language Arabic): I should like to thank the Assistant Director General for his excellent presentation yesterday. I would also like to thank the Secretary General for the document we have in our hands which covers all the aspects of the problem, whether economic or social.

Bearing in mind the agrarian reform in my own country which has continued to expand from the first five-year plan - we are now on our fifth - and taking into account the encouragement which we in our country give to popular participation in development, together with the active participation of women in this process in the different sectors of the national economy, and in line with the follow-up to the FAO's conference on agrarian reform and rural development, our delegation is satisfied with what has been achieved in this field. We feel that the efforts of the organization have borne fruit thanks to the operational arrangements adopted by headquarters administration also thanks to the executive measures at regional and national level. In addition, the numerous missions aimed at following up this conference, have met with success.

My delegation also feels that world agrarian reform has borne fruit and is beginning to have a history of its own; it has its negative aspects as well as its positive ones. We hope that the next study or follow-up carried out by the FAO will give examples from experience in the world, examples from socialist countries as well as those with centrally planned economies. As mentioned by several delegations, we also wish to see among these studies an example of the definition of the area of agricultural land which best corresponds to the efforts of the individual or the family for an optimal economic and technical working of this land. The follow-up of WCARRD has always linked the growth expected from agrarian reform and rural development with social justice, as mentioned in paragraph 4 of the document. The question of land tenure is still, and will remain, a subject of controversy between the different systems in the world, some opt for the right to legal heritage to property ownership and others assert, that the land is for those who cultivate it. Finally, we believe that what is in this document and the actions to be taken in the future deserve every support from the donor countries so that we may attain an objective of \$20 millions.

K. CHOUERI (Liban)(Langue originale arabe): Je voudrais tout d'abord, au nom de la delegation de mon pays, vous dire combien nous sommes attaches au progrès realise dans les suites donnees à la Conférence mondiale de la réforme agraire et du développement rural.

Nous voudrions faire quelques commentaires sur les points fondamentaux exposés dans le document dont nous débattons.

En ce qui concerne les stratégies du développement rural, mon pays, au cours de l'année dernière, a coopéré avec la FAO en application du Programme de travail pour élaborer une stratégie de développement agricole à moyen et à long terme. Nous n'avons pas pu étendre cette stratégie aux questions de développement rural, car l'Etat libanais a dû laisser en suspens un certain nombre de questions de développement pour assurer le minimum de besoins vitaux des citoyens, compte tenu des circonstances difficiles que traverse notre pays.

Nous avons convoqué une réunion qui se tiendra au début de l'année prochaine au Liban pour débattre de cette stratégie en vue de son adoption par le gouvernement.

En ce qui concerne les domaines de travail, nous avons oeuvré en vue de l'intégration de la femme au développement. Nous avons donné des primes d'encouragement à toutes les femmes qui travaillent dans le domaine de la sériciculture afin d'améliorer leurs conditions de vie.

Pour ce qui est du paragraphe 36 iv relatif aux consultations régionales, nous avons oeuvré et continuons de le faire dans le cadre des activités régionales, et nous demandons que des ressources financières soient allouées pour parvenir à un niveau minimum d'autosuffisance dans les récoltes vivrières, parce que c'est l'une des priorités qui intéressent notre région. Nous demanderons également que des dons ou des prêts favorisés soient accordés aux pays défavorisés de la région, afin qu'ils puissent mettre en oeuvre leurs stratégies nationales, lors des prochaines réunions.

Enfin, pour ce qui est du paragraphe 36.7, le financement, on avait demandé des contributions volontaires extrabudgétaires. Il est apparu que les fonds disponibles ne suffisent pas à la mise en execution des projets qui ont déjà été définis. C'est pourquoi nous invitons les pays Conateurs à bien vouloir apporter leur contribution pour atteindre l'objectif de 20 millions de dollars, conformément à la Résolution 7/79 de la Conférence.

De même, nous invitons les institutions des Nations Unies à consacrer des ressources accrues au suivi de la CMRADR.

Enfin, nous sommes satisfaits des efforts déployés par la FAO, qui est l'institution pilote de toutes les actions de développement rural, et du travail du Comité de coordination administrative; et nous demandons à la Conférence de réaffirmer le besoin d'une coopération accrue entre les institutions intéressées qui s'occupent des suites données à la CMRADR.

Enfin, pour ce qui est de l'orientation future du travail, nous invitons la Conférence à maintenir la priorité accordée au développement rural dans le prochain Programme de travail et budget et nous demandons l'introduction de projets de terrain adaptés au développement rural. Dans ce domaine, nous sommes heureux de constater ce qu'entreprend la FAO pour assurer la décentralisation, et nous sommes heureux également de constater ce que fait la FAO pour le renforcement des projets régionaux, ce qui ne peut qu'améliorer la situation de l'homme qui, après tout, est le capital de base de toute opération de développement.

Nous tenons compte de la nécessité de parvenir au développement grâce à l'équité et à la participation, comme l'a demandé le Programme de travail de la Conférence mondiale.

P.M. AMUKOA (Kenya): My delegation would like to thank the Secretariat for producing document C 81/23 on the follow-up to WCARRD, and for Nurul Islam for his brilliant introduction to the subject yesterday.

Mr. Chairman, the WCARRD recommendations are a major challenge to individual nations on the one hand and the international community on the other regarding their commitment to equitable development within national borders and at the international level. Debates in these chambers give the impression, sometimes, that all that is required is action by the international community and that the good things of life are not being enjoyed by all because the international community is insensitive to the problem of the under-privileged. Actually, there is some truth in this, but what WCARRD does is to delineate clearly those areas in which the input is surely national and those areas where the international community can be expected to play a significant role. This statement is only being made here to dramatise the real dilemma before us and draw our attention to the problems surrounding the activities of catalytic agencies such as FAO whose job is to precipitate action by others.



Mr. Chairman, the WCARRD recommendations on national policies of Agrarian Reform and Rural Development are in line with our own practices which we have been pursuing diligently for nearly 20 years. The key element in our strategies is the continued emphasis on the small-holder in production and all other fields of rural endeavour. In order to achieve a meaningful participation by the small-holder in these activities, in Kenya we have redistributed land to small-holders either individually on small plots or cooperatively. This is a well publicised settlement programme which includes also irrigation settlements and other irrigation works. We have also adjudicated, consolidated and registered originally communally held land for easier access to credit and also to create incentive for massive investments from savings. We have also secured the participation of the people at different levels. Self-help groups have been the key to successful rural development. Projects have covered water, schools, health centres, roads and so on. Cooperatives, of which there are 800 in agriculture alone with a membership of 600'000, benefiting about 5 million people, have been the channel for small-holder agricultural credit, the procurer of other farm inputs such as fertilizers and pesticides, besides of course being marketing agents.

The youth have been encouraged to undertake agricultural hobbies which have made them more useful in helping their largely illiterate parents in deciphering extension instructions.

Our women have always played a major role in rural development and my delegation would like to pay tribute here to their initiative. The Government has now set-up a Women's Bureau in the Ministry of Culture and Social Services in order to collaborate with and assist existing Women's Groups whose apex organization is Maendeleo ya Wanawake which means Women's Progress. These groups are engaged primarily in agricultural projects and household improvement.

The farmers' groups which are based on the Cooperative Movement are very articulate regarding the needs of their members. It would be unthinkable, for example, for major policy decisions to be made, affecting farmers, without involving in one way or another such organizations as the Kenya National Farmers' Union, Kenya Farmers Association, the Kenya National Federation of Cooperatives, the Kenya Cooperative Creameries, the Kenya Planters Cooperative Union, the Kenya Horticultural Cooperative Union and Maendeleo ya Wanawake on behalf of women. We have ensured farmer access to inputs by establishing institutions to cater for the especial interests of farmers and especially the small-holders. The Agricultural Finance Corporation provides seasonal medium and long term credit to farmers; The Cooperative Bank of Kenya provides credit to cooperative organizations and is now mobilizing rural savings by also operating like a normal bank; The Cereals and Sugar Finance Corporation backstops the operations of the Agricultural Finance Corporation in seasonal credit; adjudication, consolidation and registration enables the small-holder to get individual loans. As a result 85 per cent of agricultural credit goes to small farmers.

The Agricultural Development Corporation ensures the availability of good seeds and animal species. Statutory Boards and cooperatives market the farmers' crop and the cooperative also handles inputs.

Village Polytechnics have been instrumental in supporting the development of non-farm rural activities including agro-industries such as tanning of leather.

The farmer has access to information and knowledge through extension workers, the Farmers' Training Centres, the Department of Social Services and other bodies, and also farmers' periodicals.

In this work we must acknowledge the contribution of the FAO and other international organizations and individual national donors who have been able to assist in areas of especial interest to them. Therefore the coordinating efforts of the FAO should be continued and we hope that budget and extra-budgetary funds will be made available for continuation of this work. Specifically we re-endorse resolution 7/79 which called for the urgent commitment and allocation of at least US\$20 million in voluntary contributions.

We would like further to invite other UN agencies and bilateral donors to allocate more resources for WCARRD follow-up action.

We are grateful for the setting up of the Regional Rural Development Centre at Arusha and invite donors to contribute directly to that Centre.

We also hope that the FAO Regional Conference for Africa in 1982 will find time to discuss further WCARRD action. We hope that there will be continued inter-agency cooperation, and as reports on action to implement WCARRD are reviewed by FAO, we hope that these will be crystallized into a comprehensive document to facilitate consideration.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

V. STIPETIC (Yugoslavia): Thank you Mr. Chairman for permitting me to participate in our discussion concerned with the Follow up of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. A very good concise paper is before us and I would like to compliment the Secretariat for this excellent paper. Also the illuminating introduction by Nurul Islam helped us a lot. My Government regards agrarian reform in many countries as a prerequisite for faster rural and agricultural development for which we as United Nations bodies are claiming.

Starting from our own Yugoslav experience we can see how one deep long-lasting agrarian reform could mobilise millions of poor peasants and the landless rural labour in a national effort to better use of agricultural resources, resulting in higher yields and higher productivity of rural labour which stimulates the overall economic growth. As one measure of efficiency of such agrarian reform we could use the long range growth of Yugoslav agriculture which in the past 35 years amounted to 3.1 per cent yearly surpassing the population growth by 2 per cent yearly. The rural exodus which followed the industrialisation, with millions leaving agricultural occupations enabled us to create larger, more efficient units of production in agriculture, with higher yields for the owners, with steadily raising real income of farming people. In that respect agrarian reform in the light of the Yugoslav experience might be regarded as initial, so called big push for faster sustained growth of the economy.

We welcome the efforts of FAO in follow up of the conference, as well as methods by which FAO is doing that, namely FAO is integrating the follow up into its existing organization and the work of FAO rather than to create separate organizational units.

This, as can be seen from the document before us, enabled FAO to deal efficiently with the problems arising and making a saving in the total cost of FAO. We would like to see these methods applied on the other projects within the UN system, thus building up the much needed efficiency of the whole system. It is interesting that the regional bodies which were created are going to be autonomous, largely self-financed, inter-governmental organizations working through designated national institutions to provide a regional network of national institutions for research, training, information and action for rural development as is mentioned in paragraph 22 of the document.

We further welcome the monitoring programme which goes under the aegis of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. We hope that the collection on a regular basis of quantitative data on the level and distribution of rural income, the consumption and nutrition of rural people, the availability and accessibility of health care, education and other public services to the rural people, levels of real wages for agricultural labour as well as figures concerned with the distribution of land and other productive assets will become available in time for the next conference of FAO in 1983 and will be placed on the agenda of this conference, as indicated in paragraph 16.

Finally, my country supports the statement of the Secretariat presented in paragraphs 32 - 34 of the document. It is really needed to cover the discrepancy between the already identified costs under the WCARRD follow-up amounting to more than US\$ 12 million and the contribution which reached only US\$ 9.3 million. My delegation would in that respect support the move of our Indian colleague expressed in this Commission that we should have a call or an appeal to all donor countries and to the other international agencies to cover those US\$ 20 million since early commitments of funds would enable us to have forward planning in this essential field of our activities.

A. BOUZOUBAA (Maroc) (langue originale arabe): Je voudrais tout d'abord rendre hommage à M. Islam pour l'excellent expose qu'il nous a présenté au sujet du suivi de la Conférence mondiale de la réforme agraire et du développement 1979. J'aimerais également remercier la FAO pour le rôle qu'elle a bien voulu entreprendre au sujet de la coordination des politiques nationales dans le domaine de la réforme agraire ainsi que pour l'appui et que le soutien qu'elle apporte dans ce domaine pour réaliser les objectifs de ladite Conférence.

Le Royaume du Maroc était parmi les pays d'avant-garde dans ce domaine, étant donné que nous étions convaincus que la réforme agraire était nécessaire pour le développement, puisque depuis 1966 nous avons établi le cadre juridique pour récupérer les terres qui étaient entre les mains des étrangers et les répartir entre les petits paysans sans terre et ceux qui en possédaient très peu. Nous avons réformé le système foncier en général et celui de l'irrigation en particulier.

Mon pays a déjà exprimé les principes sur lesquels se base l'expérience marocaine dans la réforme agraire, et ce lors de la Conférence mondiale de réforme agraire et de développement rural.

Je voudrais ici donner un bref aperçu de l'évolution dans ce domaine depuis la tenue de la Conférence en question. Au niveau de l'infrastructure, le Ministère de l'agriculture a institué une division qui traite de la réforme agraire et de la vulgarisation pour étudier la situation de la propriété foncière afin de l'améliorer, d'assurer la bonne répartition des terres au profit des paysans, et d'organiser les paysans qui ont bénéficié d'une telle redistribution, et ce par le biais d'un centre de coopératives. Parmi les superficies redistribuées jusqu'à ce jour, nous citerons 340 000 hectares dont ont bénéficié 24 000 familles rurales, dans le cadre de 700 coopératives de production et de services. Dans la distribution de ces territoires, nous avons veillé à l'aspect social pour que ces territoires redistribués soient cultivables et répartis sur le plus grand nombre possible de familles rurales, et nous avons également tenu compte de l'aspect économique, afin de réaliser des exploitations rentables, pour pouvoir assurer leur développement futur.

Le programme de réforme appliqué au Maroc englobe trois catégories de terrains. D'abord les terres qui étaient propriété de l'Etat, qui avaient été récupérées aux Colons étrangers, et les terres communales ou tribales en les donnant aux ayants-droits parmi les petits paysans, et les terres qui avaient été distribuées dans le remembrement des petites propriétés.

Nous avons également entrepris, dans le domaine de la réforme agraire, une étude d'évaluation d'une année, pour évaluer les terres distribuées, en tenant compte de la bonne exploitation et de la bonne gestion de ces terres, de leur rendement au niveau économique et social, et des améliorations devant y être apportées. Cette évaluation nous a permis de tirer des conclusions et des indicateurs économiques et sociaux, au moyen desquels nous pourrions à l'avenir suivre le progrès réalisé dans ce secteur. En outre le gouvernement de mon pays a pris des mesures pour relever le revenu des paysans de façon générale, en particulier de ceux qui ont bénéficié de la redistribution des terres grâce à la réforme agraire. Parmi ces mesures: diminuer le prix des terres redistribuées et augmenter les prix des produits agricoles et permettre leur commercialisation dans des coopératives, fournir aux paysans tous les moyens de production dans des conditions favorables et à des prix subventionnés par la caisse de l'Etat.

Il nous semble que toute mesure de réforme doit tenir compte des aspects sociaux en plus des aspects économiques, et à ce titre doit veiller à ce que les terres redistribuées soient hautement productives. C'est là l'un des meilleurs moyens de mesurer notre travail et nos efforts. Cela est primordial pour le succès de la bonne réforme agraire.

Le succès de la réforme agraire et du développement rural dépend de l'amélioration du niveau de vie du paysan qui est le principal exécutif de décisions et de l'application des politiques nationales. A ce stade, au Maroc et dans le cadre de programmes intégrés, nous veillons à créer le climat favorable pour que les paysans demeurent sur leurs terres, en leur fournissant toutes les facilités nécessaires au niveau économique et social. Cela permet à ces paysans de participer à leur propre essor et nous incitons également la femme au village à participer à l'exécution des programmes de développement.

Pour ce qui est de la vulgarisation, qui est un moyen d'aide au développement, et d'amélioration des moyens et des conditions de production, nos programmes nationaux veillent à améliorer la vulgarisation, et à former le personnel féminin et masculin dans toutes les régions du Maroc. Nous assurons l'harmonisation des programmes de développement et la satisfaction des besoins de chaque région en vue de faire participer les paysans eux-mêmes à ces programmes. Je saisis cette occasion pour remercier la FAO pour l'assistance qu'elle accorde à mon pays dans ce domaine.

J'aimerais, pour conclure, réaffirmer notre conviction que la réforme agraire nécessite une volonté politique de la part des gouvernements. Il n'y a pas un modèle idéal pour la réforme agraire. Néanmoins il faudrait que toute expérience émane de et soit conforme à la situation réelle du pays et à ses caractéristiques.

A. GAYOSO (United States of America): It is in the nature of human beings and institutions to sublimate away from difficult tasks in life. The FAO Secretariat should be proud of the fact that such has not been its attitude concerning the follow-up to WCARRD. Both the working document and Mr. Islam's presentation abundantly illustrate the persistence with which follow-up efforts are being carried out by FAO. Such persistence and commitment to these efforts are fundamental preconditions to equitable rural development, especially when, in the short run, problems which result precisely from land tenure inequity and lack of rural development constantly compete for our attention and our limited resources.

It is of especial significance to us in the United States that the WCARRD and now the Secretariat are giving popular participation the primary, the noble role it deserves, for we believe that the rural system of economically and politically free men and women can only be achieved when economic and political power are equitably shared.

Thus, the capacity to organize, to meet to decide without undue outside interference has been and remains the fundamental precondition to successful rural development. Experience shows abundantly that successful food and agricultural producers have possessed those crucial features.

To conclude, the U.S. delegation wants to reiterate its continuous support for the WCARRD action programme and the ways in which FAO is carrying out its follow-up. We welcome and support its emphasis and look forward to sharing our experiences with other delegations when the reporting system for seeing in the action programme starts during the next FAO Conference.

YUSOF bin KHALID (Malaysia): My delegation first of all would like to commend the Secretariat for the concise review on the follow-up of WCARRD as contained in document C 81/23 and also thank Professor Islam for the very comprehensive presentation yesterday. The document has outlined the progress made in the implementation of the Conference resolution 7/79 on the follow-up of WCARRD. We are generally satisfied with the progress made. My delegation is happy to note that FAO has taken all possible action to implement the various decisions made during the 20th Session of the Conference.

One of the major steps taken was to integrate the WCARRD orientation and activities into the present framework of FAO in order to achieve the objectives of WCARRD. My delegation would also like to commend FAO for the organizational arrangements made and for directing the necessary resources and manpower of the Organization for the realization of the resolution adopted on WCARRD.

Mr. Chairman, to assist developing countries in the implementation of WCARRD follow-up programmes, direct financial support is required. We are concerned that contributions of extrabudgetary resources of up to \$20 million for the period 1981-85 has not yet been met. We are grateful to the Director-General for his untiring efforts to secure the target pledges and we hope that member countries could come forward in meeting the required resources.

We fully agree that WCARRD follow-up programme of action be incorporated into the national agricultural and rural development plan. In Malaysia, the implementation of our rural and agricultural development programmes, as embodied in our New Economic Policy is in consonance with the guidelines and principles adopted by WCARRD. We have in our programmes stressed the importance of people's participation, integration of women in rural development, farmers training, agricultural extension and monitoring and evaluation of the programmes implemented. Those elements are, no doubt, important criteria for the successful implementation of Rural Development and we feel that they could contribute a great deal in the implementation of the programmes. Further, the new approach towards rural development, through Integrated Development Projects could be considered in future activities of the Rural Development programme.

At the regional level, the concept of TCDC could be applied fully, in which countries could consult and exchange experiences in implementing the WCARRD programme of action, besides defining areas of possible technical cooperation among themselves.

In this respect, my delegation would like to extend our appreciation to FAO and the Regional office for Asia and Pacific, and the host country, Bangladesh, for convening the Second Government Consultation for Asia and Southwest Pacific on follow-up of WCARRD from May 19-25, 1981. Malaysia took part in that consultation and was fully satisfied with the outcome of the meeting. That meeting expressed the need for regular consultations between various agencies involved in the implementation of WCARRD's plan of action. We fully support the proposals made.

Mr. Chairman, my delegation would like to touch on the regional centre for integrated rural development. In order for the centre to be the repository of information and experience and for it to carry activities which are regional specific, and specific to the needs of the countries in the region, it should further be supported and strengthened.

Finally, in view of the importance of WCARRD programme of action in the rural development programme of the developing countries, and that the progress made should be sustained, the Malaysian delegation fully supports the activities as contained in pages 8 and 9 of the document.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

W.A.F. GRABISCH (Germany, Federal Republic of) (original language German): My delegation would like to thank the Secretariat for the document C 81/23. We believe this gives a good survey of the progress of the decisions taken at the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. We would also like to thank you for the Progress Reports which were given by a number of delegates here today. One of the priority areas of the development policy of the Federal Republic of Germany, is rural development. Regarding its concept for rural development, I would like to quote, "The object of cooperation is to improve the structure of rural areas by means of productive and diversified agriculture, an efficient infrastructure, and the establishment of decentralized handicraft and small-scale production centres. This also creates jobs. Main target areas of these policies are the small-scale farmers and the landless poor." End of quotation. In this connection perhaps I could remind us about what the Minister of Agriculture of my country said at the Plenary on the 10th of November. He stressed that the share of agricultural development aid as part of our total development aid increased from 13 percent in 1979 to 20 percent in 1980. In this year, 1981, our country will provide about DM 1.3 billion for agricultural aid in developing countries. This is more than a third of our total development aid. My country on the basis of concrete projects, which are classified within the follow-up to WCARRD, tries to make a contribution to a more intensive cooperation between FAO and non-governmental organizations. The Konrad Adenauer Foundation has already approved a feasibility study which, from the view of the Latin American partners, looks at the possibility of a mobile adviser team of FAO for selfhelp organizations. We generally judge FAOs thinking positively, that in the future greater attention should be given to selfhelp organizations in the rural areas. We think that close cooperation is not only more important with non-governmental organizations in the developing countries, but also with non-governmental organizations from the industrialized countries, who are active in development policy, than the traditional relationships between FAO and Member Governments.

The German Foundation for International Development made a medium-term arrangement in 1979 with the FAO on cooperation for promoting selfhelp. Within this framework this foundation holds regional meetings and training courses for rural development and peoples participation. The first possibility to discuss the promotion of selfhelp organizations of rural poor people with governmental and non-governmental organizations in the region was provided at an international meeting which was organized jointly by FAO, the German Foundation for International Development and the Konrad Adenauer Foundation. This was held in December 1980 in Quito. The German Foundation for International Development also organized in July 1981 a meeting in Bonn for donor organizations to discuss the approach to development measures, and the new mechanism for the implementation of these measures, as well as the projects which have been submitted. The object of this meeting was, first, to define the approach to development measures of the new FAO action programme, and secondly, to discuss the procedure to put these measures into practice on the basis of first efforts in Latin America.

A.H. EL SARKI (Egypt) (original language Arabic): Egypt, since the dawn of history, has given special attention to rural populations who are the cornerstone of our civilization. Egypt also worked to improve z. their resources and their standard of living. In the middle of the 20th century Egypt passed a pioneer law in agrarian reform to establish equity and justice. Also Egypt was the first state who agreed to participate in the Second Conference on Agrarian Reform, and there we had an official delegation, as well as a delegation that represented the masses.

We also approve the principles and objectives of that Conference, especially concerning the implementation of the recommendations of that Conference; more particularly to enable the village to become an integrated production unit. The Delegation of my country would like to express its satisfaction for the efforts of FAO on the subjects mentioned in paragraphs 36 (i), (ii) and (iii). We also reaffirm our support of the resolutions concerning these paragraphs. My country supports the continuation of the regional consultations referred to in paragraph 36 (iv) and we appeal to all countries to provide all means in order to support the Centres for Rural Development, particularly the Rural Development Centre in Arusha, to enable that Centre to carry out its work properly. My Delegation would appeal to the Organization to continue its efforts to establish a centre for rural development in the Near East.

I should also like to express my appreciation for the efforts of FAO in order to carry out fully the work of WCARRD according to the Programme of Work and Budget of the preceding biennium.

J. ALABI (Nigeria): We are happy to note the action taken by the FAO in the implementation of the Conference resolution on the follow up of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development.

The establishment of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Rural Development and the integration of WCARRD orientation and activities into the existing organization and work of FAO will ensure the needed coordination in the implementation of the programmes.

We note however that less than 10 million dollars has been contributed to the extra-budgetary resource of 20 million dollars needed over the next five years. This is rather disappointing, and we urge donors to support the Fund so that it may be exceeded. We thank those governments which have made contributions. We note that quite a number of missions have been fielded to help countries formulate programmes in rural development. We advise that local experts should be included in such missions so that there will be involvement of local experts at all stages of local implementation of projects. People at grass roots level should also be involved when formulating projects. We also wish to warn that formulated projects should be implemented and not kept on the shelves in government ministries.

We are happy to note the emphasis on the integration of women in development. In planning for these women, we hope they will be involved in some way.

We are happy at the emphasis laid on education, training and extension in rural areas.

We note that at the regional levels two centres have been set up in Asia and Africa. We thank the FAO for the assistance given in setting up the Centre for Africa in Arusha, Tanzania. We are, however, alarmed that in Africa, with about 50 countries, only 14 countries are members. We appeal to governments to match their interest in rural development with membership of the Centre, which we are sure will benefit all countries. Since the running of the Centre will depend mainly on the contributions of Member Governments, we also appeal to members to pay up their assessments.

V.E. DLAMINI (Swaziland): Thank you for allowing me this intervention. I shall try to be as brief as possible.

May I congratulate Professor Islam on his comprehensive introduction yesterday.

I should like to register some observations on the Rural Development Programme. Permit me, therefore, to highlight a few developments taking place in Swaziland that are in line with the WCARRD Programme of Action. Firstly, our Rural Development Area Programme has taken off the ground fairly satisfactorily. To date, 60 percent of the rural land is covered by the Programme, covering about 186 000 households.

Secondly, work on land development has been encouraging. Soil conservation measures and rural road construction have been very good and on schedule. Some communal grazing lands have been fenced and grass regeneration shows signs of improvement. The fencing of grazing lands has released head boys and thus they are now able to attend school. The illiteracy rate is falling fast among the Swazi youth.

Forestry development has been very remarkable. Although not significantly high, production of grains has been increased. Here there is some room for improvement in order to achieve self-sufficiency and ultimately self-reliance.

The Rural Development Area Programme has provided rural employment, and thus rural - urban immigration had a chance of slowing down. However, I should like to point out that there have been some bottlenecks. The lack of skilled project managers has retarded progress on the Programme. One of our bilateral donors has decided to cut off funds to the Programme without any reasons for such cuts. As a result of these cuts, staff houses have been left incomplete and other works not finished. This has been a very disappointing experience for the Swaziland Government.

We also need to intensify our production, as arable land in Swaziland is of a limited nature.

Skilled manpower still remains a severe problem which hampers development. The process of changing attitudes has not progressed as anticipated, due to shortage of extension personnel.

The marketing infrastructure has not been well organized but some work is being carried out on this aspect under the auspices of IFAD.

We are also extremely pleased with the work achieved on the integration of women in development. We therefore wish to express our appreciation to FAO for this achievement, in my country, like most African countries, the rural women are the majority of producers of agricultural products, and they are also the de facto beneficiaries of the rural development policies and programmes. In this regard we wish to see more FAO inputs which will be provided in strengthening the existing FAO work in supporting rural development activities particularly focused on women and development projects as well as other FAO projects in which certain components can be added which would deal with the issues related to women and development activities.

People participation is the main key to rural development. Thus it is important that the people being developed should not be spectators but participants. It is through the awareness of people about development that the process of rural development can be said to have taken place. The Government of Swaziland is trying its best to instil this awareness in the minds of the rural people and it is fully implementing WCARRD's proposals.

M. IRSHADUL HAQ (Bangladesh): We have studied document C 81/23 on the follow-up of WCARRD with great interest. We must commend the FAO Secretariat for the very precise and informative presentation of the subject. We also congratulate Professor Islam for his excellent introduction on the subject.

I am glad to inform the Conference that my Government has made substantial progress in the implementation of the Plan of Action. As you know, we have one of the highest incidences of landlessness and rural poverty in one of the world's overwhelmingly poorest rural countries. The Government therefore has set as the paramount goal in our Second Five Year Plan, 1980-85, the improvement of the quality of life of the rural mass, to be realized through accelerated production, tempered with distributive justice.

Fifty-three percent of the Plan outlay has been allocated for rural development. To ensure people's participation, an innovative institution called "Swanirral Gram Sarker" - that is, self-reliant village government - has been organized in 68 000 villages to harness local potentials on a self-help basis. Powers and functions have been devolved to this and other local government institutions to undertake local level planning and implementation of projects relating to rural infrastructure, building and services. A two-tier cooperative system has been expanded throughout the country to accelerate production as well as to generate productive employment for the rural poor.

A national dialogue has been initiated to explore agrarian reforms and other structural changes.

To ensure access to assets for the rural poor, excess state lands are distributed to the landless. To provide non-land property rights to the poor, a pilot project has been launched to sell on credit irrigation equipment to cooperatives and groups of landless. A Small Farmers' Development Programme is being expanded to afford them access to credit, productive inputs and services.

For the integration of women in development, a Ministry of Women's Affairs has been set up to promote and support women's organizations and activities, and women's cooperatives are being organized for ensuring economic self-reliance of rural women.

Non-farm activities for generating employment, income and purchasing power for the rural poor are being promoted by the Integrated Rural Development Programme's Cooperative Programme, the Village Bank, the Rural Experimental Finance Programme, and so on. The Integrated Rural Development Programme has identified 19 non-farm viable activities and drawn up a manual for replication of these activities throughout the country.

Great emphasis has been laid on training of the landless, both for motivation as well as for activity specific skilled development, so that they may pursue self-employing avocations. Landless peasants are trained and supplied with tools to serve as village mechanics.

These are a few indicative but not exhaustive steps that have been taken by my Government to alleviate rural poverty.

In this connection, we record our support for the Secretariat's call, in paragraph 36 (i) and (ii), upon Member Governments to implement the WCARRD Plan of Action geared to its objectives and target groups. The Conference may in addition ask the Member Governments to match their concern for the rural poor by commensurate resource allocations in their annual and five-year development plans.

We feel that the concepts of growth with equity and people's participation, as embodied in the Programme of Action and mentioned in paragraph 3 of the document, need some elaboration in order to facilitate both Member Governments' and donor agencies' orientation to these concepts. Growth with equity must be geared to alleviating the abject condition of life of the rural poor. This would mean an improvement both in the status, representing asset holdings and educational levels, etc., and the level, comprising income, consumption, etc., of life of the rural poor.

Equity considerations may call for slowing down growth, at least, growth that leads to rural polarization. Similarly, participation is not mere representation or a passive presence in elective bodies. It must ensure active involvement of the rural poor in decision-making, implementation, equitable benefit sharing and evaluation and monitoring of activities that affect their living. FAO may further clarify these concepts to make them more operational for policy-makers and practitioners of development.

The most difficult hurdles we face in our pursuit of a poverty-focused strategy are two: firstly, to identify viable and replicable activities, projects and programmes for generating employment for a "basic needs income" to ensure subsistence to the rural poor and, secondly, to line up finance for activities as and when identified. In this connection, I would refer to paragraphs 7 and 8 of the document which mention that FAO missions have identified a large number of projects. It would be helpful if we could know the areas, nature and character of these projects so as to give us guidance in preparing projects for our own programmes. We suggest that FAO, together with regional rural development centres, undertake research to identify agro-based and agro-supportive non-farm and rural industrial projects, and thereafter make out a schedule of investment for the guidance of member nations.

As the leading rural development agency in the United Nations system, FAO may serve as a clearing house for project preparation, funding, evaluation and exchange of information. In this connection, we support the call for urgent commitment of voluntary contributions of a minimum of \$20 million for FAO's poverty-oriented project funding.

We recognize that rural development is a multi-disciplinary effort, involving cooperation and coordination between multiple agencies, at both national and international levels. My Government has instituted a National Food, Agricultural and Rural Development Council headed by our President, to coordinate primarily all rural development efforts.

A National Committee for Multi-sectoral Rural Development has been set up at the highest bureaucratic level to coordinate projects and programmes having multiple components. At the international level, we support the need for greater inter-agency cooperation for WCARRD follow-up and for coordinating the role of the ACC Task Force on Rural Development, as proposed in paragraph 36 (xiii). We also propose that similar coordination among UN agencies at country level may be institutionalized.

We support the proposal contained in paragraph 36 (iii) for monitoring and reporting based on appropriate socio-economic indicators and benchmark surveys. In fact, our Government has already designed socio-economic indicators which have also been made available to FAO. I should like to observe that progress reported through the average and aggregate index of such indicators may not reflect the real change, if we are to monitor the changes in equity and distribution aspects. I suggest that such averages and aggregates be depleted by deconcentration coefficient to reflect the extent of distribution in assets, income and consumption levels.

With regard to paragraph 36 (ix), we would like to make a few suggestions. Improving the conditions of life of the rural poor, as our experience shows, inescapably involves four elements. The first of these is motivated, catalytic leadership which unfortunately is, for the most part, lacking among the rural poor. Hence, trained outside agents of change need to be hired. Secondly, training for motivation and for skill-development must be imparted to the rural poor, most of whom are fatalists, so that they become active agents of production and change. Thirdly, credit and complementary inputs must be provided to help them in their productive efforts. Fourthly, appropriate rewards or a fair price for their labour and a market for their produce must be ensured.

All these four elements require group action and that can be ensured only through organizations of their own. We therefore suggest that, in the efforts of the follow-up of the WCARRD Plan of Action, the role of the people's institutions must be given due emphasis.

National and global efforts to increase production should not sidetrack us from considerations of equity. In fact, increased production in many parts of the world, instead of alleviating rural poverty, has accentuated it and led to rural polarization. The Conference may call upon Member Governments and the international community to refrain from taking projects and programmes which may contribute to increased landlessness and rural polarization.



We suggest that FAO could study the possibilities of organizing the rural labour force for the purposes of collective bargaining and minimum wages, in line with the experiences of ILO.

Due to low domestic purchasing power and lack of adequate effective demand, especially for non-farm produce of the rural poor, export demands need to be found for such products. This calls for international action and we suggest that FAO undertake studies to see how trade promotion can be oriented to meet the requirements of rural development, so as to improve the position of the rural poor.

I would conclude by observing that isolated, incremental or marginal action may not equal the size and complexity of rural poverty facing us. The Plan of Action must be built into the national planning and development strategies. This may entail designing and embarking on a new internal economic order for most member nations. Implementation of the WCARRD follow-up action will depend on both the political will and economic ability of member nations and the international community as to how far the member nations will be able to design and embark on this new order.

The meeting rose at 12.30 hours.

La séance est levée à 12 h 30.

Se levanta la sesión a las 12.30 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

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C 81/II/PV/17

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Twenty-first Session

Vingt et unième session

21° período de sesiones

COMMISSION II

COMMISSION II

COMMISSION II

SEVENTEENTH MEETING  
DIX-SEPTIEME SEANCE  
17ª SESION

(20 November 1981)

The Seventeenth Meeting was opened at 15.00 hours,  
R. Steiner, Chairman of Commission II, presiding

La dix-septième séance est ouverte à 15 h 00 sous la présidence de  
R. Steiner, Président de la Commission II

Se abre la 17ª sesión a las 15.00 horas bajo la presidencia de  
R. Steiner, Presidente de la Comisión II

II. ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMES OF THE ORGANIZATION (continued)

II. ACTIVITES ET PROGRAMMES DE L'ORGANISATION (suite)

II. ACTIVIDADES Y PROGRAMAS DE LA ORGANIZACION (continuación)

13. Follow-up to WCARRD (continued)

13. Suite donnée à la CMRADR (suite)

13. Actividades complementarias de la CMRADR (continuación)

CHAIRMAN: I call the meeting to order and open the 17th meeting of Commission II. We continue the debate on the follow-up to the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development.

CAMELARIS (Cyprus): I shall not take up delegates time in explaining what we have been doing in Cyprus in the field of agrarian reform and rural development nor what are our major problems. I shall not comment either on the significance of agrarian reform and rural developments in the developing countries, particularly because we all agree that agrarian reform should be the basis and basic infrastructure towards a socialist, equitable and economically effective development process.

I shall limit myself to two practical points, aspects of agrarian reform development which involve the identification, and preparation of projects on the one side and the monetary evaluation of projects on the other side. I think in these two aspects Cyprus and I believe many other developing countries face difficulties and problems. The initiation of the development process through the proper identification and preparation of projects, and the establishment of priorities is a very important aspect in development. It is here where most of the developing countries do not have adequate expertise. It is here where FAO can be of very substantial help, not only directly participating in the identification and preparation of projects *per se*, but also in assisting developing countries to build up their own capacities so that they can undertake the job in the future and even be able to extend the same assistance, similar assistance, to other countries.

The other aspect which I consider of most importance is the evaluation, the monitoring and evaluation of the projects in agrarian reform and rural development. We specifically face this problem in Cyprus with respect to evaluation of our land conservation problem, and I have to say with pleasure we have already contacted the appropriate FAO authority, and I am pleased to say that the response was favourable and was positive in extending to us assistance in carrying out this job. So the FAO in monitoring and evaluation of projects in agrarian reform and rural development can be of profound assistance, again not only directly in carrying out the job, but also in assisting the countries to build up their own capacities, and be able in the future to undertake the job themselves or extend similar assistance to other countries. Thank you, Chairman.

H. OGUT (Turkey): My delegation has carefully examined the document on the work carried out by FAO with regard to the implementation of the 1979 Conference Resolution on the follow-up of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. I would like to make two comments. One on the resource situation, the other related to substantive issues. There is no doubt that the financial resources allocated in the FAO regular programme budget for rural development activities is not commensurate with the needs of the activities assigned to FAO by the WCARRD and by the aforementioned resolution as follow-up of the WCARRD programme of action. Also the fund allocated in the budget does not comply with the priorities given by the respective governments to their rural development programmes, following to the WCARRD and extrabudgetary sources for the follow-up activities to be carried out by national governments and FAO are very much needed. We now learn that the commitment and allocation to the extrabudgetary source foreseen by the last conference has been obtained from the donor countries and organizations at a level which has not met the ever-increasing requests for the programmes related to agrarian reform and rural development as follow-up of WCARRD. While admitting that the implementation of the rural development programmes identified by WCARRD for national action should be the responsibility of the governments, FAO's advocating role is of great help in the cases in which the countries need FAO's assistance in formulating and implementing their programmes. Also, FAO's role is of great importance to the implementation of the activities outlined by WCARRD for international action. Also, Mr. Chairman, it is not desirable to shelve a number of projects already prepared owing to the absence of FAO's assistance in finding the necessary funds for these projects. We, therefore, would like to invite the donor countries and organizations to increase their allocations to extrabudgetary fund foreseen in the follow-up of WCARRD.

Regarding the nature of the assistance provided by FAO as to the follow-up of WCARRD, my delegation is pleased to note the importance attached to the increasing involvement and participation of the rural population in both formulation and implementation of the programmes and the projects. This certainly improves the relevance, timeliness and composition of the input of the projects to current requirements restorative capacity and development potential of the rural sector. I would also like to mention that the work which has been done by FAO on the integration of women in development deserves special attention, and in this context we would like to congratulate FAO taking the leading role and positive activities among all the UN agencies, and reiterate the stand of my government that more resources should be devoted on the integration of rural women into rural development action programmes who, in most developing countries, constitute the majority of rural population and the rural labour force.

In conclusion I would like to express my delegation's views on the projects. Constantly there is need for launching quick yielding programmes. It is extremely important projects should be of practical nature, have manpower development as one of their primary objectives, taking into consideration the regional and country-wide employment situation and opportunities, and most of all their design should reflect very explicitly how these projects give positive effect to their intended beneficiaries.

Mme M. KASSE (Sénégal): Je ne reviendrai pas sur les mesures prises dans mon pays pour permettre l'accès des petits agriculteurs à la terre. En effet, une voix plus autorisée que la mienne, celle du Président Senghor, en avait parlé lors de la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural en 1979.

Je voudrais dire brièvement quelques mots sur la coordination au niveau national des activités de suivi de la CMRADR, en signalant que celle-ci sera faite par le CNASD (Comité national sénégalais pour l'alimentation et le développement). Cet organisme qui dépend du Ministère du développement rural comprend les représentants de tous les Ministères et ONG intéressés par le développement; c'est également le Comité national de la campagne mondiale contre la faim/action pour le développement de la FAO.

Nous estimons, en effet, que la participation populaire au développement ne peut se faire sans le soutien des ONG qui participent déjà à la CMRADR. Nous avons déjà eu, au Sahel, à apprécier sa juste valeur et en son temps l'intervention rapide, désintéressée des ONG et encourageons la FAO à continuer à améliorer ses relations avec ces organisations.

S'agissant de la participation des femmes au développement, sans entrer dans les détails, je signale que mon gouvernement a élaboré à cet égard un programme ambitieux qu'il a confié au Secrétariat d'Etat à la promotion humaine; ce Département comprend en son sein une direction de la condition féminine.

En conclusion, qu'il me soit permis, Monsieur le Président, de joindre ma voix à celle des orateurs qui m'ont précédée pour lancer un appel aux donateurs, afin qu'ils aident la FAO à atteindre l'objectif de 20 millions de dollars nécessaires à la réalisation des projets de suivi de la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et de développement rural.

G. IJIGU (Ethiopia): The delegation of Socialist Ethiopia would like to express its resounding congratulations to the Secretariat for the preparation of Document C 81/23, follow-up of WCARRD, which is an excellent piece of work. With equal admiration we congratulate Professor Nurul Islam for his matchless presentation of the introduction of the said document. Mr. Chairman, in our opinion, the contents as well as the goals and objectives embodied in the document are satisfactory to us in that they support our national objectives which were actually laid down several years ago and implementation of plans derived from them are in progress, albeit with too many constraints impinging upon them, and we shall cite the cardinal ones in a moment.

As the whole world knows, Socialist Ethiopia has successfully implemented over 7 years ago now redistribution within her confines. That was followed by the creation of institutions called Peasant Associations which today number over 25 000. Those associations forming the building blocks, culminated in the formation of the wholly Socio-Peasant Association, with the trunk of the pyramid made up of 14 provincial peasant associations. It is those associations that primarily distribute land and produce the bulk of food which is consumed domestically, and so on. From this bird's eye view of the rural panorama of Socialist Ethiopia, I believe you can see why we trust that the recommendations spelled out in the document under review, beginning from paragraph 4 all the way to paragraph 35 are amenable to our task of rural development after our agrarian reform which our revolutionary government is irrevocably committed to.

Mr. Chairman, we would have liked to have gone into further detail but since actual reports are expected as we approach the end of the biennium we shall confine our remarks to action in specific areas. In relation to mass participation, the 25 000 peasant associations I cited earlier embrace over 7 million family heads of farmers. This number in turn accounts for the livelihood of over 27 million people out of a population of about 31 and a half million. Access to land and other natural resources is there by right. In fact every item contained in paragraph 36.2 on page 8 of the Document C 81/3 has already been provided for as anyone can check our claim from the reports of various FAO missions which have visited Ethiopia and have made on the spot evaluation of what is happening in our rural areas. On the question of integration of women in the productive process, I am especially happy to state here that the rights of men and women have been, and are now, equal before the law throughout the recorded history of Ethiopia, which stretches over many thousands of years. So one may see we have very little or no problems integrating them.

Mr. Chairman, I had referred at the beginning of this statement that right at this time our perennial problems emanate from constraints which are massive. As an example, let me cite the case of the development of non-farm rural activities, which is also recommended in the document before us. Needless to say we lack the investments that are necessary to realize a big scale non-farm engagement on a self-generating basis of economic activity. We are in dire need of an expanding base of trained manpower that must be involved at all levels of our heightened economic activity, so that a rapid increase in food and agricultural production may be obtained as early as possible, during the United Nation's Third Development Decade which we examined only a few days ago.

I do not intend to take any more time explaining our experience and the present level of implementation of our agrarian reform and rural development. Suffice it that we assure the Conference that Socialist Ethiopia will proceed with rural development no matter what the constraints. I would like to wind up at this point by restating here what my Minister of Agriculture has already put before the Conference in the Plenary, and it is highly relevant in relation to the document we are now examining. "We strongly urge the Conference to adopt a resolution which would enable WCARRD follow-up work to include adequate measures for the realization of a trained manpower base and for the creation of at least some critical infrastructures, especially in low-income, food-deficit countries so that tangible results may be obtained in such countries quicker."

Finally, we would like to conclude by urging this august Commission, and through it the Conference, that if the collective urge that has given birth to the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development is a matter which is supported by a collective will to conquer hunger, malnutrition and poverty in general, then my delegation assures you that Socialist Ethiopia will put to the best possible use of all assistance that the collective good will of the world community may make available to us in our ceaseless efforts to transform our rural areas and rid our people from all forms of want. The trust which donor countries, bilaterally or multilaterally, have placed in our people is bearing sweet fruits because cooperativization which our agrarian reform has made possible is helping millions of our people earn a better livelihood. So, Mr. Chairman, assuming that natural hazards like droughts do not impede our progress, we expect to be able to report much greater achievements.

D.R. SHARMA (Nepal): My delegation would like to express its appreciation to Professor Islam for comprehensive introduction of the subject. We have gone through the document C 81/23 prepared by the Secretariat to report on the follow-up of Action Plans recommended by the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. We find the document comprehensive and well prepared. There have been organizational rearrangements and orientation of FAO activities towards WCARRD Plan of Action. Actions have been taken or are being taken at the country level. Nepal invited two WCARRD missions; one was a policy mission and the other was a project formulation mission. The mission on project formulation has prepared six project proposals for implementation and these are submitted to FAO for funding.

Mr. Chairman, as a support to WCARRD Plan of Action Nepal has established a separate Ministry to look after and coordinate rural development activities. For policy decisions and coordination, a high level ministerial committee under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister was established about three months ago. In our integrated rural development projects and local development programmes, participation of local people in all stages of project implementation is given high priority, both from the point of policy and institutional arrangements.

My delegation has reviewed carefully the summary of major issues presented by the Secretariat in the document. We agree that there is a need to reiterate and remind ourselves of the commitment we made during WCARRD meeting. These commitments involve not only institutional improvements and structural reforms but also a greater level of resources mobilization.

Mobilization of about 9.3 million dollars of resources as against the stipulated amount of 20 million dollars called for by Resolution 7/79 cannot be said to be very encouraging.

If additional resources are not made available, Mr. Chairman, the initial enthusiasm and awareness shown to carry out WCARRD Plan of Action will be difficult to sustain at international as well as at country level. Then the WCARRD Plan also will remain as one of the international rhetorics towards rural poor.

In regard to regional coordination and consultation the role played by the FAO Regional Office, Bangkok, deserves commendation. They organized two government consultations and one NGO consultation. Nepal participated in these consultations and we find them useful and productive and we feel those should be continued.

Reference is made in the document to the activities of CIRDAP. Nepal is a member of CIRDAP and we actively participated. We strongly feel that CIRDAP can make a significant contribution in the follow-up of WCARRD in the Region by stimulating ECDC and TCDC spirit in rural development. We should like to see that CIRDAP become more and more activated and exhibit more dynamism and provide articulate and imaginative leadership in rural development in Asia and the Pacific. We also would like to see more member countries join the CIRDAP.

O.B. SELIKANE (Lesotho): To help farmers escape from the misery of traditional farming we need to delineate and interpret the origins and dynamics of poverty and to identify the means by which it can be dealt with. Such analysis should be done against a background of historical events, including the economic destruction of traditional societies through market forces. Rural poverty should also be analyzed in the framework of marginality rather than traditional culture.

In the international economic system, agricultural commodities and rural materials are exported from developing countries to the developed countries. Industrial products are exported by developed countries to the developing world. In this process disparities in the welfare of rural people between the developed and developing countries continue to intensify. Developing countries have now become net importers rather than net exporters of food since differences in output per hectare and in output per worker between the Western and developing countries widen yearly whilst the population growth rate of the latter exceeds its production growth.

A practical question to ask is why, despite expensive technical assistance programmes by the international aid agencies, developing countries still fail to produce enough food for themselves and generate sufficient income. In my view, the crux of the matter resides in the fact that some developing countries are typified by socio-political structures described in terms of class alliances between traditional landed elites and foreign capital.

The rural development programmes recommended to us by some exogenous NGO advisors and decision makers compel farmers to lose control of the means of production because of their inability to withstand competitive pressure originating from the commercial sector, the money and traditional landed elites who like to maintain the internal status quo. The dominating elites monopolize institutional services through institutional control. Given an environment of this type, farmers apply strict individual rationality which leads them to mining the land and increasing family size in order to face poverty, and poverty thus leads to even more poverty. Thus the vicious circle continues unabated.

We contend that people must be given political power, freedom to air their views without fear of repression and the power to restructure their own society so that part of power, income and assets can be offered to the marginals. In fact, it is our view that unless there is an equitable distribution of food, income and power among inhabitants of developing countries no agricultural, let alone economic, modernization will be witnessed in such countries. Rural people must wield power to design overall programmes and policy strategies rather than a set of isolated projects.

That land reform and rural developments are essential to the generation of productive growth is an acceptable premise. However, we contend that an agrarian or land tenure system in which the basic unit of production is the family farm, owned and operated by the farmer-cultivator, represents the only sound foundation for social equality and political stability.

We fully agree with WCARRD in regard to placing major programme priority on land tenure, marketing, extension and credit institutions that stress popular participation at all levels, including participation in programme monitoring and evaluation. Empirical evidence is available which reveals that agrarian structure consisting of small owner-cultivator family farms can be viable, reasonably efficient and capable of sustaining rapid upward shifts in production functions.

The assumption that there are two optimum tenure systems is absolutely unacceptable to us. Each and every country has its own concept of suitable land tenure changes in institutions. I honestly do not believe that developing countries need to be told what systems may be appropriate for them. Perhaps they may wish to call upon some informed guidance from some suitably qualified tenure expert who will be subject to correction if he follows a wrong path. Hence the prospective expert will have to understand, be willing to accept and be guided by the normative judgments of governments seeking his help.

Some of us have been advised by NGO's to introduce leasehold arrangements into our tenure systems. A leasehold arrangement may give rise to tenure systems which discourage the evolution of more labor intensive systems of crop and livestock production. Such an arrangement will exacerbate the labour absorption problem.

Certainly, as the developing countries undertake the transformation leading to modernization, the share of economic resources devoted to marketing agricultural commodities increases because of the increase in the volume in food moving through marketing channels and the flow of imports to production units. Whether it is technically possible, economically feasible, or socially acceptable to replace existing marketing systems with marketing boards, farmer marketing cooperatives ought to leave the performance of marketing functions in the hands of private people as a matter to be decided by individual governments in developing countries.

Evidential material exists however which shows that middlemen do not necessarily earn higher marketing margins in all developing countries. A government may either opt to let primary, secondary and federal cooperatives market all domestically produced agricultural commodities or allow private traders to buy and sell such products, subject to close governmental supervision.

In situations where local cooperatives are assigned the marketing responsibilities, it is imperative that the cooperative, with government assistance, train their own local marketing personnel. Here I do not refer only to cadres like salesmen, product promoters, financial managers, commercial managers and so on but to the operators of processing machines and equipment as well as mechanics who will ensure that machines are always in prime running condition.

The sequencing of marketing with other development activity is often ignored in rural development programmes. Market information dissemination is another area which does not receive adequate attention locally. This information can best be collected by indigenous people who receive training in both local marketing and international agricultural marketing. They will help open up new markets in foreign countries, negotiate sales, arrange shipments and penetrate overseas markets through demand promotion.

If farmers are to employ the new biological and chemical inputs, they must have confidence that they will be available in sufficient quantities at the right time, in the right form and at the time when they are needed. Whenever possible, extreme input price distortions and differentials must be avoided to permit reliable planning decisions.

To sum up, we thank Professor Islam for his introduction to the follow-up on WCARRD. We appreciate the work of the secretariat in producing the document we have before us and FAO cooperation with NGO on agrarian reform and rural development. We are grateful to FAO for establishing regional development centres in Asia and Africa. We endorse Resolution 7/79 which calls for direct financial support for the implementation of the Programme of Action through the contribution of extra-budgetary resources of a minimum of \$20 million in 1980-85.

Our support for the important role which women can play in rural development is demonstrated by the establishment of the role of women which, among other things, examines the nutritional problems of the rural poor in Lesotho. My government will report on progress in rural development arising from the implementation of our agrarian reform and rural development programmes to the 22nd conference.

In universities there exists a tremendous body of knowledge about agriculture and what can be done to remove constraints in development. I would suggest to governments of developing countries that they request their planning departments to try to lay their hands on published theses written by students from developing countries, especially those that deal with topics of agricultural importance.

KYO-BUN KIM (Korea, Republic of): The delegation of the Republic of Korea appreciates the FAO's efforts successfully to implement the follow-up of WCARRD and also thanks Dr. Islam very much for his comprehensive and excellent introduction of this subject.

I should like to take this opportunity briefly to introduce my country's past experience, present problems and future policy framework for integrated rural development. My country is now facing the problem of reorganising the agrarian structure, readjusting its resources allocation for optimum use of scarce resources and redirecting its agrarian policy in order to adapt itself more effectively to the rapidly changing socio-economic environment of an open economy. My government is now in the process of formulating and implementing our own new national development strategy for growth with equity and thus the new Programme for Integrated Rural Income and Welfare Development will take concrete shape soon.

The main purpose of the programme is to protect, stabilize and enhance the farmer's income as well as to make his life healthy and rich on the basis of his full participation in the process of development and in its benefits. Regional specialisation in crop production, promotion of small-scale livestock breeding, development of non-farm income sources and better living activities will become major components of the programme.

We expect to be able to implement the programme successfully and fruitfully largely because of the interaction of our past achievements, accumulated technical know-how and experience gained in the agricultural and rural sectors in Korea. The first of these socio-economic and technical factors is the early implementation of land reform in the 1950's. The accelerated development of the agricultural cooperative movement is a second factor and the third is our nationwide programme, "Saemaul Undong", which is the Korean version of integrated rural development.

Land reform in Korea has played a key role in laying a sound foundation for continued growth and development with equity in the past two decades and in the future. On the basis of the homogeneity of farmland holdings and farming patterns established by the land reform, agricultural cooperatives in Korea have developed rapidly and successfully as the multi-purpose type. From the successful development of this type of cooperative come most of our rural development efforts: an adequate supply of modern farm inputs and production loans, marketing of agricultural products and the integration of women in development. All these have been realized effectively and fruitfully.

We know from past experience, however, that rural development cannot be achieved simply by implementing land reform or simply by organizing agricultural cooperatives in rural areas or simply by directing the maximum flow of resources into rural communities without the positive and active participation of the rural people.

One of the most important things is learning how to ignite people's zeal, how to motivate rural people and how to encourage them to cooperate and to participate actively in the development process. Our "Saemaul Undong" is the Korean method of meeting these requirements. The ultimate goal of this movement is a comprehensive and integrated development which includes a substantial improvement in the socio-economic and physical environment and living conditions in rural areas, an increase in farm income and an increase in the morale and desire for self-help on the part of the farmers at grass-roots level. We believe that the rich experiences of our country, which I have outlined, may be relevant to other developing countries. We are also ready to cooperate with all those who want our experiences under the FAO's initiative.

M. BUENO GOMEZ (España): La delegación española se une a las manifestaciones de felicitación hacia la Secretaría, expresadas por las delegaciones que nos han precedido. Siguiendo las recomendaciones de la Conferencia Mundial sobre Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural, nuestro Gobierno viene intensificando desde entonces, las acciones de cooperación en estas materias, tanto de forma bilateral con países de nuestro contexto cultural como a través de organizaciones internacionales.

A pesar de la delicada situación económica por la que atravesamos, consecuencia entre otras razones de la enorme factura que hemos de pagar cada año por la importación de crudos de petróleo, a pesar de ello repito, estamos actualmente intercambiando experiencias en materia de reforma agraria y desarrollo rural, en programas concretos de seis países hermanos de América Latina.

Las experiencias en sus aspectos, tanto positivos como negativos, en materias tales como transformación de regadío, tratamiento del minifundio a través de la concentración parcelaria y de la agricultura de grupo, asentamientos humanos, programas de desarrollo rural integrado, formación de cuadros, etc..., se están adaptando ya a las condiciones específicas de aquellos países.



Finalmente, nuestra delegación considera acertada la sugerencia expresada en el párrafo 20 del documento C 81/23, en el sentido de que en los programas de las conferencias regionales a celebrar en 1982, se incluya un tema sobre las actividades complementarias de la Conferencia Mundial de Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural, haciendo si fuera posible referenda expresa al aspecto de los indicadores que permitan comparar el impacto de las diferentes medidas adoptadas en los programas de reforma y desarrollo agrario, en los diferentes países.

WANG SHOU RU (China) (original language - Chinese): I should like to thank Dr. Islam for his excellent introduction. Two years have elapsed since the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. In that time the spirit of the declaration of the principles and Programme of Action adopted by the conference has gained a better understanding and greater support by the international community. Energetic action has been taken to follow up the conference. Many developing countries, starting from their actual circumstances at home, have done quite a lot of work in carrying out agrarian reform and rural development. In this respect, it should be pointed out that FAO has done a great deal of work to help some of the developing countries to lay down a strategy and programme of rural development, helping them to expand and strengthen their education, training and popularization work. All of these things have been beneficial to the rural development of the developing countries.

Whilst experience shows that agrarian reform and rural development must be carried out in conformity with the spirit of the declaration of principles and Programme of Action of the conference and should be based on self-reliance at national level, the support and help of the international community should not be neglected. FAO possesses the technology necessary for accomplishing this international task. It has always made efforts towards raising funds and introducing foreign investment toward rural development. We hope that FAO will continue to play this role when establishing its future policy of action. We hope it will provide technical and financial aid to help the developing countries to promote agrarian reform and rural development so that small farmers in their hundreds of millions will be able gradually to eradicate poverty and hunger.

We also hope that FAO will continue to organize between various countries the exchange of experience on structural reform and comprehensive development of rural areas. For instance, along with the socialization of agricultural production and the commercialization of agricultural products, the relationship between agriculture and rural industry and commerce has become ever more close.

The trend of comprehensive development in agriculture, industry and commerce has taken shape in certain parts of the rural areas. This will no doubt affect the agrarian reform and rural development of different countries.

We hope that the work of organizations and the exchange of information experienced in this domain will be included into the projects for future action.

J.P. WARNIMONT (Belgique): La délégation beige s'associe aux félicitations déjà exprimées par les autres délégations et souhaite ajouter seulement quelques idées à la discussion sur la suite donnée à la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural.

Notre intervention sera brève et se limitera aux priorités que nous voudrions voir accentuer dans le cadre des actions à mener, afin de mettre sur pied une meilleure stratégie de développement rural.

On constate depuis longtemps un exode rural vers les grandes villes. Les causes en sont connues, et cet exode s'accroît de plus en plus, et les problèmes autant. Il nous paraît que le seul remède se trouve dans une amélioration des conditions de vie dans les zones rurales. Pour y arriver, il faut que la vie en zone rurale devienne attirante, c'est-à-dire que le paysan puisse y retrouver les mêmes facilités et les perspectives d'avenir qui lui rendraient la vie urbaine moins attirante. Dans cette optique, nous voudrions insister sur une stratégie de développement rural axée sur une action intégrée et multisectorielle qui viserait en quelque sorte l'urbanisation rurale dans le sens de doter les zones rurales des infrastructures et des structures les plus nécessaires. Nous ne voulons pas soulever de nouveau le problème de la politique des prix agricoles ici, quoique ce problème reste quand même une condition préalable et essentielle à tout développement rural.

D'autre part, afin de permettre au paysan de pouvoir compter avec les ressources élémentaires de production, nous sommes d'avis que la réforme agraire peut jouer un rôle prépondérant. Mais pour pouvoir exécuter cette réforme avec efficacité et justice, une série d'études et d'informations sont primordiales avant toute application; ces informations se réfèrent à la disponibilité des terres cultivables, au recensement des personnes qui les travaillent et de ceux qui en sont propriétaires. Nous sommes convaincus que dans ce cadre la FAO a un rôle très important à jouer, notamment comme appui logistique aux gouvernements intéressés qui restent d'ailleurs les seuls maîtres de l'exécution.

Le rôle de la FAO se trouverait alors dans l'appui aux services de cadastre rural et de la cartographie des ressources, et nous voulons insister sur le renforcement des directions de la FAO qui s'occupent précisément de ces activités, sans oublier que l'axe principal de tout développement reste l'homme et que sa participation directe est une évidence en dehors de toute discussion.

ANBOOL (Yemen, People's Dem. Rep. of) (Original Language Arabic): The delegation of Yemen wishes to compliment Dr. Nurul Islam on Document 81/23 which deals with the follow-up to the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development held in 1979. In this context Mr. Chairman, I can assure you that my country's delegation gives its wholehearted support to the terms of this document. Agrarian reform indeed has been playing a key role in our country since 1970. We have cooperatives and we, in this way, are providing the necessary inputs. This is being done in order to improve the situation in rural areas. Our 5-year Plan, 1980/85 includes rural development projects, many rural development projects indeed which are funded internationally. This illustrates the importance we give to this aspect of development, and this is why we ask the donor countries to play a role in enabling us to reach a total of \$20 million. This would enable our Organization to abide by the resolution of that conference and ensure the welfare of farmers in developing countries.

S.V. HAGEN (Norway): The joint statement from the Nordic countries this morning centred around the issue of participation of all groups of people which is essential for rural development to take place. My delegation would like to make a few further comments to this general point relating to the continued need to pay specific attention to women in all groups. This has, as you know Mr. Chairman, been of particular concern to all the Nordic countries for several years. The reason is that for still some time to come we can expect that development efforts will often have differential impacts on women and men. This is of importance Mr. Chairman, not only to women themselves but also in relation to their responsibility to raising and nurturing children and catering for other family members.

Furthermore they represent a great reservoir for the skills and experiences geared to maximum utilization of available resources which must be preserved and taken into full account.

We would like to congratulate FAO for the able and rapid way in which the Organization has managed to incorporate considerations of women in many parts of the Organization. We indeed find it encouraging that an issue, which only a few years ago was mainly ignored, or at best given token interest by the Organization as a whole as well as by most member states, now begins to get a firmer footing in the Organization. Many member states will already be aware of the enormity and able work carried out in FAO and the influence that this is beginning to have in others.

We are greatly looking forward to the forthcoming paper on women in the WCARRD follow-up that FAO is preparing for the next meeting in the Committee on Agriculture. In the preparation of this document we hope that FAO will lay emphasis not only on the need to prepare specific projects for women but that mechanics will be developed whereby all development projects will eventually give considerations to the specific needs and interests of women as producers and otherwise already at the initial steps of project formulation.

We would also like to emphasise that women should be considered not only in relation to traditional agriculture, which of course continues to be important, but also in connection with cash crop production. This however Mr. Chairman must be done in ways whereby women will be more centrally involved in the planning of such production, including setting the priorities for types of production and ensuring that they will directly benefit from the income of it. To this end the approaches to agricultural extension may have to be considerably reoriented in many cases.

Finally Mr. Chairman, and in line with the Nordic countries' earlier emphasis of people's participation, we think that a greater understanding and emphasis on women's real participation at all levels will bring new insights in the conditions for realising peoples' participation in general.

K.GADIS (Grèce): Je me contenterai de n'aborder que trois points dans mon intervention. Le premier se réfère aux buts du suivi de la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural. Si on se trouve devant un choix et si parfois on doit choisir entre les effets à court terme de la réforme agraire et ceux à long terme, nous croyons que les buts de la réforme agraire et du développement rural s'adaptent mieux à une perspective de long terme.

Il y a des programmes d'aide alimentaire, il y a d'autres mécanismes au sein de la FAO et des organisations connexes pour remédier à court terme aux pertes, dégâts ou désavantages naturels.

Les oeuvres d'infrastructure et la solidification de la situation agraire mondiale ainsi que l'accélération stable du rythme de développement rural c'est à dire une vision à long terme, doivent constituer les préoccupations primordiales du suivi de la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural, auxquelles ma délégation attache une signification toute particulière.

Le deuxième volet de mon intervention porte sur les relations entre les agents nationaux et internationaux. Tout d'abord, je voudrais rendre hommage à l'invitation du Programme d'action de la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural à tous les gouvernements de formuler leur propre stratégie de développement rural. Et comme c'est le cas dans la coopération inter-institutions, une coopération étroite entre les agents nationaux, internationaux, sera fructueuse, constructive et beaucoup plus efficace.

Le troisième point que je voudrais mentionner concerne l'importance accrue et au jour le jour indispensable du renforcement des structures juridiques pour l'accomplissement des buts de la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural.

Enfin, parmi les mesures du Programme d'action prises dans des domaines précis, je ne manquerai pas de mettre l'accent sur l'éducation, la formation et la vulgarisation dont l'importance va sans dire.

A.M. IBRAHIM (Sudan) (Original language Arabic): I want to thank you and also the Secretariat for having so well prepared this document C 81/23. This document, Sir, describes the follow-up of the WCARRD conference. The Sudan delegation scrutinised this document in depth and we note with great satisfaction the efforts deployed by the Organization in this area where we really are at the forefront. This involves all measures taken on national, international and regional planes. We hope that this will make it possible for all the developing and developed countries to assume their roles when they are due to set up in this vital area.

The Sudan delegation does not need to assure you that rural development is the result of the social and economic development of a country where the target is the raising of the general standard of living in an equitable manner to all. This then also percolates to all parts that are under scrutiny in this gathering and in international fora. We need a positive volition, we need the efforts of all in order to accept and assume this role and to reach these lofty targets. Here the Sudan delegation wishes to spur you on further to adopt all measures in the rural areas involving everyone concerned ' and we also would wish that developed countries should raise their contributions as soon as possible because this is the very basis for the implementation of the measures and targets described in this document. We feel that the follow-up of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development is a basis for all further regional conferences, particularly for all further seminars that might be organised and all pilot surveys that should be pursued with a view to further general action.

We are satisfied with the setting up of regional centres and we would want other regional centres to follow this example, that they may be crowned with the success they would wish. All countries who have not joined in should follow suit as soon as possible. Agricultural development is in actual fact the very basis of all that must be done in the rural sector, of course. In this area we need financial and technical support and this can be done by coordinating within the confines of international organisations, so as to implement the resolutions which national, regional and international bodies have adopted.

We would also want backward regions to be involved in this and the general basis of services provided should be further broadened.

The Sudan delegation supports all suggestions and proposals contained in the document, particularly the ones referring to funding. We also support the Indian proposal of raising direct funding so as to implement the programme of action.

H. POPP (Suisse) (Langue originale allemande): Ma délégation appuie tous les efforts allant dans le sens de la réforme agraire. Elle félicite en particulier les pays qui, dans le domaine de la réforme agraire et autres formes institutionnelles, ont apporté et apportent leur propre contribution pour améliorer les conditions de vie dans les zones rurales, pour augmenter la justice et pour assurer le progrès social.

Nous souhaitons que la FAO, ainsi que d'autres organisations internationales, appuie de tels efforts chaque fois qu'elle le peut et là où elle le peut; qu'elle considère que les réformes institutionnelles sont une condition préalable à l'aide qu'elle apportera et qu'elle exige que de telles réformes aient lieu avant de fournir une aide.

Nous savons tous que la lutte contre la faim est un problème qui présente de nombreux aspects. Nous appuyons les délégations qui ont exprimé l'avis qu'à plus long terme seule une stratégie multidimensionnelle conduira au résultat recherché et que c'est là une condition préalable, indispensable au succès.

Dans cette stratégie multidimensionnelle certains éléments méritent selon nous une attention particulière.

Il y a tout d'abord les mesures destinées à augmenter la production alimentaire, particulièrement dans le sens de l'autosuffisance, et de l'autoapprovisionnement si possible.

Il y a ensuite la politique démographique, c'est-à-dire des mesures concrètes pour réduire la croissance démographique dans les pays où le rapport entre la population et les ressources est précaire. Nous estimons qu'à ce dernier point, dans le cadre des stratégies, on a accordé trop peu d'importance.

Enfin, Monsieur le Président, je peux affirmer que les pays qui entreprendront des efforts dans ce sens, dans le cadre de notre aide bilatérale, pourront compter sur l'appui que nous pourrons leur apporter.

CHAIRMAN: The President of the International Federation of Plantation, Agricultural and Allied Workers has passed to the Chair a written statement and has asked for it to be included in the verbatim. We will act accordingly.

Ms. S.M. MAIER (Netherlands): My delegation is very happy to see how much has been done since the WCARRD was held in July 1979. The follow-up activities can be recognised in many of the conference documents before us.

In the document on regional and national development strategies for instance, which recommends policies for the 1980s, it can be found as well.

The thread of the recommendations of WCARRD is really being interwoven not only throughout FAO's programme, but also in the UN system as a whole. The moment has been reached at which we can truly state that the WCARRD conference has proved to be very successful.

The international developments since 1979 have only reconfirmed the Tightness of WCARRD's approach.

The concept of national food strategies, which was reintroduced in the last few years, encloses many elements of the WCARRD action programme.

We have always seen the development of national food strategies within the context of rural development. The improvement of national food production has to be realized first and foremost by the small farmer. The increased food production at all costs is not an end in itself.

It has to go hand-in-hand with more employment and the generation of income, thus leading to the creation of an effective demand.

It is remarkable to see how strongly the question of rural energy has come up since the adoption of the programme of action of WCARRD. It only implicitly deals with it. We are glad to note that FAO has immediately picked up this question, which is now even more highlighted as a consequence of the recent conference on New and Renewable Resources of Energy.

The FAO will certainly not have had an easy job when it started reorienting the organization in the direction of the WCARRD. We feel that time and experience will enable a clearer definition of work programmes and division of responsibility, thus making frequent and lengthy discussions more and more redundant. It is certainly encouraging to read in the documents that most projects could be modified to have greater effect and impact on poverty alleviation and equity.

The ACC Task Force on rural development has selected three major areas of focus for the coming years; one is joint action at country and regional levels; two is promoting people's participation in rural development; three is monitoring and evaluation.

The concerns of rural women are to be integrated in all three major areas of work.

Action at the national level needs in our opinion more attention than action at the regional level.

It goes without saying that the national governments are the ones who can draw up policies benefitting the local level. This could certainly usefully be complemented by action on the regional level, but the creation of heavy regional structures would carry the inherent risk of removing the problem from the rural areas where they must be solved. The regional level is further removed from the local level at which the rural development efforts are eventually directed.

The people's participation programme is still a relatively modest programme which has to be geared towards felt needs instead of observed needs.

Of course, the same principle of felt needs applies to the attention given to the concerns of rural women. This element should be integrated within the people's participation programme as well as in all other FAO programmes. It is an established policy of our governments to consider every programme or project proposal in the light of the way it takes into account the effects on the position of women. We ask agencies to do the same before submitting a proposal to us for possible funding.

The people's participation programme calls for involvement of non-governmental organizations. FAO has already established contacts with international NGOs, and the NGOs from their side respond very positively to these contacts. We are happy to note that separate meetings have taken place in the past years with ngo's, international trade unions and within the framework of the Freedom From Hunger Campaign.

These are all positive developments and we hope that all concerned will be able to mobilise the assistance of the local voluntary ngo's. The local farmers', workers' and women's organizations can eventually best interpret the felt needs.

The national machineries for the advancement of women of course have a clear role in the formulation of specific programmes for poor rural women in close cooperation with NGOs. Participation would mean the involvement of the local rural organizations in the identification, formulation and execution of projects.

Wherever such activities can be linked with or imbedded in already existing activities, like for instance the farm water management programme, this should be done, thus having the best chance of taking root.

FAO's orientation towards rural development includes an orientation towards a small-scale approach. Large projects can also be built up out of many smaller projects.

Having taken the lead in the process of agrarian reform and rural development, FAO could increasingly start serving as a kind of clearing house for projects by comparing them with the recommendations of WCARRD. FAO could become a clearing house for all rural development projects, whether bilaterally executed, or multi-bilaterally executed or when so desired executed by a non-governmental organization.

An orientation towards small-scale projects bring with it a larger work burden for FAO headquarters and FAO field structures. We feel that by taking up a kind of clearing house function the effects on FAO's workload could be kept within reasonable limits.

We can only commend the FAO and the developing countries concerned for the way in which national monitoring and evaluation systems are being set up. This will enable us to assess at the next conference where we all stand in trying to give an effective follow-up to WCARRD. The setting up of such systems bears witness of a courageous undertaking and a firm commitment to realize WCARRD action programmes.

N. DIMITRIU (Roumanie): La Conférence mondiale pour la réforme agraire et le développement rural a adopté en juillet 1979 un programme d'action pratique voué à contribuer effectivement à la solution des problèmes auxquels sont confrontés les pays en développement dans le domaine de l'agriculture et de l'alimentation.

Ma délégation remercie M. le Professeur N. Islam pour sa brillante introduction et ses décisions ont été considérées par la Conférence elle-même comme contribuant directement aux efforts visant à l'instauration d'un nouvel ordre économique international et s'inscrivant dans la stratégie générale du développement. Plus de deux années se sont écoulées depuis cette réunion de grande ampleur et les résultats ont commencé à se faire sentir sous différentes formes, positives en général.

Examinant les documents C 81/7-COAG, CL 79/9 et C 81/23, nous pouvons affiner avec satisfaction que le programme d'action adopté lors de la Conférence mondiale pour la réforme agraire et le développement rural est soutenu par la FAO, qui, compte tenu de celui-ci, a réorienté son propre programme pour secourir avant tout les pays les plus pauvres.

La délégation roumaine se déclare d'accord avec les constatations et les recommandations faites et insiste en même temps pour qu'on prenne en considération les propositions faites par notre pays lors de la Conférence mondiale, relativement au développement de la production agricole et des capacités propres à la formation de personnels professionnels et techniques pour tous les secteurs de l'agriculture et de l'élevage, à la participation directe des organisations internationales, à la réalisation de projets de développement agricole et rural dans les pays en développement pour écarter les barrières et les discriminations pouvant exister dans le commerce et la coopération économique internationale.

En ce qui nous concerne, nous militerons aussi à l'avenir pour que les problèmes complexes du monde contemporain, ayant de profondes implications dans l'évolution de l'humanité, dans la cause du progrès, de la collaboration et de la paix dans le monde, puissent trouver une solution concrète dans le contexte d'un nouvel ordre économique international qui permette d'assurer l'essor indépendant de chaque nation pour le bien-être des hommes du monde entier.

Ma délégation soutient toutes les recommandations présentées dans les documents examinés.

J.C. McCOLL (Australia): The Australian delegation wishes to indicate strong support in both principle and practice for the programme of action adopted by WCARRD. Referring specifically to the Document C 81/23, and in particular to the items 1 to 9 on pages 8 and 9, which address the major issues, we would like to provide the following comments:

With regard to items 1-3 inclusive, the recommendations in part 1 of the Programme of Action are addressed to national governments of developing countries, and we consider that the overt acknowledgment by developing countries of their vital and essential responsibilities in the fields of agriculture and rural development is of considerable importance, and this has been underlined today by a number of delegations. There is no substitute for sound domestic policies to ensure effective agricultural and rural development. National policies on pricing, land reform, taxation, institute building, etc., are at least as important in influencing economic and social development as the total flow of resources to a particular country. Australia, therefore, supports the Secretariat's recommendations to the Conference under these items.

With regard to item 4, we support continued regional follow-up consultations, and we believe that the regional rural development centres mentioned in item 5 have distinct potential, particularly with regard to activities for research, training, information, dissemination and other aspects pertaining to rural development. They can be a very useful mechanism for further developing the concept of TCDC, and thereby improving the level of self-reliance amongst developing countries.

Item 6, Australia considers the involvement of NGOs in WCARRD follow-up would have a very positive effect, particularly with regard to promoting people's participation.

Concerning finance mentioned in item 7, we recognise the inevitability of the Conference calling on agencies of the UN system and bilateral donors to contribute more resources. As far as Australia is concerned, we have directed a high proportion of our bilateral aid to supporting agricultural and integrated rural development projects. Aid to sectors exclusively related to rural development, such as agriculture, flood control, land settlement, etc. constitutes 30 per cent approximately of our total project aid. Assistance ranges from agricultural orientated research and development through integrated rural development projects, cooperative management training, to storage, food handling and marketing projects. Projects within other sector areas which have substantial linkages with rural development, for example, electricity, water supply and transport, constitute a further 40 per cent of the programme. We have particularly

emphasized the training component with a range of short courses aimed at supporting rural development. We support the Secretariat's suggestion in item 8 on the need for greater interagency cooperation and, finally, concerning future action referred to in item 9, we consider that when assessing the degree of adequacy and direction of follow-up FAO should continue to emphasise its technical expertise and competence in regard to agro-technological factors. Naturally within the wider context of the WCARRD approach, recognizing that increasing the role of production base, and people capability, is an essential prerequisite for self-sustained rural development.

F. D'ALMEIDA (Bénin): La délégation du Bénin soutient fermement les principes des programmes d'action des recommandations et toutes les résolutions proposées par le Secrétariat.

Je voudrais profiter aussi de l'occasion pour remercier le Directeur général et la FAO pour l'attention toute particulière qu'ils ont accordée au Bénin en lui envoyant une mission dans le cadre du suivi de la Réforme agraire pour le développement rural. A l'issue de cette mission, une enquête rurale sera financée et demandée à la FAO et elle sera suivie par la FAO. Cette enquête rurale doit nous permettre de connaître la situation exacte de notre agriculture, à savoir la taille, la forme et la dimension des fermes et des unités de production. Comme vous le savez, le problème de l'alimentation et de la nutrition est prépondérant au niveau de l'Afrique. Un certain nombre d'accès sont contenus dans le cadre de la réforme agraire. Il s'agit en particulier de l'accès à l'eau, de l'accès à la terre et de l'accès aux intrants. Nous pensons que, compte tenu de la situation que nous vivons actuellement, étant données les variations d'intempéries, un accent particulier doit être mis sur l'irrigation, l'accès à l'eau afin que les paysans disposent de façon permanente de l'eau et que malgré les intempéries le manque de pluies, on puisse accéder à une meilleure production.

Nous mettons aussi un accent particulier sur l'accès d'intrants et tout spécialement sur l'accès des engrais. C'est pourquoi nous demandons qu'au niveau de la FAO le Programme Engrais soit repris et revu car, dans les pays en voie de développement, c'est un élément qui revient excessivement cher pour les petits paysans.

Nous pensons aussi qu'il faut pouvoir donner aux petits paysans la possibilité de survivre, et comme vous le savez, les crédits sont les grands moyens qui interviennent dans le monde rural. C'est pour cela aussi que nous souhaiterions qu'un système d'étude pour les crédits pour les petits fermiers soit étudié et proposé dans le cadre des différentes possibilités d'aide des banques pour les pays en voie de développement.

La participation des femmes au développement rural prend un accent particulier en ce qui concerne notre agriculture puisque l'on a remarqué que l'exode rural est monnaie courante actuellement et il apparaît que ce sont les femmes qui sont le groupe qui s'exode le moins et en conséquence il leur revient une plus grande tâche, celle de tenir la paysannerie. Il ne faut pas oublier aussi que la femme est gardienne des traditions et, par ce moyen, elle est nécessairement tenue à la terre.

L'orientation que prend actuellement la FAO dans le cadre de l'aide et de la participation au développement rural nous réjouit parce qu'elle transcende les habitudes autrefois connues à la FAO et elle transcende le problème de l'économie familiale pour faire de la femme un véritable agent du développement.

Nous souhaiterions que cette expérience soit poursuivie de façon que nous puissions étudier avec la FAO les structures adéquates pour rendre de façon réelle l'activité de la femme dans le développement rural.

Je voudrais en terminant féliciter le Professeur N. Islam pour la façon dynamique dont il a présenté son document.

J. GAZZO (Perú): Me quiero referir a las acciones que está desarrollando mi país para promover la participación popular en el desarrollo del mismo.

Como ya lo había iniciado nuestro Presidente constitucional, Fernando Belaunde de Terry, en su primer Gobierno entre 1963 a 1968, y está apoyando ahora la participación popular rural en su segundo Gobierno constitucional, me refiero a la Organización denominada Cooperación Popular, cuyo jefe tiene rango y asiento de Ministro de Estado. En este organismo se ha recogido la vieja tradición incaica del trabajo comunitario o minga. Con este sistema, el Estado participa en las obras comunales proporcionando los insumos para las mismas, tales como lampas, fertilizantes, tractores, etc. El pueblo aporta el

trabajo para hacer estas obras como son preparación del campo agrícola, cosechas, obras sanitarias, aguas, desagües, pequeñas irrigaciones, caminos, escuelas y hospitales. Esta es una perfecta complementación del capital estatal con el trabajo gratuito aportado por el pueblo para la ejecución de este tipo de obras que lo beneficia directamente, y de las cuales es el principal usuario. Este tipo de acciones constituyen una verdadera participación de la población rural en el desarrollo del país.

Financiaciones especiales con préstamos blandos a los agricultores más deprimidos está siendo proporcionada por el FIDA con excelentes resultados. Es interesante, señor Presidente, asistir a la ceremonia de inauguración de estas obras comunitarias, en las cuales se puede notar el fervor popular al ver la obra que ellos han hecho. La ceremonia es muy austera y no se colocan placas alusivas a los gobernantes bajo cuyo período se hizo la obra; solo en una placa muy simple se dice: El pueblo lo hizo. No hay grandes discursos.

La mujer igualmente está participando activamente en el desarrollo del país. Las agencias de extensión agrícola, que son más de 50 en todo el país, tienen en sus oficinas mejoradoras del hogar, que enseñan a la mujer campesina a usar dietas alimentarias balanceadas a base, preferiblemente, de productos locales; a coser, tejer y al desarrollo de alguna actividad artesanal que use materias primas de origen local.

La reforma agraria en el Perú ha sido una realidad que ha redistribuido cerca de 10 millones de hectáreas entre los campesinos; sin embargo, nos hemos dado cuenta de que la redistribución de tierras es sólo el comienzo, y que sin apoyo técnico y financiero se puede fracasar. Hemos aprendido que a menudo los nuevos propietarios carecen de capacidad administrativa y gerencia y hay que darles un apoyo sustancial a este respecto.

Pensamos que algunas definiciones políticas o slogan deben ampliarse. No sólo debe decirse la tierra es del que la trabaja, sino la tierra es del que la trabaja y la hace producir. Si ello no sucede el proceso de reforma agraria se desvirtúa y luego, entonces, toda la población tiene que pagar su poca eficiencia y cubrir a base de sacrificios fuertes el elevado costo social de la misma si con ella no se aumenta la productividad.

Creemos que nuestro proceso de reforma agraria es aún perfectible y se están realizando los ajustes necesarios para su actualización.

F. MARTINEZ GOMEZ (México): Es indiscutible que con el transcurso del tiempo, la Declaración de Principios y el Programa de Acción de la Conferencia Mundial de Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural, se revaloran como un marco conceptual operativo, sobre todo en estos momentos donde cada día que pasa la producción de alimentos de los países en desarrollo se convierte en una tarea prioritaria, en virtud de las tendencias poco favorables en el abastecimiento y producción de sus alimentos.

Los principios en que está basada esta Declaración contienen cambios muy favorables para todos los países. Las recomendaciones en política agrícola, sustituyen modelos antiguos que han resultado ineficientes en su tarea de producir, y sobre todo distribuir alimentos en la mayoría de los países.

Por este motivo, nuestra delegación apoya una vez más la Declaración y el Programa de Acción de la Conferencia Mundial sobre Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural. Asimismo consideramos que todas las acciones que realiza la FAO deben ser consecuentes con estos principios.

El desarrollo de la tecnología y la economía mundial nos permite observar, que conceptualizar la reforma agraria y el desarrollo rural dentro del ámbito de los problemas de la tenencia de la tierra y la producción agrícola es muy limitado. Pensar que con políticas que modifiquen positivamente estos factores, se va a resolver el problema, es aventurado.

En este orden de ideas reconocemos que estos principios y el programa de acción no están exentos de los efectos de la crisis actual, que se refleja en alto índice de inflación, desempleo, modificación monetaria, y otros desajustes que se generan en muchos de los casos, fuera de los países en desarrollo, con consecuencias más drásticas para estos que para los países más poderosos. Es por ello, que nuestra insistencia de buscar mecanismos y acciones encaminadas al logro del establecimiento de un Nuevo Orden Económico Internacional.

México, coincidente con los principios de la Conferencia Mundial sobre Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural ha elaborado un sistema alimentario, donde el Estado, a través de diferentes medidas tales como asistencia técnica, aumento de los precios de garantía de los productos básicos e insumos estratégicos subsidiados, ha logrado incrementos en los ingresos de los productores; se ha aumentado la producción



de básicos y se ha afectado favorablemente a los problemas de desempleo y subempleo en el medio rural. Estas medidas han permitido el acceso a la mayor utilización de tierras y aguas apoyados por acciones concretas que, en estas áreas, realiza el Gobierno de México.

Nuestra delegación reitera la sugerencia de solicitar a los gobiernos un informe sobre las acciones realizadas para combatir la pobreza de las zonas rurales y de las actividades efectuadas en materia de reforma agraria y desarrollo rural. Además consideramos conveniente la elaboración, por parte de la Secretaría, de un informe de todos los países, para su análisis durante el 21° período de sesiones de la Conferencia de la FAO.

Las consultas regionales, a través de los foros ya establecidos, constituyen una acción que se debe continuar porque permiten constantemente que los gobiernos sugieran medidas que mejor respondan a las necesidades cambiantes de los países.

Reiteramos nuestro interés por que se logre el volumen de recursos financieros de, por lo menos, 20 millones de dólares en contribuciones voluntarias, que se solicita en la Resolución 7/79. También en virtud de la importancia de estas actividades, apoyamos la cooperación económica de otros organismos de Naciones Unidas, que estén en posibilidad de aportar recursos.

La promoción de la participación popular es un elemento fundamental en el desarrollo rural. Nos complace que la FAO haya comenzado a identificar y formular proyectos de participación popular en el marco de un programa de donantes múltiples, mediante organizaciones de autoayuda. También consideramos fundamental el papel de la mujer en el desarrollo rural. En este sentido, en los países en desarrollo, la mujer juega un papel muy importante, por lo cual su participación es no sólo importante sino indispensable en estas actividades.

Finalmente, consideramos sumamente importantes los esfuerzos que, en materia de capacitación y extensión, está desarrollando la FAO, teniendo en cuenta los lineamientos y principios de la Conferencia Mundial sobre Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural.

AMIDJONO MARTOSUWIRYO (Indonesia): First of all, I should like to thank Professor Islam for his introduction.

In many developing countries growth rate of food production lags behind growth rate of their population. Incidences of food shortages still persist in many localities in some developing countries. National governments and international organizations like FAO, which primarily deal with the development of food, agriculture and farmers, still have to take more action and make more effort to assist farmers in order to produce more food and other agricultural commodities.

Rural development and agrarian reform is, among others, the right scheme with which to pave the way towards producing more food and agricultural products. It will lead directly to the elimination of hunger and malnutrition and to efforts towards increasing farmers' incomes, if properly implemented by application of appropriate systems. It will accelerate efforts and facilitate the creation of a just and prosperous society.

I should like to express my government's full support that the focus of WCARRD follow-up action should be at country level, where primarily responsibility for implementation is the prerogative of the government concerned.

Agrarian reform and rural development have been carried out in Indonesia and occupy an important place in the development activities. Re-orientation and activities constitute an integrated approach rather than a single one. This principle has become the quality of my Government under the forum of coordinating activities and various development programmes. The Ministry of Home Affairs acts as coordinator of the implementation of agrarian reform and rural development where people participate.

The Indonesian National Committee of the UN Agencies has been established which, among others, has assumed responsibility for channeling communication between the Government of Indonesia and FAO, as well as other organizations.

My delegation is of the opinion that, for the South Asia Region, where the man/land ratio is high, a tenancy reform aimed at establishing a guaranteed income for share-croppers should be introduced. Tenancy agreements should provide for maximum cash rent to be paid. It should provide for the length of time of the rent agreement and conditions under which it can be terminated. In addition, all agreements should be clearly written and recorded. The provisions should motivate share-croppers to use high value inputs and/or make necessary long term investments in land. My delegation very much hopes that this point will be taken into consideration by FAO.

As regards the Programme of Action of Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, the Government of Indonesia has taken action in several specific areas in line with the views expressed in paragraph 36 of the document under discussion.

Being aware of the importance of the exchange of experience in agrarian reform and rural development, the Indonesian Delegation has offered to host a regional work shop on WCARRD follow-up action under the auspices of FAO, and I suggest that the matter should also be included in the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific which will be held in Djakarta in June, 1982.

In conclusion, I should like to refer to the financial side of the WCARRD follow-up which has given rise to some concern because the minimum voluntary contribution of \$20 million decided on two years ago has not been realized. Representing a developing country, my delegation can only invite the kind attention of the more prosperous countries to giving substance to the relevant resolution passed by the 20th session of the Conference, so that the proposed minimum contribution may soon become a reality.

M. ARAFAH (Jordan)(original language Arabic): First of all, I should like to thank the Secretariat for this excellent document on the follow-up of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. I also thank Professor Islam for his brilliant introduction to this theme. I would like to talk to you about the cooperation that took place between Jordan and the Organization. We have been able to implement the following projects, after having scrutinized the situation in Jordan and after noting the targets to be achieved. First of all, to help the National Planning Council to define its strategy for the rural development in Jordan within the context of the five-year plan, 1981-85; second, to carry out a survey of our general land register system in conjunction with the Jordanian University; to study everything that can be done and to take note of the progress that has been made in the context of the National Development Plan; and to implement the targets of the World Conference in two areas as pilot projects and furthermore to promote the cooperative movement in Jordan so that it may become the foundation for development and help farmers in rural areas.

Our government set up a specialized centre to this end and we would like this to be a regional centre for training.

In conclusion we wish to support all FAO activities and express the hope that these Conference Resolutions will be further followed up.

M. MORIMOTO (Japan): First of all, my delegation would like to commend Professor Islam for his excellent introduction. We welcome and appreciate the progress made in its activities by the FAO, such as assistance with projects at country level, intergovernmental consultation on a regional basis and the role undertaken by the FAO of coordinating activities amongst the international organizations concerned.

In the light of this need to support such international activities, my government is ready to contribute US\$165 000 to assist the activity of the Centre for Integrated Rural Development in Asia and the Pacific in the 1981 fiscal year.

The post-war agricultural and land reform in Japan enabled farmers' to purchase their own land. This greatly increased their will to produce and led to the encouragement of Japanese agriculture. I believe it is of vital importance that developing countries solve their problems from a long-term perspective, on the basis of FAO's Declaration of Principles and Programme of Action.

Finally, my delegation would like to emphasize the need for development of human resources. Therefore, it is important to take every opportunity of educating and training the decision-making people in the expertise required for rural development in the developing countries.

S. PRACHIMDHIT (Thailand): My delegation notes with satisfaction the preparation by the Secretariat of the Document C 81/23 which passes under review the progress made in the implementation of Conference Regulation 7/79 on the follow-up of WCARRD. My appreciation also goes to Professor Islam for his excellent introduction of the topic under discussion.

My delegation would like to stress that the Royal Thai Government over the past two years has taken a number of steps following the recommendations of WCARRD as well as the recommendations adopted within the First and Second Government Consultation for Asia and the Southwest Pacific on the follow-up of WCARRD.

The Thai Government has declared the 1980's as the Rural Development Decade. In compliance with this, a rural development work plan for 1982-1986 has been put into effect. Under it, rural development is strongly area-oriented. The poor areas selected cover nearly half the entire kingdom. The main objectives for these target areas are firstly, to foster self-reliance among the rural poor; secondly, to guarantee minimum basic needs; thirdly, to promote people's participation through decentralization and involvement in the decision-making process; and, lastly, to search for and adopt appropriate low-cost technology for the rural population.

The agrarian reform programme is now well into its sixth year and much still remains to be done. The pace at which this reform is moving is rather slow. However, a national agrarian reform plan is also provided for further implementation in the next national five-year plan, commencing in 1982. The future targets of agrarian reform are quite modest, reflecting past experience and achievements.

On other fronts, a national small farmers' development programme is now taking shape and is likely to go into full operation by 1982.

In conclusion, my delegation fully supports the action at country level being undertaken by FAO. In this connection, my delegation urges FAO to carry out a biogas project from crop and livestock residues something which is badly needed for poor rural people. Furthermore, a similar project on fuelwood for energy in the rural areas is also very important and is one that FAO should take into consideration in the hope of making it available for the improvement of rural conditions, especially the project for growing trees for fuel wood at farm level.

A. RODRIGUES PIRES (Cap-Vert): Je vous remercie de m'avoir donné la parole,

Permettez-moi de féliciter vivement le secrétariat de la FAO pour l'excellent document préparé à l'intention de notre Commission.

Nous voulons appuyer sans réserve toutes les actions et activités de la FAO en ce qui concerne la réforme agraire. Nous sommes convaincus que la FAO constitue le cadre idéal pour traiter tous les problèmes de la réforme agraire surtout dans les pays en voie de développement, compte tenu des expériences acquises par la FAO durant trente-six ans, qui ne sont un secret pour personne.

En ce qui concerne mon pays, je commencerai par dire qu'on ne peut pas parler de l'agriculture, du développement rural sans la réforme agraire. Après quelques siècles de colonisation portugaise et de systèmes archaïques d'exploitation des terres, il est urgent, au Cap-Vert, de transformer les modes de faire valoir qui dominent actuellement dans l'agriculture, affranchir ceux qui travaillent la terre des relations archaïques auxquelles ils sont encore soumis et d'améliorer la situation économique et culturelle des paysans.

Dans ce contexte et dans cette perspective, le Cap-Vert, a participé activement à la Conférence mondiale de la réforme agraire organisée à Rome par la FAO en 1979. Mon pays a attaché une très grande importance à ses travaux et il a appuyé sans hésitation son programme d'action et ses résolutions. Bien plus, il a décidé de donner, au Cap-Vert, une priorité absolue à la réforme agraire et il a déjà mis en oeuvre une série d'actions préparatoires qui se situent exactement dans la ligne préconisée par la Conférence mondiale. Il nous semble en effet que dans tous les pays qui ont récemment conquis leur indépendance et en particulier dans ceux qui ont longtemps vécu sous la domination coloniale, une réforme des systèmes socio-économiques s'impose afin que les ressources productives soient équitablement distribuées.

Parlant toujours de notre pays, la terre est une ressource productive de grande importance; c'est pourquoi nous pensons qu'elle ne doit pas être seulement un moyen de garantir une position sociale ou une sécurité économique, mais qu'elle doit être une source dynamique de production dont la nécessité est vitale.

C'est en s'inspirant de ces principes que mon gouvernement a pris la décision d'entreprendre une réforme agraire et en particulier la restructuration des modes d'exploitation des terres cultivables, pour permettre aux exploitants effectifs d'accéder à la propriété des terres qu'ils cultivent. Les réformes envisagées comportent aussi l'organisation des masses rurales et leur participation à toutes les étapes du processus de développement. L'organisation des coopératives tient une place importante dans ce programme d'actions.

Enfin, nous attachons une très grande importance à l'intégration des femmes dans le développement rural car au Cap-Vert leur rôle est encore plus important qu'ailleurs du fait de l'émigration masculine. Plus d'un tiers des femmes rurales en effet y sont chefs de famille et d'exploitation. C'est pourquoi la formation des femmes et l'assistance à leurs organisations et activités est une des priorités auxquelles le gouvernement attache le plus d'attention.

Dans ce contexte, nous remercions vivement la FAO d'avoir envoyé chez nous une mission de haut niveau. En plus de la collaboration de la FAO à de grands projets dans le domaine du reboisement, de la conservation des sols, des pêches, etc. Cette mission a pu identifier quelques domaines prioritaires pour une action immédiate.

Pour terminer nous voulons attirer l'attention des éminents représentants des pays amis qui participent aux travaux de notre Commission sur le fait que leur aide, soit bilatérale soit dans le cadre de la FAO, est indispensable pour la concrétisation de nos programmes dont le but principal est l'exploitation nationale pour le bien-être de la population. Le Cap-Vert appuie avec intérêt et enthousiasme l'idée d'un Centre régional pour le développement intégré pour l'Afrique et il a déjà signé et ratifié l'accord pour sa création; nous espérons que nous y participerons comme membre et que ce Centre sera un appui pour la réforme agraire dans notre pays.

D. AMBOULOU (Congo): Le document C 81/23 qui est soumis à notre attention intéresse au plus haut point notre pays et notre délégation soutient les propositions qui y sont formulées. Ceci est tout à fait à l'honneur du secrétariat de la Conférence et du prof. Islam qui a si brillamment introduit notre discussion. La République populaire du Congo a participé il y a deux ans à cette Conférence sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural et nous pouvons dire que les lignes générales développées dans ce document de base recueillent notre agrément. En effet, la République populaire du Congo va mettre en oeuvre de 1982 à 1986 un plan quinquennal de développement économique et social qui fait de l'agriculture un secteur de base orienté notamment vers l'auto-suffisance alimentaire, la recherche des moyens d'équilibre spatial, l'amélioration du revenu des paysans et la production de matières premières en vue de la promotion de l'industrie locale. Nous espérons que l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture nous apportera son concours pour la mise en oeuvre de ce plan.

D'ores et déjà nous aimerions profiter de l'occasion qui nous est offerte pour remercier le Directeur général de la FAO pour l'envoi d'une mission pluridisciplinaire de haut niveau en vue de nous aider à mieux formuler des actions concrètes dans le cadre de la problématique de l'auto-suffisance alimentaire dans le contexte propre de notre pays. Nous avons également, dans ce même cadre, bénéficié d'une importante mission de la FAO pour l'évaluation de notre politique de l'élevage. Cette mission a identifié et formulé d'importants projets en matière de production bovine et de petits ruminants, ovins et caprins notamment.

MRS. L. BRADER (Observer for Associated Country Women of the World): On behalf of the Associated Country Women of the World, ACWW, I wish first of all to record our appreciation that within FAO's actions the role of women in rural development, as well as the effects of agricultural development on women, are increasingly taken into consideration. I beg to quote especially from the opening statement of the Director-General of the 21st Session of the Conference: "Improvement of the women's life needs to be a constant objective of agricultural and rural development schemes". Listening to the interventions today we are glad to remark that these objectives seem, in most countries, to be an accepted principle today. We applaud especially the apt and concise formulation of the objective which replaces very long statements, and we trust that the principle of the importance of women's rights will be a guideline in all FAO's actions.

Since the 1979 conference ACWW has observed especially an increased emphasis on women's involvement in various programmes within FAO. To cite examples: in programmes on marketing, credit and cooperative associations in social and forestry programmes, in improved plant protection, prevention of food losses, fisheries projects, and last but not least in the various projects that fall under the umbrella of "Women in Rural Development". ACWW especially appreciates the fact that all the various roles of women are considered, be it in the house, at the farm, or in the community.

We also applaud the stronger emphasis on people's participation through their own organizations and the recognition given to the action in the field by national and international non-governmental organizations. In this respect we support strongly para. 36 of Document C81/23, and we offer our cooperation at national, regional and international levels.

Referring to para. 12 of Document C81/23, I am glad to report at the Conference in Hyderabad, NGO's were also involved although it does not look like it from the report.

The ACWW representative took part in the deliberations and organized a similar ACWW Workshop for representatives of women's organizations from India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. They formulated projects for rural development which could be executed by women's organizations in the context of national rural development programmes. Projects such as training of voluntary leaders, women's cooperatives, prevention of food loss training, projects on poultry breeding to generating income in villages and other similar projects.

A similar ACWW Workshop will be held in Bangkok in March 1982 for representatives of women's organizations in 5 other countries in Asia.

However, the formulation of projects is only one step in the development process and ACWW is concerned that sometimes there are obstacles which tend to prevent the implementation of these projects. We therefore would like to draw the attention of the conference to the role of the so-called national machineries for the advancement of women. They were already referred to today in some statements. In many countries they are the formal structures to initiate and coordinate programmes for women, but it is also true that not in all countries is their action especially geared to rural development. ACWW therefore requests FAO and governments to strengthen the role of the national women's machinery in rural development projects and to reinforce, where necessary, the involvement of women's organizations.

I would like to thank many delegates who have referred today to the work done by women's organizations in their own countries. Women's organizations have a long tradition of working for rural people at village level they are rural people themselves. ACWW and its affiliated societies offer their collaboration to improve conditions of rural life, in the home, on the farm and in the community.

E. HAMERNIK (Observer for World Federation of Free Trade Unions): The World Federation of Trade Unions considers the WCARRD Follow-up as one of the most important priorities of the programme of the FAO for the next period. You might remember that the World Federation of Trade Unions devoted great effort to get the other trade unions' organizations at a time of the preparation of the WCARRD, and this resulted in strengthening the final documents of the conference, in particular as far as the people's participation in rural development is concerned.

FAO, as the pilot institution within the UN system in the follow-up of the WCARRD, has proved its special responsibility by presenting various programmes among which is the programme on people's participation in rural development which is of highest interest to our Organization as it opens up new possibilities for united trade union actions in favour of genuine agrarian reform.

We are very satisfied to inform you that FAO has encouraged the international trade union organizations to come up with concrete projects and indicate what kind of FAO's support they would need to meet their demands and resulting problems at national level. In this respect we have already had talks with the FAO Representatives on the possibility of undertaking during long term, pilot projects during the period of 3 to 5 years which would be carried out in cooperation with some of our member organizations and with the support of the respective governments. As the preparatory phase is coming to an end very successfully, we hope to present the projects to the FAO Director-General for approval as soon as possible. While estimating very positively the FAO's work on the WCARRD follow-up we have to express here our concern on the cooperation with institutions at the policy making level. It is with deep regret that the trade unions do not see any evidence of vital political desire on the part of many governments to arrive at genuine radical and democratic agrarian reform and real participation of the people in rural development. In order to enable the trade unions to play their proper role in agriculture, governments must recognise the right of rural workers to associate in the unions and to respect those trade union rights and freedoms, especially in conformity with the respective stipulations of the conventions and the recommendations of the International Labour Organization.

We are concerned by the fact that several governments are waiting too long to ratify the ILO Convention No. 141 concerning the organizations of rural workers and their role in economic and social development. Until now only 21 countries have done so. On this occasion we would like to launch another call to governments to ratify and implement this Convention, because without recognition of the rights of rural workers all attempts at people's participation would remain an illusion. Thank you very much.

AZIZUL HUQ (Observer for Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and Pacific): The World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, among other things, recommended the establishment of regional institutions to foster the promotion of agrarian reform and rural development activities. Fortunately, the Centre for Asia and the Pacific is already operational. Steps have been finalized for the establishment of a centre in Africa; negotiations are in progress about the centre in Latin America and exploration is in progress, I am told, about the centre in the Near East. This is by no means a mean achievement and I believe the FAO deserves to be congratulated on this. Along with the FAO, those other members of the United Nations family and bilateral donors who have assisted in the foundation of these institutions deserve to be complimented. But above all the people of the countries concerned have to be remembered with admiration at this Conference.

These centres are inter-governmental institutions. These are intended to assist national action through national mechanisms to increase production, to improve distribution with special attention to the poor and the disadvantaged in the rural areas. Their clientele is vast, their task is complex and their efforts have to be impressive if not massive. Their goal is to catalyze the process of growth with justice, as Professor Islam emphasized yesterday. Their activities fall into three categories: research, training and dissemination of information about which many of the delegates have made very useful observations.

Document C 81/23 coupled with Professor Islam's initial statement calls for special attention to things like operational guidelines for development, monitoring and evaluation and finally investment in rural areas. During the last two years of its existence the CIRDP has been associated with these basic needs of development strategies in the rural areas.

The second inter-governmental consultation of the Asia and Pacific region was organized jointly by the regional office of FAO and the CIRDP in May this year. The report has been published by the FAO in June 1981. CIRDP has been specifically asked by the countries of the Asia and the Pacific region to intensify activities for the people's organizations, land use, land reform, rural banking and the dissemination of essential development information.

Among CIRDP's current activities special mention has to be made in this context of the work being done in respect of preparation of country profiles of integrated rural development programmes and institutions for inter-country use; the study of systems of delivery of inputs for agricultural development, the study of systems of price support procurement and incentives for agricultural production; integration of women in agriculture and rural development through national mechanisms about which the ACWW has just spoken; the role of NGO's in rural development, particularly in mobilizing people's participation; the role of rural youth in development, services available to rural children, etc.

We have also had joint conferences on rural technology, rural institutions and the rural poor in collaboration with the ideas of Sussex; We have had similar joint conferences in respect of employment generation with local resource mobilization in collaboration with the ARTEP of the ILO.

Studies on these subjects are followed by dissemination of information among the member countries of the region and are then followed by appropriate training programmes in different countries on a regional or sub-regional basis. These activities are conducted in collaboration with the designated national institutions and on a national sub-regional and regional basis. The centre is funded by country contributions from the FAO and most importantly, from donor countries. In the case of CIRDP we have been generously assisted by the government of Japan and the government of the Sudan for which we are deeply grateful.

The support of the U.N. family is still modest but we are optimistic. The World Bank who authored the "Empty Poverty" slogan has recently reiterated its interest in respect of agricultural and rural development. Of course, I do not see the World Bank represented here.

The UNICEF, WHO, ILO and UNDP and the regional offices of the U.N. have assisted us considerably but the national and regional offices of the U.N. agencies have their difficulties because they do not have funds or resources for regional projects in which we are engaged.

Turning to document C 81/23, paragraph 32 which deals with contributions in response to the Director-General's request for a \$ 20 million extra-budgetary allocation for the follow-up of agrarian reform and rural development activities, we are somewhat disappointed to see that not even half the demand has been received by the Director-General of FAO up to now. I am afraid this is an eye-opener. I hope I shall not be misunderstood if I tend to believe that the family of nations as a whole seems to be indifferent to the modest needs of the rural millions. Developing countries are often accused of urban

bias in their development planning, possibly in the human family as a whole there is a non-rural bias in the matter of the allocation of resources. Development costs, money and rural development are no exception to these general rules, but investments in rural development in my assessment pay high dividends and as such qualify for very deep consideration.

Paragraph 35 of the document speaks about economic and technical co-operation among developing countries for the overall promotion of agriculture and rural development. Regional institutions such as CIRDAP and CIRDAFRICA are appropriate institutions or instruments for such purposes.

Paragraph 36 (v) therefore suggest that bilateral donors and U.N. agencies may directly contribute to these centres or to selected aspects of these centres' programmes. This coupled with the activities of the U.N. inter-agency committee and finally the ECOSOC should possibly make desired improvements in this respect.

In conclusion, I once again compliment FAO on the earnestness with which post-WCARRD activities have followed up and urge the support of those who afford to support the line of action indicated in paragraph 36 of the document under consideration.

U. CANULLO (Observer for International Co-operative Alliance): On behalf of the International Co-operation Alliance let me state again our interest in the WCARRD promising developments. As evidence of our commitment there is the continuous consultation undertaken with FAO's staff, in the framework of People Participation Programmes, both at international and regional level, which has followed a long-established collaboration in other fields, such as Energy in Agriculture (point 8 of the Agenda), Food Production and Rural Development (point 12) and so forth.

In more than 70 countries of the world, as you know, co-operatives contribute to the social and economic development, along with other voluntary forms of organizations; that is to say, they carry on tasks which are not an extension of government services, but very often represent an original and creative effort in offsetting the causes of rural poverty.

I am sure that you already know that the United Nations General Assembly's debate on The Secretary General's report on "National experience in the promotion of the Co-operative Movement" ended a few weeks ago, with a resolution urging inter alia the United Nations and its Special Agencies to assist in the development of co-operatives. Let me add that the Third Committee's majority easily agreed on the participatory nature of the cooperative institution.

Through the exercise of defining the collective interests of their own members, in fact, co-operative organizations, in different economic contexts and cultural frameworks, proved to be important tools of popular effective participation; referring to the WCARRD Action Programme, I have to say that their suitability, either at grass-roots or on national level does not imply an immediate capability of shaping good-standard projects.

Experience has shown that even identifying project ideas requires a certain understanding of methodologies used in feasibility studies, at least. Small and weak organizations - as all development agencies know very well - will find themselves helpless in the following stage of preparing an adequate project, which might be funded and implemented.

I wanted to call your attention to this point, because we are convinced that any significant improvement of I.C.A.'s assistance capability within the PPP will have a positive impact on our constituency's involvement; similar groups would be encouraged to get better organized; the self-reliance of local communities concerned would be consequently increased.

CHAIRMAN: If there are no further comments from delegates on the item we have been debating I would now invite Professor Islam to comment on some of the points raised during the debate.

N. ISLAM (Assistant Director-General, Economic and Social Policy Department): We are very grateful to the delegates for their appreciation of our efforts in the implementation of the WCARRD programme of action. Your suggestions and comments will, indeed, help us in our continued work in the future in this area. We are very grateful to you for your support of our Programme of Work on Socio-Economic Indicators, and the suggestion we have made regarding the reporting to the next. FAO Conference on the progress in agrarian reform and rural development based upon country reports and socio-economic

indicators. As I had stated earlier, this report would not only be a statistical report but an analytical report revealing policies and programmes in the field of agrarian reform and rural development.

Many distinguished delegates have referred to priority areas of action within the Programme of Action, to which we should pay greater attention. We can assure you that we have taken careful note of various suggestions you have made. In our document, of course, you have illustrated the kinds of projects for which we have already received requests, requests from the member governments, and your suggestions will, of course, be very valuable in our further work in responding to requests from member governments.

Questions have been asked as to how have you organized within FAO our work, with a view to orienting projects and programmes in various departments within the framework of WCARRD's Programme of Action. I have already mentioned the role of the interdepartmental committee on rural development, and various sub-groups, which coordinate and guide the preparation of programmes and projects in the various units of the organization within the framework of the WCARRD Programme of Action. We have formulated operational guidelines for the application of the principles of programme of action. This is for use not only for our own staff members in the field and at Headquarters, but also by other UN and bilateral donors, as well as the Member countries in preparing their requests for assistance from international organizations, including FAO. These guidelines as far as we are concerned within the organization, are intended to help to formulate projects keeping the WCARRD concerns in view. These are now being applied in various units and departments of the organization. We have also prepared operational guidelines for preparation of projects in the area of women in development, and people's participation. Of course, these are all new areas as far as we are concerned. Therefore, we would be learning by experience, and learning by doing. For example, to illustrate, in response to questions asked on, let us say, women in development, as a step towards incorporating women's concerns in the development projects, various units and organizations are screening their projects with a view to distinguishing between such projects which are explicitly meant for women; projects not explicitly meant for women but with direct impact on them; and projects which are not ostensibly meant for them, not for women. Various units are preparing check lists for their respective technical areas, and adopted to their special needs, which will enable them to incorporate women's concerns in their projects.

As far as the guidelines for the preparation of investment projects are concerned, FAO investment centre in consultation with the group working on the guidelines, is examining their existing guidelines with a view to incorporating concerns which are prominent in the WCARRD Programme of Action.

Insofar as staff orientation of the organization is concerned, we are having continuous briefing sessions and discussions with various units within the organization, as well as with officials, staff members in our regional offices. We are planning in the future to have special briefing sessions for our field staff members. As far as new field officers are concerned, they are always briefed before they embark on their mission with the main contents and objectives of the programme of action.

How does FAO help toward orienting Member Governments towards the objectives of WCARRD Programme of Action? Here, as I have mentioned in my introduction, we pursue this objective in various ways: firstly, the WCARRD follow-up missions, which are intended to review programmes and policies with the countries concerned, and suggest changes or recommend priority areas in terms of programmes and policies. Lastly, to help them, assist them, in formulating new style extra poverty-oriented projects within the context of the programme of action. Seven such missions have already been completed, and we are planning four such follow-up missions early next year. We have also sent special project formulation missions to formulate projects which will be of a catalytic nature. Also in our UNDP/FAO joint programming missions, in order to formulate projects at the country level for seeking funds from the UNDP, we are also participating with the view to formulating projects which are oriented towards the Programme of Action. Of course, one must recognize that at the country level implementation of the WCARRD Programme of Action remains the ultimate responsibility of the Member Governments, and international organizations like FAO can only stimulate, sensitize, persuade, with dialogue and discussions. It could demonstrate to new projects how poverty orientation can be incorporated in the programmes and projects, and this dialogue has to be a continuous process, time consuming at all levels through all types of contexts. Various countries necessarily differ in their approach and attitude in responding to the Programme of Action. We hope at the time of reporting in 1983, at the time of the next FAO Conference, we will know more about the way in which Member Governments have responded to the call of the Programme of Action of WCARRD.

Mr. Chairman, I have a specific question to answer, in reply to a question of the distinguished delegate of Colombia. The question was when is the date for the next intercountry consultation on extension and training in Latin America? This date is scheduled between 29 March and 4 April 1982 in Bogota, Colombia. Six countries from the region are to be invited to this meeting. Each country will be represented by two delegates. We hope that this type of activity would also be extended to other countries in the region in the future.



Lastly, Mr. Chairman, we are very happy to note the distinguished delegates endorsed support for the various suggestions for the follow-up activities of WCARRD, which we have enlisted on pages 8 to 10 in our document.

CHAIRMAN: I thank Dr. Islam very much for his excellent comments to the debate, and that brings us to the end of the debate on the follow-up to the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. Forty-eight countries participated in that debate, and we also had the benefit of contributions from four observers. Many delegates underlined the great importance rural development activities are having on the socio-economic development of people in rural areas. They stress the need to have rural development activities based on the aspirations of the people concerned.

Delegates also stressed that it will be important to motivate people to get fully involved in the rural development process, and to allow them to articulate their aspirations with regard to the shaping of the socio-economic and cultural environment.

The role of women in the rural development process has been regarded as of particular importance. Delegates also stressed the need to build up development countries own capacity to design and implement programmes in the field rural development and agrarian reform. That experience gained should in turn be made available to other developing countries. In this field there is certainly ample space and scope for international cooperation.

That distinguished delegates, brings us now to the end of the agenda of Commission II. What remains over the two days we still have at our disposal are the following matters: I would suggest that we take on the draft resolutions that are so far known to be handled by Commission II on Monday morning. These draft resolutions, three in number, deal with the World Food Day; secondly, a draft resolution moved by Mexico on the establishment of an international planned germ plasm bank of agricultural interest, under the custody of FAO, and during the debate this afternoon I was informed that a third resolution, a draft resolution, will be available on Monday on the subject of resources for food production and agricultural development. These three draft resolutions we have to deal with and debate on Monday, and conclude the debate on these draft resolutions. A conclusion is essential because on Tuesday, the last working day available to Commission II, we will have to approve the draft report that is being prepared now by the Drafting Committee. The draft report will have to go at the latest by Tuesday evening for further processing to the services concerned, with an aim to be submitted on Wednesday to the Plenary.

I have now outlined the work still ahead of us. I hope on Monday we can, in a refreshed manner, start the debate on the three draft resolutions, and I hope the debate on the approbation of the rapport of Commission II will be performed in a constructive spirit and expeditiously.

T. BAVIN (Observer for the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions and observer for the International Federation of Plantation, Agricultural and Allied Workers): As the representative of both ICFTU and IFPAAW at this Conference, I congratulate the Director-General on the manner in which in his address he outlined the Current situation and need for action by governments of the countries of both the developed and developing world if the position of the underprivileged is to receive that radical change which is necessary.

Few could disagree with this realistic assessment though some might feel that the degree to which the privileged sector of the countries of the developing world have a major responsibility in maintaining the status quo at the expense of the underprivileged, was understated as compared with his assessment of the responsibilities of governments of the developed world.

Even so, few could quarrel with his assessment of what is wrong as also the urgent need for change, particularly NGOs such as ICFTU and IFPAAW for whom I speak and who - over the past 30 years have been implementing programmes of assistance, education, training and project development in direct contact with the rural underprivileged in many countries of the developing world. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, the organization I have the privilege to represent welcome and support this masterful analysis of the current position which in our view in no way exaggerates the overall problem.

It is therefore with regret that I am compelled to express reservations on the proposed implementation as indicated to date of what now appears to be a major factor in the future FAO approach to these problems.

I am referring, Mr. Chairman, to the envisaged Programme for Peoples Participation in Rural Development Through the Promotion of Self-Help Organisations (PPP) which in our view, in relation to the rural impoverished, is hardly within the capacity of any inter-governmental, as distinct from tripartite organisation, to operate while safeguarding those international standards set by the ILO for which we, together with other representatives of the low income group, have been successful in establishing over the years since the formation of this the only tripartite organisation within the UN family.

Here, not only are there recognised departments which specialise in cooperating with governments, employers and workers' organisations but - much more important - the three groups participate in all phases of decision-making at international level, both in the annual Labour Conference and in the Governing Body while member governments which do not accept the standards set by majority decision face the risk of constant pressure if such standards are over blatantly ignored.

In such circumstances, many governments, even if not accepting such standards in their entirety, are hesitant in being openly opposed to allowing some degree of freedom of association to workers, both urban and rural, upon the development of which true and responsible pressure for change, necessary in so many countries, is dependent.

In short, Mr. Chairman, it is - in our view - only tripartite organisations which can compel governments to answer for policies of oppression upon free and representative organisations before an international forum which has agreed lines of conduct with which such policies are not in accord.

In contrast, the FAO remains regrettably an inter-governmental organisation although - like the ILO - it is dealing with such basic aspects as food and hunger which are of fundamental importance to all the peoples of the world.

Many of these people in countries where need is greatest are represented by governments which, in some instances, they have had no opportunity to elect nor would have elected if the choice were theirs.

All too often, such governments exist to protect the interests of the privileged, as is demonstrated in too many countries by the harassment of legitimate organisations where these, in a climate of almost continuing hostility, have been able to develop.

In others, and despite the limited degree of protection ensured by their government's membership of the ILO to which I have referred, they are still fighting for recognition and the right to service members whose needs need no elaboration here. Their difficulties have not been lessened by the enthusiastic acceptance by such governments of programmes of UN agencies aimed at community development and development of cooperatives which, carefully limited in size and "advised" by government nominees - in our view - have been and are being used to prevent the emergence of true and effective organisations capable of exerting legitimate pressure for necessary change.

Because the limitations of such an approach have been increasingly recognised it would appear that the FAO, possibly in conjunction with other agencies, are now seeking to move into "promotion" through governments of the type of organisations which these same governments to date have done all possible to discourage.

We welcome this new awareness but view with some alarm this new approach particularly in relation to the word "promotion". This alarm is accentuated by the fact that when this new approach was first discussed by the FAO Trade Unions Consultative Committee, we indicated that cooperation in such programme would be dependent on the following:

- a) That the overall activities would be advised by a joint committee of trade unionists and sponsoring agencies,
- b) that an assurance would be given that these donor agencies now funding programmes similar to those envisaged would not be drawn upon.

In our view such a committee would do much to prevent governments hostile to the development of free organisations using such fund, to develop government-controlled and sponsored organisations, thus further harassing those who for so long and at considerable personal risk have sought to build the free and responsible organisations to which I have referred, while b) would have prevented funds from donor agencies being used for countervailing purposes.

Unfortunately, although at first favourably received, we were later informed that it was not constitutionally possible to establish such a committee and that instead the Director-General would appoint a Committee of Experts for this purpose. Insofar as sponsoring agencies were concerned, such an assurance cannot be completely given.

This reply confirmed that the FAO as an inter-governmental organisation could not ensure that participation in overall supervision and advice which for NGOs in this field is basic to workers; cooperation in this sector in operations with the ILO. It also clearly revealed that as FAO projects must of necessity be run through and in conjunction with governments, the possibility of tripartite consultation rests and must rest upon will of the government concerned.

This of course is unacceptable in view of the degree to which both national and international organisations have participated in programmes in this sector run by our respective organisations in conjunction with the appropriate division of the ILO. It is also unacceptable that governments or an international agency such as the FAO should "encourage" development of such organisations in circumstances lacking the protection of internationally agreed standards as were referred to by the Director-General. How far the FAO has progressed in this direction is indicated by the Regional Centres being established in separate continents for implementation of this programme.

Understandably because of the limitations imposed upon an inter-governmental organisation, no provision is or can be made for participation by NGOs as a basic right in the deliberations of such centres. Instead, the decision as to whether such participation is possible, is permitted and by what organisation, will remain in the hands of governments concerned which in too many instances have already demonstrated their hostility to free associations.

Time is pressing and I cannot elaborate the many instances where this is so. I can however mention those instances where appointed military advisers have been placed - in certain countries - in supervision of what were once free trade unions.

I could also indicate the degree to which in other countries participation at regional level in what were originally free organisations, are now part of the party-political machine, not permitted to hold the international links which is their fundamental right.

Since many feel as we have been assured that because the FAO has claimed it is willing to hand over projects to organisations seeking its cooperation, the fears expressed above may appear exaggerated. However, IFPAAW has carried out projects worth 7 million dollars over the past seven years and has worked in complete harmony with governments which accept the basic ILO standards for their people..

We were, however, also assisting embryonic organisations through programmes of education, training, organising and projects in these "grey" areas where association with the new FAO approach would necessitate government involvement.

In such circumstances we note the omission of the Director-General of any positive reference to the role of international NGOs in page 8. of his statement relating to participation in development Here he states:..... "ideally, such organisations should be spontaneous, not sponsored from outside. In practice, some degree of encouragement may be necessary, and FAO in cooperation with governments is now in the early stages of a programme for this purpose". "Encouragement" is a strange word. How many of the millions of the world's refugees have received governments "encouragement" to adopt such status. We are confident that the Director-General was not using this word in that context but clearly it is governments who will finally determine what in their individual approach is the quotation given. In relation to this we can only reiterate the views expressed only a few weeks ago in Peru when these matters were discussed in a forum at which the FAO was by invitation represented as an observer. Here, delegates from IFPAAW affiliates in 9 countries expressed definite apprehension at any programme designed to assist them which must come from or through governments.

As their International we must hear and share these apprehensions. Hence the inability of both IFPAAW and ICFTU to participate in the envisaged programme at this time and in the absence of greater assurances in relation to the points raised above.

Instead this matter will remain open to be further considered at a joint meeting of representatives of both organisations when decisions appropriate to the majority decision of those represented will be taken 1/.

The meeting rose at 17.45 hours

La séance est levée à 17 h 45

Se levanta la sesión a las 17.45 horas

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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

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C 81/II/PV/17

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Twenty-first Session

Vingt et unième session

21° período de sesiones

COMMISSION II

COMMISSION II

COMMISSION II

SEVENTEENTH MEETING

DIX-SEPTIEME SEANCE

17ª SESION

(20 November 1981)

The Seventeenth Meeting was opened at 15.00 hours.

R. Steiner, Chairman of Commission II, presiding

La dix-septième séance est ouverte à 15 h 00 sous la présidence de

R. Steiner, Président de la Commission II

Se abre la 17ª sesión a las 15.00 horas bajo la presidencia de

R. Steiner, Presidente de la Comisión II

II. ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMES OF THE ORGANIZATION (continued)

II. ACTIVITES ET PROGRAMMES DE L'ORGANISATION (suite)

II. ACTIVIDADES Y PROGRAMAS DE LA ORGANIZACION (continuación)

13. Follow-up to WCARRD (continued)

13. Suite donnée à la CMRADR (suite)

13. Actividades complementarias de la CMRADR (continuación)

CHAIRMAN: I call the meeting to order and open the 17th meeting of Commission II. We continue the debate on the follow-up to the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development.

CAMELARIS (Cyprus): I shall not take up delegates time in explaining what we have been doing in Cyprus in the field of agrarian reform and rural development nor what are our major problems. I shall not comment either on the significance of agrarian reform and rural developments in the developing countries, particularly because we all agree that agrarian reform should be the basis and basic infrastructure towards a socialist, equitable and economically effective development process.

I shall limit myself to two practical points, aspects of agrarian reform development which involve the identification, and preparation of projects on the one side and the monetary evaluation of projects on the other side. I think in these two aspects Cyprus and I believe many other developing countries face difficulties and problems. The initiation of the development process through the proper identification and preparation of projects, and the establishment of priorities is a very important aspect in development. It is here where most of the developing countries do not have adequate expertise. It is here where FAO can be of very substantial help, not only directly participating in the identification and preparation of projects *per se*, but also in assisting developing countries to build up their own capacities so that they can undertake the job in the future and even be able to extend the same assistance, similar assistance, to other countries.

The other aspect which I consider of most importance is the evaluation, the monitoring and evaluation of the projects in agrarian reform and rural development. We specifically face this problem in Cyprus with respect to evaluation of our land conservation problem, and I have to say with pleasure we have already contacted the appropriate FAO authority, and I am pleased to say that the response was favourable and was positive in extending to us assistance in carrying out this job. So the FAO in monitoring and evaluation of projects in agrarian reform and rural development can be of profound assistance, again not only directly in carrying out the job, but also in assisting the countries to build up their own capacities, and be able in the future to undertake the job themselves or extend similar assistance to other countries. Thank you, Chairman.

H. OGUT (Turkey): My delegation has carefully examined the document on the work carried out by FAO with regard to the implementation of the 1979 Conference Resolution on the follow-up of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. I would like to make two comments. One on the resource situation, the other related to substantive issues. There is no doubt that the financial resources allocated in the FAO regular programme budget for rural development activities is not commensurate with the needs of the activities assigned to FAO by the WCARRD and by the aforementioned resolution as follow-up of the WCARRD programme of action. Also the fund allocated in the budget does not comply with the priorities given by the respective governments to their rural development programmes, following to the WCARRD and extrabudgetary sources for the follow-up activities to be carried out by national governments and FAO are very much needed. We now learn that the commitment and allocation to the extrabudgetary source foreseen by the last conference has been obtained from the donor countries and organizations at a level which has not met the ever-increasing requests for the programmes related to agrarian reform and rural development as follow-up of WCARRD. While admitting that the implementation of the rural development programmes identified by WCARRD for national action should be the responsibility of the governments, FAO's advocating role is of great help in the cases in which the countries need FAO's assistance in formulating and implementing their programmes. Also, FAO's role is of great importance to the implementation of the activities outlined by WCARRD for international action. Also, Mr. Chairman, it is not desirable to shelve a number of projects already prepared owing to the absence of FAO's assistance in finding the necessary funds for these projects. We, therefore, would like to invite the donor countries and organizations to increase their allocations to extrabudgetary fund foreseen in the follow-up of WCARRD.

Regarding the nature of the assistance provided by FAO as to the follow-up of WCARRD, my delegation is pleased to note the importance attached to the increasing involvement and participation of the rural population in both formulation and implementation of the programmes and the projects. This certainly improves the relevance, timeliness and composition of the input of the projects to current requirements restorative capacity and development potential of the rural sector. I would also like to mention that the work which has been done by FAO on the integration of women in development deserves special attention, and in this context we would like to congratulate FAO taking the leading role and positive activities among all the UN agencies, and reiterate the stand of my government that more resources should be devoted on the integration of rural women into rural development action programmes who, in most developing countries, constitute the majority of rural population and the rural labour force.

In conclusion I would like to express my delegation's views on the projects. Constantly there is need for launching quick yielding programmes. It is extremely important projects should be of practical nature, have manpower development as one of their primary objectives, taking into consideration the regional and country-wide employment situation and opportunities, and most of all their design should reflect very explicitly how these projects give positive effect to their intended beneficiaries.

Mme M. KASSE (Sénégal): Je ne reviendrai pas sur les mesures prises dans mon pays pour permettre l'accès des petits agriculteurs à la terre. En effet, une voix plus autorisée que la mienne, celle du Président Senghor, en avait parlé lors de la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural en 1979.

Je voudrais dire brièvement quelques mots sur la coordination au niveau national des activités de suivi de la CMRADR, en signalant que celle-ci sera faite par le CNASD (Comité national sénégalais pour l'alimentation et le développement). Cet organisme qui dépend du Ministère du développement rural comprend les représentants de tous les Ministères et ONG intéressés par le développement; c'est également le Comité national de la campagne mondiale contre la faim/action pour le développement de la FAO.

Nous estimons, en effet, que la participation populaire au développement ne peut se faire sans le soutien des ONG qui participent déjà à la CMRADR. Nous avons déjà eu, au Sahel, à apprécier sa juste valeur et en son temps l'intervention rapide, désintéressée des ONG et encourageons la FAO à continuer à améliorer ses relations avec ces organisations.

S'agissant de la participation des femmes au développement, sans entrer dans les détails, je signale que mon gouvernement a élaboré à cet égard un programme ambitieux qu'il a confié au Secrétariat d'Etat à la promotion humaine; ce Département comprend en son sein une direction de la condition féminine.

En conclusion, qu'il me soit permis, Monsieur le Président, de joindre ma voix à celle des orateurs qui m'ont précédée pour lancer un appel aux donateurs, afin qu'ils aident la FAO à atteindre l'objectif de 20 millions de dollars nécessaires à la réalisation des projets de suivi de la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et de développement rural.

G. IJIGU (Ethiopia): The delegation of Socialist Ethiopia would like to express its resounding congratulations to the Secretariat for the preparation of Document C 81/23, follow-up of WCARRD, which is an excellent piece of work. With equal admiration we congratulate Professor Nurul Islam for his matchless presentation of the introduction of the said document. Mr. Chairman, in our opinion, the contents as well as the goals and objectives embodied in the document are satisfactory to us in that they support our national objectives which were actually laid down several years ago and implementation of plans derived from them are in progress, albeit with too many constraints impinging upon them, and we shall cite the cardinal ones in a moment.

As the whole world knows, Socialist Ethiopia has successfully implemented over 7 years ago now redistribution within her confines. That was followed by the creation of institutions called Peasant Associations which today number over 25 000. Those associations forming the building blocks, culminated in the formation of the wholly Socio-Peasant Association, with the trunk of the pyramid made up of 14 provincial peasant associations. It is those associations that primarily distribute land and produce the bulk of food which is consumed domestically, and so on. From this bird's eye view of the rural panorama of Socialist Ethiopia, I believe you can see why we trust that the recommendations spelled out in the document under review, beginning from paragraph 4 all the way to paragraph 35 are amenable to our task of rural development after our agrarian reform which our revolutionary government is irrevocably committed to.

Mr. Chairman, we would have liked to have gone into further detail but since actual reports are expected as we approach the end of the biennium we shall confine our remarks to action in specific areas. In relation to mass participation, the 25 000 peasant associations I cited earlier embrace over 7 million family heads of farmers. This number in turn accounts for the livelihood of over 27 million people out of a population of about 31 and a half million. Access to land and other natural resources is there by right. In fact every item contained in paragraph 36.2 on page 8 of the Document C 81/3 has already been provided for as anyone can check our claim from the reports of various FAO missions which have visited Ethiopia and have made on the spot evaluation of what is happening in our rural areas. On the question of integration of women in the productive process, I am especially happy to state here that the rights of men and women have been, and are now, equal before the law throughout the recorded history of Ethiopia, which stretches over many thousands of years. So one may see we have very little or no problems integrating them.

Mr. Chairman, I had referred at the beginning of this statement that right at this time our perennial problems emanate from constraints which are massive. As an example, let me cite the case of the development of non-farm rural activities, which is also recommended in the document before us. Needless to say we lack the investments that are necessary to realize a big scale non-farm engagement on a self-generating basis of economic activity. We are in dire need of an expanding base of trained manpower that must be involved at all levels of our heightened economic activity, so that a rapid increase in food and agricultural production may be obtained as early as possible, during the United Nation's Third Development Decade which we examined only a few days ago.

I do not intend to take any more time explaining our experience and the present level of implementation of our agrarian reform and rural development. Suffice it that we assure the Conference that Socialist Ethiopia will proceed with rural development no matter what the constraints. I would like to wind up at this point by restating here what my Minister of Agriculture has already put before the Conference in the Plenary, and it is highly relevant in relation to the document we are now examining. "We strongly urge the Conference to adopt a resolution which would enable WCARRD follow-up work to include adequate measures for the realization of a trained manpower base and for the creation of at least some critical infrastructures, especially in low-income, food-deficit countries so that tangible results may be obtained in such countries quicker."

Finally, we would like to conclude by urging this august Commission, and through it the Conference, that if the collective urge that has given birth to the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development is a matter which is supported by a collective will to conquer hunger, malnutrition and poverty in general, then my delegation assures you that Socialist Ethiopia will put to the best possible use of all assistance that the collective good will of the world community may make available to us in our ceaseless efforts to transform our rural areas and rid our people from all forms of want. The trust which donor countries, bilaterally or multilaterally, have placed in our people is bearing sweet fruits because cooperativization which our agrarian reform has made possible is helping millions of our people earn a better livelihood. So, Mr. Chairman, assuming that natural hazards like droughts do not impede our progress, we expect to be able to report much greater achievements.

D.R. SHARMA (Nepal): My delegation would like to express its appreciation to Professor Islam for comprehensive introduction of the subject. We have gone through the document C 81/23 prepared by the Secretariat to report on the follow-up of Action Plans recommended by the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. We find the document comprehensive and well prepared. There have been organizational rearrangements and orientation of FAO activities towards WCARRD Plan of Action. Actions have been taken or are being taken at the country level. Nepal invited two WCARRD missions; one was a policy mission and the other was a project formulation mission. The mission on project formulation has prepared six project proposals for implementation and these are submitted to FAO for funding.

Mr. Chairman, as a support to WCARRD Plan of Action Nepal has established a separate Ministry to look after and coordinate rural development activities. For policy decisions and coordination, a high level ministerial committee under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister was established about three months ago. In our integrated rural development projects and local development programmes, participation of local people in all stages of project implementation is given high priority, both from the point of policy and institutional arrangements.

My delegation has reviewed carefully the summary of major issues presented by the Secretariat in the document. We agree that there is a need to reiterate and remind ourselves of the commitment we made during WCARRD meeting. These commitments involve not only institutional improvements and structural reforms but also a greater level of resources mobilization.

Mobilization of about 9.3 million dollars of resources as against the stipulated amount of 20 million dollars called for by Resolution 7/79 cannot be said to be very encouraging.

If additional resources are not made available, Mr. Chairman, the initial enthusiasm and awareness shown to carry out WCARRD Plan of Action will be difficult to sustain at international as well as at country level. Then the WCARRD Plan also will remain as one of the international rhetorics towards rural poor.

In regard to regional coordination and consultation the role played by the FAO Regional Office, Bangkok, deserves commendation. They organized two government consultations and one NGO consultation. Nepal participated in these consultations and we find them useful and productive and we feel those should be continued.

Reference is made in the document to the activities of CIRDAP. Nepal is a member of CIRDAP and we actively participated. We strongly feel that CIRDAP can make a significant contribution in the follow-up of WCARRD in the Region by stimulating ECDC and TCDC spirit in rural development. We should like to see that CIRDAP become more and more activated and exhibit more dynamism and provide articulate and imaginative leadership in rural development in Asia and the Pacific. We also would like to see more member countries join the CIRDAP.

O.B. SELIKANE (Lesotho): To help farmers escape from the misery of traditional farming we need to delineate and interpret the origins and dynamics of poverty and to identify the means by which it can be dealt with. Such analysis should be done against a background of historical events, including the economic destruction of traditional societies through market forces. Rural poverty should also be analyzed in the framework of marginality rather than traditional culture.

In the international economic system, agricultural commodities and rural materials are exported from developing countries to the developed countries. Industrial products are exported by developed countries to the developing world. In this process disparities in the welfare of rural people between the developed and developing countries continue to intensify. Developing countries have now become net importers rather than net exporters of food since differences in output per hectare and in output per worker between the Western and developing countries widen yearly whilst the population growth rate of the latter exceeds its production growth.

A practical question to ask is why, despite expensive technical assistance programmes by the international aid agencies, developing countries still fail to produce enough food for themselves and generate sufficient income. In my view, the crux of the matter resides in the fact that some developing countries are typified by socio-political structures described in terms of class alliances between traditional landed elites and foreign capital.

The rural development programmes recommended to us by some exogenous NGO advisors and decision makers compel farmers to lose control of the means of production because of their inability to withstand competitive pressure originating from the commercial sector, the money and traditional landed elites who like to maintain the internal status quo. The dominating elites monopolize institutional services through institutional control. Given an environment of this type, farmers apply strict individual rationality which leads them to mining the land and increasing family size in order to face poverty, and poverty thus leads to even more poverty. Thus the vicious circle continues unabated.

We contend that people must be given political power, freedom to air their views without fear of repression and the power to restructure their own society so that part of power, income and assets can be offered to the marginals. In fact, it is our view that unless there is an equitable distribution of food, income and power among inhabitants of developing countries no agricultural, let alone economic, modernization will be witnessed in such countries. Rural people must wield power to design overall programmes and policy strategies rather than a set of isolated projects.

That land reform and rural developments are essential to the generation of productive growth is an acceptable premise. However, we contend that an agrarian or land tenure system in which the basic unit of production is the family farm, owned and operated by the farmer-cultivator, represents the only sound foundation for social equality and political stability.



We fully agree with WCARRD in regard to placing major programme priority on land tenure, marketing, extension and credit institutions that stress popular participation at all levels, including participation in programme monitoring and evaluation. Empirical evidence is available which reveals that agrarian structure consisting of small owner-cultivator family farms can be viable, reasonably efficient and capable of sustaining rapid upward shifts in production functions.

The assumption that there are two optimum tenure systems is absolutely unacceptable to us. Each and every country has its own concept of suitable land tenure changes in institutions. I honestly do not believe that developing countries need to be told what systems may be appropriate for them. Perhaps they may wish to call upon some informed guidance from some suitably qualified tenure expert who will be subject to correction if he follows a wrong path. Hence the prospective expert will have to understand, be willing to accept and be guided by the normative judgments of governments seeking his help.

Some of us have been advised by NGO's to introduce leasehold arrangements into our tenure systems. A leasehold arrangement may give rise to tenure systems which discourage the evolution of more labor intensive systems of crop and livestock production. Such an arrangement will exacerbate the labour absorption problem.

Certainly, as the developing countries undertake the transformation leading to modernization, the share of economic resources devoted to marketing agricultural commodities increases because of the increase in the volume in food moving through marketing channels and the flow of imports to production units. Whether it is technically possible, economically feasible, or socially acceptable to replace existing marketing systems with marketing boards, farmer marketing cooperatives ought to leave the performance of marketing functions in the hands of private people as a matter to be decided by individual governments in developing countries.

Evidential material exists however which shows that middlemen do not necessarily earn higher marketing margins in all developing countries. A government may either opt to let primary, secondary and federal cooperatives market all domestically produced agricultural commodities or allow private traders to buy and sell such products, subject to close governmental supervision.

In situations where local cooperatives are assigned the marketing responsibilities, it is imperative that the cooperative, with government assistance, train their own local marketing personnel. Here I do not refer only to cadres like salesmen, product promoters, financial managers, commercial managers and so on but to the operators of processing machines and equipment as well as mechanics who will ensure that machines are always in prime running condition.

The sequencing of marketing with other development activity is often ignored in rural development programmes. Market information dissemination is another area which does not receive adequate attention locally. This information can best be collected by indigenous people who receive training in both local marketing and international agricultural marketing. They will help open up new markets in foreign countries, negotiate sales, arrange shipments and penetrate overseas markets through demand promotion.

If farmers are to employ the new biological and chemical inputs, they must have confidence that they will be available in sufficient quantities at the right time, in the right form and at the time when they are needed. Whenever possible, extreme input price distortions and differentials must be avoided to permit reliable planning decisions.

To sum up, we thank Professor Islam for his introduction to the follow-up on WCARRD. We appreciate the work of the secretariat in producing the document we have before us and FAO cooperation with NGO on agrarian reform and rural development. We are grateful to FAO for establishing regional development centres in Asia and Africa. We endorse Resolution 7/79 which calls for direct financial support for the implementation of the Programme of Action through the contribution of extra-budgetary resources of a minimum of \$20 million in 1980-85.

Our support for the important role which women can play in rural development is demonstrated by the establishment of the role of women which, among other things, examines the nutritional problems of the rural poor in Lesotho. My government will report on progress in rural development arising from the implementation of our agrarian reform and rural development programmes to the 22nd conference.

In universities there exists a tremendous body of knowledge about agriculture and what can be done to remove constraints in development. I would suggest to governments of developing countries that they request their planning departments to try to lay their hands on published theses written by students from developing countries, especially those that deal with topics of agricultural importance.

KYO-BUN KIM (Korea, Republic of): The delegation of the Republic of Korea appreciates the FAO's efforts successfully to implement the follow-up of WCARRD and also thanks Dr. Islam very much for his comprehensive and excellent introduction of this subject.

I should like to take this opportunity briefly to introduce my country's past experience, present problems and future policy framework for integrated rural development. My country is now facing the problem of reorganising the agrarian structure, readjusting its resources allocation for optimum use of scarce resources and redirecting its agrarian policy in order to adapt itself more effectively to the rapidly changing socio-economic environment of an open economy. My government is now in the process of formulating and implementing our own new national development strategy for growth with equity and thus the new Programme for Integrated Rural Income and Welfare Development will take concrete shape soon.

The main purpose of the programme is to protect, stabilize and enhance the farmer's income as well as to make his life healthy and rich on the basis of his full participation in the process of development and in its benefits. Regional specialisation in crop production, promotion of small-scale livestock breeding, development of non-farm income sources and better living activities will become major components of the programme.

We expect to be able to implement the programme successfully and fruitfully largely because of the interaction of our past achievements, accumulated technical know-how and experience gained in the agricultural and rural sectors in Korea. The first of these socio-economic and technical factors is the early implementation of land reform in the 1950's. The accelerated development of the agricultural cooperative movement is a second factor and the third is our nationwide programme, "Saemaul Undong", which is the Korean version of integrated rural development.

Land reform in Korea has played a key role in laying a sound foundation for continued growth and development with equity in the past two decades and in the future. On the basis of the homogeneity of farmland holdings and farming patterns established by the land reform, agricultural cooperatives in Korea have developed rapidly and successfully as the multi-purpose type. From the successful development of this type of cooperative come most of our rural development efforts: an adequate supply of modern farm inputs and production loans, marketing of agricultural products and the integration of women in development. All these have been realized effectively and fruitfully.

We know from past experience, however, that rural development cannot be achieved simply by implementing land reform or simply by organizing agricultural cooperatives in rural areas or simply by directing the maximum flow of resources into rural communities without the positive and active participation of the rural people.

One of the most important things is learning how to ignite people's zeal, how to motivate rural people and how to encourage them to cooperate and to participate actively in the development process. Our "Saemaul Undong" is the Korean method of meeting these requirements. The ultimate goal of this movement is a comprehensive and integrated development which includes a substantial improvement in the socio-economic and physical environment and living conditions in rural areas, an increase in farm income and an increase in the morale and desire for self-help on the part of the farmers at grass-roots level. We believe that the rich experiences of our country, which I have outlined, may be relevant to other developing countries. We are also ready to cooperate with all those who want our experiences under the FAO's initiative.

M. BUENO GOMEZ (España): La delegación española se une a las manifestaciones de felicitación hacia la Secretaría, expresadas por las delegaciones que nos han precedido. Siguiendo las recomendaciones de la Conferencia Mundial sobre Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural, nuestro Gobierno viene intensificando desde entonces, las acciones de cooperación en estas materias, tanto de forma bilateral con países de nuestro contexto cultural como a través de organizaciones internacionales.

A pesar de la delicada situación económica por la que atravesamos, consecuencia entre otras razones de la enorme factura que hemos de pagar cada año por la importación de crudos de petróleo, a pesar de ello repito, estamos actualmente intercambiando experiencias en materia de reforma agraria y desarrollo rural, en programas concretos de seis países hermanos de América Latina.

Las experiencias en sus aspectos, tanto positivos como negativos, en materias tales como transformación de regadío, tratamiento del minifundio a través de la concentración parcelaria y de la agricultura de grupo, asentamientos humanos, programas de desarrollo rural integrado, formación de cuadros, etc..., se están adaptando ya a las condiciones específicas de aquellos países.

Finalmente, nuestra delegación considera acertada la sugerencia expresada en el párrafo 20 del documento C 81/23, en el sentido de que en los programas de las conferencias regionales a celebrar en 1982, se incluya un tema sobre las actividades complementarias de la Conferencia Mundial de Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural, haciendo si fuera posible referenda expresa al aspecto de los indicadores que permitan comparar el impacto de las diferentes medidas adoptadas en los programas de reforma y desarrollo agrario, en los diferentes países.

WANG SHOU RU (China) (original language - Chinese): I should like to thank Dr. Islam for his excellent introduction. Two years have elapsed since the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. In that time the spirit of the declaration of the principles and Programme of Action adopted by the conference has gained a better understanding and greater support by the international community. Energetic action has been taken to follow up the conference. Many developing countries, starting from their actual circumstances at home, have done quite a lot of work in carrying out agrarian reform and rural development. In this respect, it should be pointed out that FAO has done a great deal of work to help some of the developing countries to lay down a strategy and programme of rural development, helping them to expand and strengthen their education, training and popularization work. All of these things have been beneficial to the rural development of the developing countries.

Whilst experience shows that agrarian reform and rural development must be carried out in conformity with the spirit of the declaration of principles and Programme of Action of the conference and should be based on self-reliance at national level, the support and help of the international community should not be neglected. FAO possesses the technology necessary for accomplishing this international task. It has always made efforts towards raising funds and introducing foreign investment toward rural development. We hope that FAO will continue to play this role when establishing its future policy of action. We hope it will provide technical and financial aid to help the developing countries to promote agrarian reform and rural development so that small farmers in their hundreds of millions will be able gradually to eradicate poverty and hunger.

We also hope that FAO will continue to organize between various countries the exchange of experience on structural reform and comprehensive development of rural areas. For instance, along with the socialization of agricultural production and the commercialization of agricultural products, the relationship between agriculture and rural industry and commerce has become ever more close.

The trend of comprehensive development in agriculture, industry and commerce has taken shape in certain parts of the rural areas. This will no doubt affect the agrarian reform and rural development of different countries.

We hope that the work of organizations and the exchange of information experienced in this domain will be included into the projects for future action.

J.P. WARNIMONT (Belgique): La délégation beige s'associe aux félicitations déjà exprimées par les autres délégations et souhaite ajouter seulement quelques idées à la discussion sur la suite donnée à la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural.

Notre intervention sera brève et se limitera aux priorités que nous voudrions voir accentuer dans le cadre des actions à mener, afin de mettre sur pied une meilleure stratégie de développement rural.

On constate depuis longtemps un exode rural vers les grandes villes. Les causes en sont connues, et cet exode s'accroît de plus en plus, et les problèmes autant. Il nous paraît que le seul remède se trouve dans une amélioration des conditions de vie dans les zones rurales. Pour y arriver, il faut que la vie en zone rurale devienne attrayante, c'est-à-dire que le paysan puisse y retrouver les mêmes facilités et les perspectives d'avenir qui lui rendraient la vie urbaine moins attrayante. Dans cette optique, nous voudrions insister sur une stratégie de développement rural axée sur une action intégrée et multisectorielle qui viserait en quelque sorte l'urbanisation rurale dans le sens de doter les zones rurales des infrastructures et des structures les plus nécessaires. Nous ne voulons pas soulever de nouveau le problème de la politique des prix agricoles ici, quoique ce problème reste quand même une condition préalable et essentielle à tout développement rural.

D'autre part, afin de permettre au paysan de pouvoir compter avec les ressources élémentaires de production, nous sommes d'avis que la réforme agraire peut jouer un rôle prépondérant. Mais pour pouvoir exécuter cette réforme avec efficacité et justice, une série d'études et d'informations sont primordiales avant toute application; ces informations se réfèrent à la disponibilité des terres cultivables, au recensement des personnes qui les travaillent et de ceux qui en sont propriétaires. Nous sommes convaincus que dans ce cadre la FAO a un rôle très important à jouer, notamment comme appui logistique aux gouvernements intéressés qui restent d'ailleurs les seuls maîtres de l'exécution.

Le rôle de la FAO se trouverait alors dans l'appui aux services de cadastre rural et de la cartographie des ressources, et nous voulons insister sur le renforcement des directions de la FAO qui s'occupent précisément de ces activités, sans oublier que l'axe principal de tout développement reste l'homme et que sa participation directe est une évidence en dehors de toute discussion.

ANBOOL (Yemen, People's Dem. Rep. of) (Original Language Arabic): The delegation of Yemen wishes to compliment Dr. Nurul Islam on Document 81/23 which deals with the follow-up to the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development held in 1979. In this context Mr. Chairman, I can assure you that my country's delegation gives its wholehearted support to the terms of this document. Agrarian reform indeed has been playing a key role in our country since 1970. We have cooperatives and we, in this way, are providing the necessary inputs. This is being done in order to improve the situation in rural areas. Our 5-year Plan, 1980/85 includes rural development projects, many rural development projects indeed which are funded internationally. This illustrates the importance we give to this aspect of development, and this is why we ask the donor countries to play a role in enabling us to reach a total of \$20 million. This would enable our Organization to abide by the resolution of that conference and ensure the welfare of farmers in developing countries.

S.V. HAGEN (Norway): The joint statement from the Nordic countries this morning centred around the issue of participation of all groups of people which is essential for rural development to take place. My delegation would like to make a few further comments to this general point relating to the continued need to pay specific attention to women in all groups. This has, as you know Mr. Chairman, been of particular concern to all the Nordic countries for several years. The reason is that for still some time to come we can expect that development efforts will often have differential impacts on women and men. This is of importance Mr. Chairman, not only to women themselves but also in relation to their responsibility to raising and nurturing children and catering for other family members.

Furthermore they represent a great reservoir for the skills and experiences geared to maximum utilization of available resources which must be preserved and taken into full account.

We would like to congratulate FAO for the able and rapid way in which the Organization has managed to incorporate considerations of women in many parts of the Organization. We indeed find it encouraging that an issue, which only a few years ago was mainly ignored, or at best given token interest by the Organization as a whole as well as by most member states, now begins to get a firmer footing in the Organization. Many member states will already be aware of the enormity and able work carried out in FAO and the influence that this is beginning to have in others.

We are greatly looking forward to the forthcoming paper on women in the WCARRD follow-up that FAO is preparing for the next meeting in the Committee on Agriculture. In the preparation of this document we hope that FAO will lay emphasis not only on the need to prepare specific projects for women but that mechanics will be developed whereby all development projects will eventually give considerations to the specific needs and interests of women as producers and otherwise already at the initial steps of project formulation.

We would also like to emphasise that women should be considered not only in relation to traditional agriculture, which of course continues to be important, but also in connection with cash crop production. This however Mr. Chairman must be done in ways whereby women will be more centrally involved in the planning of such production, including setting the priorities for types of production and ensuring that they will directly benefit from the income of it. To this end the approaches to agricultural extension may have to be considerably reoriented in many cases.

Finally Mr. Chairman, and in line with the Nordic countries' earlier emphasis of people's participation, we think that a greater understanding and emphasis on women's real participation at all levels will bring new insights in the conditions for realising peoples' participation in general.

K.GADIS (Grèce): Je me contenterai de n'aborder que trois points dans mon intervention. Le premier se réfère aux buts du suivi de la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural. Si on se trouve devant un choix et si parfois on doit choisir entre les effets à court terme de la réforme agraire et ceux à long terme, nous croyons que les buts de la réforme agraire et du développement rural s'adaptent mieux à une perspective de long terme.

Il y a des programmes d'aide alimentaire, il y a d'autres mécanismes au sein de la FAO et des organisations connexes pour remédier à court terme aux pertes, dégâts ou désavantages naturels.

Les oeuvres d'infrastructure et la solidification de la situation agraire mondiale ainsi que l'accélération stable du rythme de développement rural c'est à dire une vision à long terme, doivent constituer les préoccupations primordiales du suivi de la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural, auxquelles ma délégation attache une signification toute particulière.

Le deuxième volet de mon intervention porte sur les relations entre les agents nationaux et internationaux. Tout d'abord, je voudrais rendre hommage à l'invitation du Programme d'action de la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural à tous les gouvernements de formuler leur propre stratégie de développement rural. Et comme c'est le cas dans la coopération inter-institutions, une coopération étroite entre les agents nationaux, internationaux, sera fructueuse, constructive et beaucoup plus efficace.

Le troisième point que je voudrais mentionner concerne l'importance accrue et au jour le jour indispensable du renforcement des structures juridiques pour l'accomplissement des buts de la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural.

Enfin, parmi les mesures du Programme d'action prises dans des domaines précis, je ne manquerai pas de mettre l'accent sur l'éducation, la formation et la vulgarisation dont l'importance va sans dire.

A.M. IBRAHIM (Sudan) (Original language Arabic): I want to thank you and also the Secretariat for having so well prepared this document C 81/23. This document, Sir, describes the follow-up of the WCARRD conference. The Sudan delegation scrutinised this document in depth and we note with great satisfaction the efforts deployed by the Organization in this area where we really are at the forefront. This involves all measures taken on national, international and regional planes. We hope that this will make it possible for all the developing and developed countries to assume their roles when they are due to set up in this vital area.

The Sudan delegation does not need to assure you that rural development is the result of the social and economic development of a country where the target is the raising of the general standard of living in an equitable manner to all. This then also percolates to all parts that are under scrutiny in this gathering and in international fora. We need a positive volition, we need the efforts of all in order to accept and assume this role and to reach these lofty targets. Here the Sudan delegation wishes to spur you on further to adopt all measures in the rural areas involving everyone concerned and we also would wish that developed countries should raise their contributions as soon as possible because this is the very basis for the implementation of the measures and targets described in this document. We feel that the follow-up of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development is a basis for all further regional conferences, particularly for all further seminars that might be organised and all pilot surveys that should be pursued with a view to further general action.

We are satisfied with the setting up of regional centres and we would want other regional centres to follow this example, that they may be crowned with the success they would wish. All countries who have not joined in should follow suit as soon as possible. Agricultural development is in actual fact the very basis of all that must be done in the rural sector, of course. In this area we need financial and technical support and this can be done by coordinating within the confines of international organisations, so as to implement the resolutions which national, regional and international bodies have adopted.

We would also want backward regions to be involved in this and the general basis of services provided should be further broadened.

The Sudan delegation supports all suggestions and proposals contained in the document, particularly the ones referring to funding. We also support the Indian proposal of raising direct funding so as to implement the programme of action.

H. POPP (Suisse) (Langue originale allemande): Ma délégation appuie tous les efforts allant dans le sens de la réforme agraire. Elle félicite en particulier les pays qui, dans le domaine de la réforme agraire et autres formes institutionnelles, ont apporté et apportent leur propre contribution pour améliorer les conditions de vie dans les zones rurales, pour augmenter la justice et pour assurer le progrès social.

Nous souhaitons que la FAO, ainsi que d'autres organisations internationales, appuie de tels efforts chaque fois qu'elle le peut et là où elle le peut; qu'elle considère que les réformes institutionnelles sont une condition préalable à l'aide qu'elle apportera et qu'elle exige que de telles réformes aient lieu avant de fournir une aide.

Nous savons tous que la lutte contre la faim est un problème qui présente de nombreux aspects. Nous appuyons les délégations qui ont exprimé l'avis qu'à plus long terme seule une stratégie multidimensionnelle conduira au résultat recherché et que c'est là une condition préalable, indispensable au succès.

Dans cette stratégie multidimensionnelle certains éléments méritent selon nous une attention particulière.

Il y a tout d'abord les mesures destinées à augmenter la production alimentaire, particulièrement dans le sens de l'autosuffisance, et de l'autoapprovisionnement si possible.

Il y a ensuite la politique démographique, c'est-à-dire des mesures concrètes pour réduire la croissance démographique dans les pays où le rapport entre la population et les ressources est précaire. Nous estimons qu'à ce dernier point, dans le cadre des stratégies, on a accordé trop peu d'importance.

Enfin, Monsieur le Président, je peux affirmer que les pays qui entreprendront des efforts dans ce sens, dans le cadre de notre aide bilatérale, pourront compter sur l'appui que nous pourrons leur apporter.

CHAIRMAN: The President of the International Federation of Plantation, Agricultural and Allied Workers has passed to the Chair a written statement and has asked for it to be included in the verbatim. We will act accordingly.

Ms. S.M. MAIER (Netherlands): My delegation is very happy to see how much has been done since the WCARRD was held in July 1979. The follow-up activities can be recognised in many of the conference documents before us.

In the document on regional and national development strategies for instance, which recommends policies for the 1980s, it can be found as well.

The thread of the recommendations of WCARRD is really being interwoven not only throughout FAO's programme, but also in the UN system as a whole. The moment has been reached at which we can truly state that the WCARRD conference has proved to be very successful.

The international developments since 1979 have only reconfirmed the Tightness of WCARRD's approach.

The concept of national food strategies, which was reintroduced in the last few years, encloses many elements of the WCARRD action programme.

We have always seen the development of national food strategies within the context of rural development. The improvement of national food production has to be realized first and foremost by the small farmer. The increased food production at all costs is not an end in itself.

It has to go hand-in-hand with more employment and the generation of income, thus leading to the creation of an effective demand.

It is remarkable to see how strongly the question of rural energy has come up since the adoption of the programme of action of WCARRD. It only implicitly deals with it. We are glad to note that FAO has immediately picked up this question, which is now even more highlighted as a consequence of the recent conference on New and Renewable Resources of Energy.

The FAO will certainly not have had an easy job when it started reorienting the organization in the direction of the WCARRD. We feel that time and experience will enable a clearer definition of work programmes and division of responsibility, thus making frequent and lengthy discussions more and more redundant. It is certainly encouraging to read in the documents that most projects could be modified to have greater effect and impact on poverty alleviation and equity.

The ACC Task Force on rural development has selected three major areas of focus for the coming years; one is joint action at country and regional levels; two is promoting people's participation in rural development; three is monitoring and evaluation.

The concerns of rural women are to be integrated in all three major areas of work.

Action at the national level needs in our opinion more attention than action at the regional level.

It goes without saying that the national governments are the ones who can draw up policies benefitting the local level. This could certainly usefully be complemented by action on the regional level, but the creation of heavy regional structures would carry the inherent risk of removing the problem from the rural areas where they must be solved. The regional level is further removed from the local level at which the rural development efforts are eventually directed.

The people's participation programme is still a relatively modest programme which has to be geared towards felt needs instead of observed needs.

Of course, the same principle of felt needs applies to the attention given to the concerns of rural women. This element should be integrated within the people's participation programme as well as in all other FAO programmes. It is an established policy of our governments to consider every programme or project proposal in the light of the way it takes into account the effects on the position of women. We ask agencies to do the same before submitting a proposal to us for possible funding.

The people's participation programme calls for involvement of non-governmental organizations. FAO has already established contacts with international NGOs, and the NGOs from their side respond very positively to these contacts. We are happy to note that separate meetings have taken place in the past years with ngo's, international trade unions and within the framework of the Freedom From Hunger Campaign.

These are all positive developments and we hope that all concerned will be able to mobilise the assistance of the local voluntary ngo's. The local farmers', workers' and women's organizations can eventually best interpret the felt needs.

The national machineries for the advancement of women of course have a clear role in the formulation of specific programmes for poor rural women in close cooperation with NGOs. Participation would mean the involvement of the local rural organizations in the identification, formulation and execution of projects.

Wherever such activities can be linked with or imbedded in already existing activities, like for instance the farm water management programme, this should be done, thus having the best chance of taking root.

FAO's orientation towards rural development includes an orientation towards a small-scale approach. Large projects can also be built up out of many smaller projects.

Having taken the lead in the process of agrarian reform and rural development, FAO could increasingly start serving as a kind of clearing house for projects by comparing them with the recommendations of WCARRD. FAO could become a clearing house for all rural development projects, whether bilaterally executed, or multi-bilaterally executed or when so desired executed by a non-governmental organization.

An orientation towards small-scale projects bring with it a larger work burden for FAO headquarters and FAO field structures. We feel that by taking up a kind of clearing house function the effects on FAO's workload could be kept within reasonable limits.

We can only commend the FAO and the developing countries concerned for the way in which national monitoring and evaluation systems are being set up. This will enable us to assess at the next conference where we all stand in trying to give an effective follow-up to WCARRD. The setting up of such systems bears witness of a courageous undertaking and a firm commitment to realize WCARRD action programmes.

N. DIMITRIU (Roumanie): La Conférence mondiale pour la réforme agraire et le développement rural a adopté en juillet 1979 un programme d'action pratique voué à contribuer effectivement à la solution des problèmes auxquels sont confrontés les pays en développement dans le domaine de l'agriculture et de l'alimentation.

Ma délégation remercie M. le Professeur N. Islam pour sa brillante introduction et ses décisions ont été considérées par la Conférence elle-même comme contribuant directement aux efforts visant à l'instauration d'un nouvel ordre économique international et s'inscrivant dans la stratégie générale du développement. Plus de deux années se sont écoulées depuis cette réunion de grande ampleur et les résultats ont commencé à se faire sentir sous différentes formes, positives en général.

Examinant les documents C 81/7-COAG, CL 79/9 et C 81/23, nous pouvons affiner avec satisfaction que le programme d'action adopté lors de la Conférence mondiale pour la réforme agraire et le développement rural est soutenu par la FAO, qui, compte tenu de celui-ci, a réorienté son propre programme pour secourir avant tout les pays les plus pauvres.

La délégation roumaine se déclare d'accord avec les constatations et les recommandations faites et insiste en même temps pour qu'on prenne en considération les propositions faites par notre pays lors de la Conférence mondiale, relativement au développement de la production agricole et des capacités propres à la formation de personnels professionnels et techniques pour tous les secteurs de l'agriculture et de l'élevage, à la participation directe des organisations internationales, à la réalisation de projets de développement agricole et rural dans les pays en développement pour écarter les barrières et les discriminations pouvant exister dans le commerce et la coopération économique internationale.

En ce qui nous concerne, nous militerons aussi à l'avenir pour que les problèmes complexes du monde contemporain, ayant de profondes implications dans l'évolution de l'humanité, dans la cause du progrès, de la collaboration et de la paix dans le monde, puissent trouver une solution concrète dans le contexte d'un nouvel ordre économique international qui permette d'assurer l'essor indépendant de chaque nation pour le bien-être des hommes du monde entier.

Ma délégation soutient toutes les recommandations présentées dans les documents examinés.

J.C. McCOLL (Australia): The Australian delegation wishes to indicate strong support in both principle and practice for the programme of action adopted by WCARRD. Referring specifically to the Document C 81/23, and in particular to the items 1 to 9 on pages 8 and 9, which address the major issues, we would like to provide the following comments:

With regard to items 1-3 inclusive, the recommendations in part 1 of the Programme of Action are addressed to national governments of developing countries, and we consider that the overt acknowledgment by developing countries of their vital and essential responsibilities in the fields of agriculture and rural development is of considerable importance, and this has been underlined today by a number of delegations. There is no substitute for sound domestic policies to ensure effective agricultural and rural development. National policies on pricing, land reform, taxation, institute building, etc., are at least as important in influencing economic and social development as the total flow of resources to a particular country. Australia, therefore, supports the Secretariat's recommendations to the Conference under these items.

With regard to item 4, we support continued regional follow-up consultations, and we believe that the regional rural development centres mentioned in item 5 have distinct potential, particularly with regard to activities for research, training, information, dissemination and other aspects pertaining to rural development. They can be a very useful mechanism for further developing the concept of TCDC, and thereby improving the level of self-reliance amongst developing countries.

Item 6, Australia considers the involvement of NGOs in WCARRD follow-up would have a very positive effect, particularly with regard to promoting people's participation.

Concerning finance mentioned in item 7, we recognise the inevitability of the Conference calling on agencies of the UN system and bilateral donors to contribute more resources. As far as Australia is concerned, we have directed a high proportion of our bilateral aid to supporting agricultural and integrated rural development projects. Aid to sectors exclusively related to rural development, such as agriculture, flood control, land settlement, etc. constitutes 30 per cent approximately of our total project aid. Assistance ranges from agricultural orientated research and development through integrated rural development projects, cooperative management training, to storage, food handling and marketing projects. Projects within other sector areas which have substantial linkages with rural development, for example, electricity, water supply and transport, constitute a further 40 per cent of the programme. We have particularly



emphasized the training component with a range of short courses aimed at supporting rural development. We support the Secretariat's suggestion in item 8 on the need for greater interagency cooperation and, finally, concerning future action referred to in item 9, we consider that when assessing the degree of adequacy and direction of follow-up FAO should continue to emphasise its technical expertise and competence in regard to agro-technological factors. Naturally within the wider context of the WCARRD approach, recognizing that increasing the role of production base, and people capability, is an essential prerequisite for self-sustained rural development.

F. D'ALMEIDA (Bénin): La délégation du Bénin soutient fermement les principes des programmes d'action des recommandations et toutes les résolutions proposées par le Secrétariat.

Je voudrais profiter aussi de l'occasion pour remercier le Directeur général et la FAO pour l'attention toute particulière qu'ils ont accordée au Bénin en lui envoyant une mission dans le cadre du suivi de la Réforme agraire pour le développement rural. A l'issue de cette mission, une enquête rurale sera financée et demandée à la FAO et elle sera suivie par la FAO. Cette enquête rurale doit nous permettre de connaître la situation exacte de notre agriculture, à savoir la taille, la forme et la dimension des fermes et des unités de production. Comme vous le savez, le problème de l'alimentation et de la nutrition est prépondérant au niveau de l'Afrique. Un certain nombre d'accès sont contenus dans le cadre de la réforme agraire. Il s'agit en particulier de l'accès à l'eau, de l'accès à la terre et de l'accès aux intrants. Nous pensons que, compte tenu de la situation que nous vivons actuellement, étant données les variations d'intempéries, un accent particulier doit être mis sur l'irrigation, l'accès à l'eau afin que les paysans disposent de façon permanente de l'eau et que malgré les intempéries le manque de pluies, on puisse accéder à une meilleure production.

Nous mettons aussi un accent particulier sur l'accès d'intrants et tout spécialement sur l'accès des engrais. C'est pourquoi nous demandons qu'au niveau de la FAO le Programme Engrais soit repris et revu car, dans les pays en voie de développement, c'est un élément qui revient excessivement cher pour les petits paysans.

Nous pensons aussi qu'il faut pouvoir donner aux petits paysans la possibilité de survivre, et comme vous le savez, les crédits sont les grands moyens qui interviennent dans le monde rural. C'est pour cela aussi que nous souhaiterions qu'un système d'étude pour les crédits pour les petits fermiers soit étudié et proposé dans le cadre des différentes possibilités d'aide des banques pour les pays en voie de développement.

La participation des femmes au développement rural prend un accent particulier en ce qui concerne notre agriculture puisque l'on a remarqué que l'exode rural est monnaie courante actuellement et il apparaît que ce sont les femmes qui sont le groupe qui s'exode le moins et en conséquence il leur revient une plus grande tâche, celle de tenir la paysannerie. Il ne faut pas oublier aussi que la femme est gardienne des traditions et, par ce moyen, elle est nécessairement tenue à la terre.

L'orientation que prend actuellement la FAO dans le cadre de l'aide et de la participation au développement rural nous réjouit parce qu'elle transcende les habitudes autrefois connues à la FAO et elle transcende le problème de l'économie familiale pour faire de la femme un véritable agent du développement.

Nous souhaiterions que cette expérience soit poursuivie de façon que nous puissions étudier avec la FAO les structures adéquates pour rendre de façon réelle l'activité de la femme dans le développement rural.

Je voudrais en terminant féliciter le Professeur N. Islam pour la façon dynamique dont il a présenté son document.

J. GAZZO (Perú): Me quiero referir a las acciones que está desarrollando mi país para promover la participación popular en el desarrollo del mismo.

Como ya lo había iniciado nuestro Presidente constitucional, Fernando Belaunde de Terry, en su primer Gobierno entre 1963 a 1968, y está apoyando ahora la participación popular rural en su segundo Gobierno constitucional, me refiero a la Organización denominada Cooperación Popular, cuyo jefe tiene rango y asiento de Ministro de Estado. En este organismo se ha recogido la vieja tradición incaica del trabajo comunitario o minga. Con este sistema, el Estado participa en las obras comunales proporcionando los insumos para las mismas, tales como lampas, fertilizantes, tractores, etc. El pueblo aporta el

trabajo para hacer estas obras como son preparación del campo agrícola, cosechas, obras sanitarias, aguas, desagües, pequeñas irrigaciones, caminos, escuelas y hospitales. Esta es una perfecta complementación del capital estatal con el trabajo gratuito aportado por el pueblo para la ejecución de este tipo de obras que lo beneficia directamente, y de las cuales es el principal usuario. Este tipo de acciones constituyen una verdadera participación de la población rural en el desarrollo del país.

Financiaciones especiales con préstamos blandos a los agricultores más deprimidos está siendo proporcionada por el FIDA con excelentes resultados. Es interesante, señor Presidente, asistir a la ceremonia de inauguración de estas obras comunitarias, en las cuales se puede notar el fervor popular al ver la obra que ellos han hecho. La ceremonia es muy austera y no se colocan placas alusivas a los gobernantes bajo cuyo período se hizo la obra; solo en una placa muy simple se dice: El pueblo lo hizo. No hay grandes discursos.

La mujer igualmente está participando activamente en el desarrollo del país. Las agencias de extensión agrícola, que son más de 50 en todo el país, tienen en sus oficinas mejoradoras del hogar, que enseñan a la mujer campesina a usar dietas alimentarias balanceadas a base, preferiblemente, de productos locales; a coser, tejer y al desarrollo de alguna actividad artesanal que use materias primas de origen local.

La reforma agraria en el Perú ha sido una realidad que ha redistribuido cerca de 10 millones de hectáreas entre los campesinos; sin embargo, nos hemos dado cuenta de que la redistribución de tierras es sólo el comienzo, y que sin apoyo técnico y financiero se puede fracasar. Hemos aprendido que a menudo los nuevos propietarios carecen de capacidad administrativa y gerencia y hay que darles un apoyo sustancial a este respecto.

Pensamos que algunas definiciones políticas o slogan deben ampliarse. No sólo debe decirse la tierra es del que la trabaja, sino la tierra es del que la trabaja y la hace producir. Si ello no sucede el proceso de reforma agraria se desvirtúa y luego, entonces, toda la población tiene que pagar su poca eficiencia y cubrir a base de sacrificios fuertes el elevado costo social de la misma si con ella no se aumenta la productividad.

Creemos que nuestro proceso de reforma agraria es aún perfectible y se están realizando los ajustes necesarios para su actualización.

F. MARTINEZ GOMEZ (México): Es indiscutible que con el transcurso del tiempo, la Declaración de Principios y el Programa de Acción de la Conferencia Mundial de Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural, se revaloran como un marco conceptual operativo, sobre todo en estos momentos donde cada día que pasa la producción de alimentos de los países en desarrollo se convierte en una tarea prioritaria, en virtud de las tendencias poco favorables en el abastecimiento y producción de sus alimentos.

Los principios en que está basada esta Declaración contienen cambios muy favorables para todos los países. Las recomendaciones en política agrícola, sustituyen modelos antiguos que han resultado ineficientes en su tarea de producir, y sobre todo distribuir alimentos en la mayoría de los países.

Por este motivo, nuestra delegación apoya una vez más la Declaración y el Programa de Acción de la Conferencia Mundial sobre Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural. Asimismo consideramos que todas las acciones que realiza la FAO deben ser consecuentes con estos principios.

El desarrollo de la tecnología y la economía mundial nos permite observar, que conceptualizar la reforma agraria y el desarrollo rural dentro del ámbito de los problemas de la tenencia de la tierra y la producción agrícola es muy limitado. Pensar que con políticas que modifiquen positivamente estos factores, se va a resolver el problema, es aventurado.

En este orden de ideas reconocemos que estos principios y el programa de acción no están exentos de los efectos de la crisis actual, que se refleja en alto índice de inflación, desempleo, modificación monetaria, y otros desajustes que se generan en muchos de los casos, fuera de los países en desarrollo, con consecuencias más drásticas para estos que para los países más poderosos. Es por ello, que nuestra insistencia de buscar mecanismos y acciones encaminadas al logro del establecimiento de un Nuevo Orden Económico Internacional.

México, coincidente con los principios de la Conferencia Mundial sobre Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural ha elaborado un sistema alimentario, donde el Estado, a través de diferentes medidas tales como asistencia técnica, aumento de los precios de garantía de los productos básicos e insumos estratégicos subsidiados, ha logrado incrementos en los ingresos de los productores; se ha aumentado la producción

de básicos y se ha afectado favorablemente a los problemas de desempleo y subempleo en el medio rural. Estas medidas han permitido el acceso a la mayor utilización de tierras y aguas apoyados por acciones concretas que, en estas áreas, realiza el Gobierno de México.

Nuestra delegación reitera la sugerencia de solicitar a los gobiernos un informe sobre las acciones realizadas para combatir la pobreza de las zonas rurales y de las actividades efectuadas en materia de reforma agraria y desarrollo rural. Además consideramos conveniente la elaboración, por parte de la Secretaría, de un informe de todos los países, para su análisis durante el 21° período de sesiones de la Conferencia de la FAO.

Las consultas regionales, a través de los foros ya establecidos, constituyen una acción que se debe continuar porque permiten constantemente que los gobiernos sugieran medidas que mejor respondan a las necesidades cambiantes de los países.

Reiteramos nuestro interés por que se logre el volumen de recursos financieros de, por lo menos, 20 millones de dólares en contribuciones voluntarias, que se solicita en la Resolución 7/79. También en virtud de la importancia de estas actividades, apoyamos la cooperación económica de otros organismos de Naciones Unidas, que estén en posibilidad de aportar recursos.

La promoción de la participación popular es un elemento fundamental en el desarrollo rural. Nos complace que la FAO haya comenzado a identificar y formular proyectos de participación popular en el marco de un programa de donantes múltiples, mediante organizaciones de autoayuda. También consideramos fundamental el papel de la mujer en el desarrollo rural. En este sentido, en los países en desarrollo, la mujer juega un papel muy importante, por lo cual su participación es no sólo importante sino indispensable en estas actividades.

Finalmente, consideramos sumamente importantes los esfuerzos que, en materia de capacitación y extensión, está desarrollando la FAO, teniendo en cuenta los lineamientos y principios de la Conferencia Mundial sobre Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural.

AMIDJONO MARTOSUWIRYO (Indonesia): First of all, I should like to thank Professor Islam for his introduction.

In many developing countries growth rate of food production lags behind growth rate of their population. Incidences of food shortages still persist in many localities in some developing countries. National governments and international organizations like FAO, which primarily deal with the development of food, agriculture and farmers, still have to take more action and make more effort to assist farmers in order to produce more food and other agricultural commodities.

Rural development and agrarian reform is, among others, the right scheme with which to pave the way towards producing more food and agricultural products. It will lead directly to the elimination of hunger and malnutrition and to efforts towards increasing farmers' incomes, if properly implemented by application of appropriate systems. It will accelerate efforts and facilitate the creation of a just and prosperous society.

I should like to express my government's full support that the focus of WCARRD follow-up action should be at country level, where primarily responsibility for implementation is the prerogative of the government concerned.

Agrarian reform and rural development have been carried out in Indonesia and occupy an important place in the development activities. Re-orientation and activities constitute an integrated approach rather than a single one. This principle has become the quality of my Government under the forum of coordinating activities and various development programmes. The Ministry of Home Affairs acts as coordinator of the implementation of agrarian reform and rural development where people participate.

The Indonesian National Committee of the UN Agencies has been established which, among others, has assumed responsibility for channeling communication between the Government of Indonesia and FAO, as well as other organizations.

My delegation is of the opinion that, for the South Asia Region, where the man/land ratio is high, a tenancy reform aimed at establishing a guaranteed income for share-croppers should be introduced. Tenancy agreements should provide for maximum cash rent to be paid. It should provide for the length of time of the rent agreement and conditions under which it can be terminated. In addition, all agreements should be clearly written and recorded. The provisions should motivate share-croppers to use high value inputs and/or make necessary long term investments in land. My delegation very much hopes that this point will be taken into consideration by FAO.

As regards the Programme of Action of Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, the Government of Indonesia has taken action in several specific areas in line with the views expressed in paragraph 36 of the document under discussion.

Being aware of the importance of the exchange of experience in agrarian reform and rural development, the Indonesian Delegation has offered to host a regional work shop on WCARRD follow-up action under the auspices of FAO, and I suggest that the matter should also be included in the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific which will be held in Djakarta in June, 1982.

In conclusion, I should like to refer to the financial side of the WCARRD follow-up which has given rise to some concern because the minimum voluntary contribution of \$20 million decided on two years ago has not been realized. Representing a developing country, my delegation can only invite the kind attention of the more prosperous countries to giving substance to the relevant resolution passed by the 20th session of the Conference, so that the proposed minimum contribution may soon become a reality.

M. ARAFAH (Jordan)(original language Arabic): First of all, I should like to thank the Secretariat for this excellent document on the follow-up of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. I also thank Professor Islam for his brilliant introduction to this theme. I would like to talk to you about the cooperation that took place between Jordan and the Organization. We have been able to implement the following projects, after having scrutinized the situation in Jordan and after noting the targets to be achieved. First of all, to help the National Planning Council to define its strategy for the rural development in Jordan within the context of the five-year plan, 1981-85; second, to carry out a survey of our general land register system in conjunction with the Jordanian University; to study everything that can be done and to take note of the progress that has been made in the context of the National Development Plan; and to implement the targets of the World Conference in two areas as pilot projects and furthermore to promote the cooperative movement in Jordan so that it may become the foundation for development and help farmers in rural areas.

Our government set up a specialized centre to this end and we would like this to be a regional centre for training.

In conclusion we wish to support all FAO activities and express the hope that these Conference Resolutions will be further followed up.

M. MORIMOTO (Japan): First of all, my delegation would like to commend Professor Islam for his excellent introduction. We welcome and appreciate the progress made in its activities by the FAO, such as assistance with projects at country level, intergovernmental consultation on a regional basis and the role undertaken by the FAO of coordinating activities amongst the international organizations concerned.

In the light of this need to support such international activities, my government is ready to contribute US\$165 000 to assist the activity of the Centre for Integrated Rural Development in Asia and the Pacific in the 1981 fiscal year.

The post-war agricultural and land reform in Japan enabled farmers' to purchase their own land. This greatly increased their will to produce and led to the encouragement of Japanese agriculture. I believe it is of vital importance that developing countries solve their problems from a long-term perspective, on the basis of FAO's Declaration of Principles and Programme of Action.

Finally, my delegation would like to emphasize the need for development of human resources. Therefore, it is important to take every opportunity of educating and training the decision-making people in the expertise required for rural development in the developing countries.

S. PRACHIMDHIT (Thailand): My delegation notes with satisfaction the preparation by the Secretariat of the Document C 81/23 which passes under review the progress made in the implementation of Conference Regulation 7/79 on the follow-up of WCARRD. My appreciation also goes to Professor Islam for his excellent introduction of the topic under discussion.

My delegation would like to stress that the Royal Thai Government over the past two years has taken a number of steps following the recommendations of WCARRD as well as the recommendations adopted within the First and Second Government Consultation for Asia and the Southwest Pacific on the follow-up of WCARRD.

The Thai Government has declared the 1980's as the Rural Development Decade. In compliance with this, a rural development work plan for 1982-1986 has been put into effect. Under it, rural development is strongly area-oriented. The poor areas selected cover nearly half the entire kingdom. The main objectives for these target areas are firstly, to foster self-reliance among the rural poor; secondly, to guarantee minimum basic needs; thirdly, to promote people's participation through decentralization and involvement in the decision-making process; and, lastly, to search for and adopt appropriate low-cost technology for the rural population.

The agrarian reform programme is now well into its sixth year and much still remains to be done. The pace at which this reform is moving is rather slow. However, a national agrarian reform plan is also provided for further implementation in the next national five-year plan, commencing in 1982. The future targets of agrarian reform are quite modest, reflecting past experience and achievements.

On other fronts, a national small farmers' development programme is now taking shape and is likely to go into full operation by 1982.

In conclusion, my delegation fully supports the action at country level being undertaken by FAO. In this connection, my delegation urges FAO to carry out a biogas project from crop and livestock residues something which is badly needed for poor rural people. Furthermore, a similar project on fuelwood for energy in the rural areas is also very important and is one that FAO should take into consideration in the hope of making it available for the improvement of rural conditions, especially the project for growing trees for fuel wood at farm level.

A. RODRIGUES PIRES (Cap-Vert): Je vous remercie de m'avoir donné la parole,

Permettez-moi de féliciter vivement le secrétariat de la FAO pour l'excellent document préparé à l'intention de notre Commission.

Nous voulons appuyer sans réserve toutes les actions et activités de la FAO en ce qui concerne la réforme agraire. Nous sommes convaincus que la FAO constitue le cadre idéal pour traiter tous les problèmes de la réforme agraire surtout dans les pays en voie de développement, compte tenu des expériences acquises par la FAO durant trente-six ans, qui ne sont un secret pour personne.

En ce qui concerne mon pays, je commencerai par dire qu'on ne peut pas parler de l'agriculture, du développement rural sans la réforme agraire. Après quelques siècles de colonisation portugaise et de systèmes archaïques d'exploitation des terres, il est urgent, au Cap-Vert, de transformer les modes de faire valoir qui dominent actuellement dans l'agriculture, affranchir ceux qui travaillent la terre des relations archaïques auxquelles ils sont encore soumis et d'améliorer la situation économique et culturelle des paysans.

Dans ce contexte et dans cette perspective, le Cap-Vert, a participé activement à la Conférence mondiale de la réforme agraire organisée à Rome par la FAO en 1979. Mon pays a attaché une très grande importance à ses travaux et il a appuyé sans hésitation son programme d'action et ses résolutions. Bien plus, il a décidé de donner, au Cap-Vert, une priorité absolue à la réforme agraire et il a déjà mis en oeuvre une série d'actions préparatoires qui se situent exactement dans la ligne préconisée par la Conférence mondiale. Il nous semble en effet que dans tous les pays qui ont récemment conquis leur indépendance et en particulier dans ceux qui ont longtemps vécu sous la domination coloniale, une réforme des systèmes socio-économiques s'impose afin que les ressources productives soient équitablement distribuées.

Parlant toujours de notre pays, la terre est une ressource productive de grande importance; c'est pourquoi nous pensons qu'elle ne doit pas être seulement un moyen de garantir une position sociale ou une sécurité économique, mais qu'elle doit être une source dynamique de production dont la nécessité est vitale.

C'est en s'inspirant de ces principes que mon gouvernement a pris la décision d'entreprendre une réforme agraire et en particulier la restructuration des modes d'exploitation des terres cultivables, pour permettre aux exploitants effectifs d'accéder à la propriété des terres qu'ils cultivent. Les réformes envisagées comportent aussi l'organisation des masses rurales et leur participation à toutes les étapes du processus de développement. L'organisation des coopératives tient une place importante dans ce programme d'actions.

Enfin, nous attachons une très grande importance à l'intégration des femmes dans le développement rural car au Cap-Vert leur rôle est encore plus important qu'ailleurs du fait de l'émigration masculine. Plus d'un tiers des femmes rurales en effet y sont chefs de famille et d'exploitation. C'est pourquoi la formation des femmes et l'assistance à leurs organisations et activités est une des priorités auxquelles le gouvernement attache le plus d'attention.

Dans ce contexte, nous remercions vivement la FAO d'avoir envoyé chez nous une mission de haut niveau. En plus de la collaboration de la FAO à de grands projets dans le domaine du reboisement, de la conservation des sols, des pêches, etc. Cette mission a pu identifier quelques domaines prioritaires pour une action immédiate.

Pour terminer nous voulons attirer l'attention des éminents représentants des pays amis qui participent aux travaux de notre Commission sur le fait que leur aide, soit bilatérale soit dans le cadre de la FAO, est indispensable pour la concrétisation de nos programmes dont le but principal est l'exploitation nationale pour le bien-être de la population. Le Cap-Vert appuie avec intérêt et enthousiasme l'idée d'un Centre régional pour le développement intégré pour l'Afrique et il a déjà signé et ratifié l'accord pour sa création; nous espérons que nous y participerons comme membre et que ce Centre sera un appui pour la réforme agraire dans notre pays.

D. AMBOULOU (Congo): Le document C 81/23 qui est soumis à notre attention intéresse au plus haut point notre pays et notre délégation soutient les propositions qui y sont formulées. Ceci est tout à fait à l'honneur du secrétariat de la Conférence et du prof. Islam qui a si brillamment introduit notre discussion. La République populaire du Congo a participé il y a deux ans à cette Conférence sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural et nous pouvons dire que les lignes générales développées dans ce document de base recueillent notre agrément. En effet, la République populaire du Congo va mettre en oeuvre de 1982 à 1986 un plan quinquennal de développement économique et social qui fait de l'agriculture un secteur de base orienté notamment vers l'auto-suffisance alimentaire, la recherche des moyens d'équilibre spatial, l'amélioration du revenu des paysans et la production de matières premières en vue de la promotion de l'industrie locale. Nous espérons que l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture nous apportera son concours pour la mise en oeuvre de ce plan.

D'ores et déjà nous aimerions profiter de l'occasion qui nous est offerte pour remercier le Directeur général de la FAO pour l'envoi d'une mission pluridisciplinaire de haut niveau en vue de nous aider à mieux formuler des actions concrètes dans le cadre de la problématique de l'auto-suffisance alimentaire dans le contexte propre de notre pays. Nous avons également, dans ce même cadre, bénéficié d'une importante mission de la FAO pour l'évaluation de notre politique de l'élevage. Cette mission a identifié et formulé d'importants projets en matière de production bovine et de petits ruminants, ovins et caprins notamment.

MRS. L. BRADER (Observer for Associated Country Women of the World): On behalf of the Associated Country Women of the World, ACWW, I wish first of all to record our appreciation that within FAO's actions the role of women in rural development, as well as the effects of agricultural development on women, are increasingly taken into consideration. I beg to quote especially from the opening statement of the Director-General of the 21st Session of the Conference: "Improvement of the women's life needs to be a constant objective of agricultural and rural development schemes". Listening to the interventions today we are glad to remark that these objectives seem, in most countries, to be an accepted principle today. We applaud especially the apt and concise formulation of the objective which replaces very long statements, and we trust that the principle of the importance of women's rights will be a guideline in all FAO's actions.

Since the 1979 conference ACWW has observed especially an increased emphasis on women's involvement in various programmes within FAO. To cite examples: in programmes on marketing, credit and cooperative associations in social and forestry programmes, in improved plant protection, prevention of food losses, fisheries projects, and last but not least in the various projects that fall under the umbrella of "Women in Rural Development". ACWW especially appreciates the fact that all the various roles of women are considered, be it in the house, at the farm, or in the community.

We also applaud the stronger emphasis on people's participation through their own organizations and the recognition given to the action in the field by national and international non-governmental organizations. In this respect we support strongly para. 36 of Document C81/23, and we offer our cooperation at national, regional and international levels.

Referring to para. 12 of Document C81/23, I am glad to report at the Conference in Hyderabad, NGO's were also involved although it does not look like it from the report.

The ACWW representative took part in the deliberations and organized a similar ACWW Workshop for representatives of women's organizations from India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. They formulated projects for rural development which could be executed by women's organizations in the context of national rural development programmes. Projects such as training of voluntary leaders, women's cooperatives, prevention of food loss training, projects on poultry breeding to generating income in villages and other similar projects.

A similar ACWW Workshop will be held in Bangkok in March 1982 for representatives of women's organizations in 5 other countries in Asia.

However, the formulation of projects is only one step in the development process and ACWW is concerned that sometimes there are obstacles which tend to prevent the implementation of these projects. We therefore would like to draw the attention of the conference to the role of the so-called national machineries for the advancement of women. They were already referred to today in some statements. In many countries they are the formal structures to initiate and coordinate programmes for women, but it is also true that not in all countries is their action especially geared to rural development. ACWW therefore requests FAO and governments to strengthen the role of the national women's machinery in rural development projects and to reinforce, where necessary, the involvement of women's organizations.

I would like to thank many delegates who have referred today to the work done by women's organizations in their own countries. Women's organizations have a long tradition of working for rural people at village level they are rural people themselves. ACWW and its affiliated societies offer their collaboration to improve conditions of rural life, in the home, on the farm and in the community.

E. HAMERNIK (Observer for World Federation of Free Trade Unions): The World Federation of Trade Unions considers the WCARRD Follow-up as one of the most important priorities of the programme of the FAO for the next period. You might remember that the World Federation of Trade Unions devoted great effort to get the other trade unions' organizations at a time of the preparation of the WCARRD, and this resulted in strengthening the final documents of the conference, in particular as far as the people's participation in rural development is concerned.

FAO, as the pilot institution within the UN system in the follow-up of the WCARRD, has proved its special responsibility by presenting various programmes among which is the programme on people's participation in rural development which is of highest interest to our Organization as it opens up new possibilities for united trade union actions in favour of genuine agrarian reform.

We are very satisfied to inform you that FAO has encouraged the international trade union organizations to come up with concrete projects and indicate what kind of FAO's support they would need to meet their demands and resulting problems at national level. In this respect we have already had talks with the FAO Representatives on the possibility of undertaking during long term, pilot projects during the period of 3 to 5 years which would be carried out in cooperation with some of our member organizations and with the support of the respective governments. As the preparatory phase is coming to an end very successfully, we hope to present the projects to the FAO Director-General for approval as soon as possible. While estimating very positively the FAO's work on the WCARRD follow-up we have to express here our concern on the cooperation with institutions at the policy making level. It is with deep regret that the trade unions do not see any evidence of vital political desire on the part of many governments to arrive at genuine radical and democratic agrarian reform and real participation of the people in rural development. In order to enable the trade unions to play their proper role in agriculture, governments must recognise the right of rural workers to associate in the unions and to respect those trade union rights and freedoms, especially in conformity with the respective stipulations of the conventions and the recommendations of the International Labour Organization.

We are concerned by the fact that several governments are waiting too long to ratify the ILO Convention No. 141 concerning the organizations of rural workers and their role in economic and social development. Until now only 21 countries have done so. On this occasion we would like to launch another call to governments to ratify and implement this Convention, because without recognition of the rights of rural workers all attempts at people's participation would remain an illusion. Thank you very much.

AZIZUL HUQ (Observer for Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and Pacific): The World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, among other things, recommended the establishment of regional institutions to foster the promotion of agrarian reform and rural development activities. Fortunately, the Centre for Asia and the Pacific is already operational. Steps have been finalized for the establishment of a centre in Africa; negotiations are in progress about the centre in Latin America and exploration is in progress, I am told, about the centre in the Near East. This is by no means a mean achievement and I believe the FAO deserves to be congratulated on this. Along with the FAO, those other members of the United Nations family and bilateral donors who have assisted in the foundation of these institutions deserve to be complimented. But above all the people of the countries concerned have to be remembered with admiration at this Conference.

These centres are inter-governmental institutions. These are intended to assist national action through national mechanisms to increase production, to improve distribution with special attention to the poor and the disadvantaged in the rural areas. Their clientele is vast, their task is complex and their efforts have to be impressive if not massive. Their goal is to catalyze the process of growth with justice, as Professor Islam emphasized yesterday. Their activities fall into three categories: research, training and dissemination of information about which many of the delegates have made very useful observations.

Document C 81/23 coupled with Professor Islam's initial statement calls for special attention to things like operational guidelines for development, monitoring and evaluation and finally investment in rural areas. During the last two years of its existence the CIRDP has been associated with these basic needs of development strategies in the rural areas.

The second inter-governmental consultation of the Asia and Pacific region was organized jointly by the regional office of FAO and the CIRDP in May this year. The report has been published by the FAO in June 1981. CIRDP has been specifically asked by the countries of the Asia and the Pacific region to intensify activities for the people's organizations, land use, land reform, rural banking and the dissemination of essential development information.

Among CIRDP's current activities special mention has to be made in this context of the work being done in respect of preparation of country profiles of integrated rural development programmes and institutions for inter-country use; the study of systems of delivery of inputs for agricultural development, the study of systems of price support procurement and incentives for agricultural production; integration of women in agriculture and rural development through national mechanisms about which the ACWW has just spoken; the role of NGO's in rural development, particularly in mobilizing people's participation; the role of rural youth in development, services available to rural children, etc.

We have also had joint conferences on rural technology, rural institutions and the rural poor in collaboration with the ideas of Sussex; We have had similar joint conferences in respect of employment generation with local resource mobilization in collaboration with the ARTEP of the ILO.

Studies on these subjects are followed by dissemination of information among the member countries of the region and are then followed by appropriate training programmes in different countries on a regional or sub-regional basis. These activities are conducted in collaboration with the designated national institutions and on a national sub-regional and regional basis. The centre is funded by country contributions from the FAO and most importantly, from donor countries. In the case of CIRDP we have been generously assisted by the government of Japan and the government of the Sudan for which we are deeply grateful.

The support of the U.N. family is still modest but we are optimistic. The World Bank who authored the "Empty Poverty" slogan has recently reiterated its interest in respect of agricultural and rural development. Of course, I do not see the World Bank represented here.

The UNICEF, WHO, ILO and UNDP and the regional offices of the U.N. have assisted us considerably but the national and regional offices of the U.N. agencies have their difficulties because they do not have funds or resources for regional projects in which we are engaged.

Turning to document C 81/23, paragraph 32 which deals with contributions in response to the Director-General's request for a \$ 20 million extra-budgetary allocation for the follow-up of agrarian reform and rural development activities, we are somewhat disappointed to see that not even half the demand has been received by the Director-General of FAO up to now. I am afraid this is an eye-opener. I hope I shall not be misunderstood if I tend to believe that the family of nations as a whole seems to be indifferent to the modest needs of the rural millions. Developing countries are often accused of urban



bias in their development planning, possibly in the human family as a whole there is a non-rural bias in the matter of the allocation of resources. Development costs, money and rural development are no exception to these general rules, but investments in rural development in my assessment pay high dividends and as such qualify for very deep consideration.

Paragraph 35 of the document speaks about economic and technical co-operation among developing countries for the overall promotion of agriculture and rural development. Regional institutions such as CIRDAP and CIRDAFRICA are appropriate institutions or instruments for such purposes.

Paragraph 36 (v) therefore suggest that bilateral donors and U.N. agencies may directly contribute to these centres or to selected aspects of these centres' programmes. This coupled with the activities of the U.N. inter-agency committee and finally the ECOSOC should possibly make desired improvements in this respect.

In conclusion, I once again compliment FAO on the earnestness with which post-WCARRD activities have followed up and urge the support of those who afford to support the line of action indicated in paragraph 36 of the document under consideration.

U. CANULLO (Observer for International Co-operative Alliance): On behalf of the International Co-operation Alliance let me state again our interest in the WCARRD promising developments. As evidence of our commitment there is the continuous consultation undertaken with FAO's staff, in the framework of People Participation Programmes, both at international and regional level, which has followed a long-established collaboration in other fields, such as Energy in Agriculture (point 8 of the Agenda), Food Production and Rural Development (point 12) and so forth.

In more than 70 countries of the world, as you know, co-operatives contribute to the social and economic development, along with other voluntary forms of organizations; that is to say, they carry on tasks which are not an extension of government services, but very often represent an original and creative effort in offsetting the causes of rural poverty.

I am sure that you already know that the United Nations General Assembly's debate on The Secretary General's report on "National experience in the promotion of the Co-operative Movement" ended a few weeks ago, with a resolution urging inter alia the United Nations and its Special Agencies to assist in the development of co-operatives. Let me add that the Third Committee's majority easily agreed on the participatory nature of the cooperative institution.

Through the exercise of defining the collective interests of their own members, in fact, co-operative organizations, in different economic contexts and cultural frameworks, proved to be important tools of popular effective participation; referring to the WCARRD Action Programme, I have to say that their suitability, either at grass-roots or on national level does not imply an immediate capability of shaping good-standard projects.

Experience has shown that even identifying project ideas requires a certain understanding of methodologies used in feasibility studies, at least. Small and weak organizations - as all development agencies know very well - will find themselves helpless in the following stage of preparing an adequate project, which might be funded and implemented.

I wanted to call your attention to this point, because we are convinced that any significant improvement of I.C.A.'s assistance capability within the PPP will have a positive impact on our constituency's involvement; similar groups would be encouraged to get better organized; the self-reliance of local communities concerned would be consequently increased.

CHAIRMAN: If there are no further comments from delegates on the item we have been debating I would now invite Professor Islam to comment on some of the points raised during the debate.

N. ISLAM (Assistant Director-General, Economic and Social Policy Department): We are very grateful to the delegates for their appreciation of our efforts in the implementation of the WCARRD programme of action. Your suggestions and comments will, indeed, help us in our continued work in the future in this area. We are very grateful to you for your support of our Programme of Work on Socio-Economic Indicators, and the suggestion we have made regarding the reporting to the next. FAO Conference on the progress in agrarian reform and rural development based upon country reports and socio-economic

indicators. As I had stated earlier, this report would not only be a statistical report but an analytical report revealing policies and programmes in the field of agrarian reform and rural development.

Many distinguished delegates have referred to priority areas of action within the Programme of Action, to which we should pay greater attention. We can assure you that we have taken careful note of various suggestions you have made. In our document, of course, you have illustrated the kinds of projects for which we have already received requests, requests from the member governments, and your suggestions will, of course, be very valuable in our further work in responding to requests from member governments.

Questions have been asked as to how have you organized within FAO our work, with a view to orienting projects and programmes in various departments within the framework of WCARRD's Programme of Action. I have already mentioned the role of the interdepartmental committee on rural development, and various sub-groups, which coordinate and guide the preparation of programmes and projects in the various units of the organization within the framework of the WCARRD Programme of Action. We have formulated operational guidelines for the application of the principles of programme of action. This is for use not only for our own staff members in the field and at Headquarters, but also by other UN and bilateral donors, as well as the Member countries in preparing their requests for assistance from international organizations, including FAO. These guidelines as far as we are concerned within the organization, are intended to help to formulate projects keeping the WCARRD concerns in view. These are now being applied in various units and departments of the organization. We have also prepared operational guidelines for preparation of projects in the area of women in development, and people's participation. Of course, these are all new areas as far as we are concerned. Therefore, we would be learning by experience, and learning by doing. For example, to illustrate, in response to questions asked on, let us say, women in development, as a step towards incorporating women's concerns in the development projects, various units and organizations are screening their projects with a view to distinguishing between such projects which are explicitly meant for women; projects not explicitly meant for women but with direct impact on them; and projects which are not ostensibly meant for them, not for women. Various units are preparing check lists for their respective technical areas, and adopted to their special needs, which will enable them to incorporate women's concerns in their projects.

As far as the guidelines for the preparation of investment projects are concerned, FAO investment centre in consultation with the group working on the guidelines, is examining their existing guidelines with a view to incorporating concerns which are prominent in the WCARRD Programme of Action.

Insofar as staff orientation of the organization is concerned, we are having continuous briefing sessions and discussions with various units within the organization, as well as with officials, staff members in our regional offices. We are planning in the future to have special briefing sessions for our field staff members. As far as new field officers are concerned, they are always briefed before they embark on their mission with the main contents and objectives of the programme of action.

How does FAO help toward orienting Member Governments towards the objectives of WCARRD Programme of Action? Here, as I have mentioned in my introduction, we pursue this objective in various ways: firstly, the WCARRD follow-up missions, which are intended to review programmes and policies with the countries concerned, and suggest changes or recommend priority areas in terms of programmes and policies. Lastly, to help them, assist them, in formulating new style extra poverty-oriented projects within the context of the programme of action. Seven such missions have already been completed, and we are planning four such follow-up missions early next year. We have also sent special project formulation missions to formulate projects which will be of a catalytic nature. Also in our UNDP/FAO joint programming missions, in order to formulate projects at the country level for seeking funds from the UNDP, we are also participating with the view to formulating projects which are oriented towards the Programme of Action. Of course, one must recognize that at the country level implementation of the WCARRD Programme of Action remains the ultimate responsibility of the Member Governments, and international organizations like FAO can only stimulate, sensitize, persuade, with dialogue and discussions. It could demonstrate to new projects how poverty orientation can be incorporated in the programmes and projects, and this dialogue has to be a continuous process, time consuming at all levels through all types of contexts. Various countries necessarily differ in their approach and attitude in responding to the Programme of Action. We hope at the time of reporting in 1983, at the time of the next FAO Conference, we will know more about the way in which Member Governments have responded to the call of the Programme of Action of WCARRD.

Mr. Chairman, I have a specific question to answer, in reply to a question of the distinguished delegate of Colombia. The question was when is the date for the next intercountry consultation on extension and training in Latin America? This date is scheduled between 29 March and 4 April 1982 in Bogota, Colombia. Six countries from the region are to be invited to this meeting. Each country will be represented by two delegates. We hope that this type of activity would also be extended to other countries in the region in the future.

Lastly, Mr. Chairman, we are very happy to note the distinguished delegates endorsed support for the various suggestions for the follow-up activities of WCARRD, which we have enlisted on pages 8 to 10 in our document.

CHAIRMAN: I thank Dr. Islam very much for his excellent comments to the debate, and that brings us to the end of the debate on the follow-up to the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. Forty-eight countries participated in that debate, and we also had the benefit of contributions from four observers. Many delegates underlined the great importance rural development activities are having on the socio-economic development of people in rural areas. They stress the need to have rural development activities based on the aspirations of the people concerned.

Delegates also stressed that it will be important to motivate people to get fully involved in the rural development process, and to allow them to articulate their aspirations with regard to the shaping of the socio-economic and cultural environment.

The role of women in the rural development process has been regarded as of particular importance. Delegates also stressed the need to build up development countries own capacity to design and implement programmes in the field rural development and agrarian reform. That experience gained should in turn be made available to other developing countries. In this field there is certainly ample space and scope for international cooperation.

That distinguished delegates, brings us now to the end of the agenda of Commission II. What remains over the two days we still have at our disposal are the following matters: I would suggest that we take on the draft resolutions that are so far known to be handled by Commission II on Monday morning. These draft resolutions, three in number, deal with the World Food Day; secondly, a draft resolution moved by Mexico on the establishment of an international planned germ plasm bank of agricultural interest, under the custody of FAO, and during the debate this afternoon I was informed that a third resolution, a draft resolution, will be available on Monday on the subject of resources for food production and agricultural development. These three draft resolutions we have to deal with and debate on Monday, and conclude the debate on these draft resolutions. A conclusion is essential because on Tuesday, the last working day available to Commission II, we will have to approve the draft report that is being prepared now by the Drafting Committee. The draft report will have to go at the latest by Tuesday evening for further processing to the services concerned, with an aim to be submitted on Wednesday to the Plenary.

I have now outlined the work still ahead of us. I hope on Monday we can, in a refreshed manner, start the debate on the three draft resolutions, and I hope the debate on the approbation of the rapport of Commission II will be performed in a constructive spirit and expeditiously.

T. BAVIN (Observer for the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions and observer for the International Federation of Plantation, Agricultural and Allied Workers): As the representative of both ICFTU and IFPAAW at this Conference, I congratulate the Director-General on the manner in which in his address he outlined the Current situation and need for action by governments of the countries of both the developed and developing world if the position of the underprivileged is to receive that radical change which is necessary.

Few could disagree with this realistic assessment though some might feel that the degree to which the privileged sector of the countries of the developing world have a major responsibility in maintaining the status quo at the expense of the underprivileged, was understated as compared with his assessment of the responsibilities of governments of the developed world.

Even so, few could quarrel with his assessment of what is wrong as also the urgent need for change, particularly NGOs such as ICFTU and IFPAAW for whom I speak and who - over the past 30 years have been implementing programmes of assistance, education, training and project development in direct contact with the rural underprivileged in many countries of the developing world. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, the organization I have the privilege to represent welcome and support this masterful analysis of the current position which in our view in no way exaggerates the overall problem.

It is therefore with regret that I am compelled to express reservations on the proposed implementation as indicated to date of what now appears to be a major factor in the future FAO approach to these problems.

I am referring, Mr. Chairman, to the envisaged Programme for Peoples Participation in Rural Development Through the Promotion of Self-Help Organisations (PPP) which in our view, in relation to the rural impoverished, is hardly within the capacity of any inter-governmental, as distinct from tripartite organisation, to operate while safeguarding those international standards set by the ILO for which we, together with other representatives of the low income group, have been successful in establishing over the years since the formation of this the only tripartite organisation within the UN family.

Here, not only are there recognised departments which specialise in cooperating with governments, employers and workers' organisations but - much more important - the three groups participate in all phases of decision-making at international level, both in the annual Labour Conference and in the Governing Body while member governments which do not accept the standards set by majority decision face the risk of constant pressure if such standards are over blatantly ignored.

In such circumstances, many governments, even if not accepting such standards in their entirety, are hesitant in being openly opposed to allowing some degree of freedom of association to workers, both urban and rural, upon the development of which true and responsible pressure for change, necessary in so many countries, is dependent.

In short, Mr. Chairman, it is - in our view - only tripartite organisations which can compel governments to answer for policies of oppression upon free and representative organisations before an international forum which has agreed lines of conduct with which such policies are not in accord.

In contrast, the FAO remains regrettably an inter-governmental organisation although - like the ILO - it is dealing with such basic aspects as food and hunger which are of fundamental importance to all the peoples of the world.

Many of these people in countries where need is greatest are represented by governments which, in some instances, they have had no opportunity to elect nor would have elected if the choice were theirs.

All too often, such governments exist to protect the interests of the privileged, as is demonstrated in too many countries by the harassment of legitimate organisations where these, in a climate of almost continuing hostility, have been able to develop.

In others, and despite the limited degree of protection ensured by their government's membership of the ILO to which I have referred, they are still fighting for recognition and the right to service members whose needs need no elaboration here. Their difficulties have not been lessened by the enthusiastic acceptance by such governments of programmes of UN agencies aimed at community development and development of cooperatives which, carefully limited in size and "advised" by government nominees - in our view - have been and are being used to prevent the emergence of true and effective organisations capable of exerting legitimate pressure for necessary change.

Because the limitations of such an approach have been increasingly recognised it would appear that the FAO, possibly in conjunction with other agencies, are now seeking to move into "promotion" through governments of the type of organisations which these same governments to date have done all possible to discourage.

We welcome this new awareness but view with some alarm this new approach particularly in relation to the word "promotion". This alarm is accentuated by the fact that when this new approach was first discussed by the FAO Trade Unions Consultative Committee, we indicated that cooperation in such programme would be dependent on the following:

- a) That the overall activities would be advised by a joint committee of trade unionists and sponsoring agencies,
- b) that an assurance would be given that these donor agencies now funding programmes similar to those envisaged would not be drawn upon.

In our view such a committee would do much to prevent governments hostile to the development of free organisations using such fund, to develop government-controlled and sponsored organisations, thus further harassing those who for so long and at considerable personal risk have sought to build the free and responsible organisations to which I have referred, while b) would have prevented funds from donor agencies being used for countervailing purposes.

Unfortunately, although at first favourably received, we were later informed that it was not constitutionally possible to establish such a committee and that instead the Director-General would appoint a Committee of Experts for this purpose. Insofar as sponsoring agencies were concerned, such an assurance cannot be completely given.

This reply confirmed that the FAO as an inter-governmental organisation could not ensure that participation in overall supervision and advice which for NGOs in this field is basic to workers; cooperation in this sector in operations with the ILO. It also clearly revealed that as FAO projects must of necessity be run through and in conjunction with governments, the possibility of tripartite consultation rests and must rest upon will of the government concerned.

This of course is unacceptable in view of the degree to which both national and international organisations have participated in programmes in this sector run by our respective organisations in conjunction with the appropriate division of the ILO. It is also unacceptable that governments or an international agency such as the FAO should "encourage" development of such organisations in circumstances lacking the protection of internationally agreed standards as were referred to by the Director-General. How far the FAO has progressed in this direction is indicated by the Regional Centres being established in separate continents for implementation of this programme.

Understandably because of the limitations imposed upon an inter-governmental organisation, no provision is or can be made for participation by NGOs as a basic right in the deliberations of such centres. Instead, the decision as to whether such participation is possible, is permitted and by what organisation, will remain in the hands of governments concerned which in too many instances have already demonstrated their hostility to free associations.

Time is pressing and I cannot elaborate the many instances where this is so. I can however mention those instances where appointed military advisers have been placed - in certain countries - in supervision of what were once free trade unions.

I could also indicate the degree to which in other countries participation at regional level in what were originally free organisations, are now part of the party-political machine, not permitted to hold the international links which is their fundamental right.

Since many feel as we have been assured that because the FAO has claimed it is willing to hand over projects to organisations seeking its cooperation, the fears expressed above may appear exaggerated. However, IFPAAW has carried out projects worth 7 million dollars over the past seven years and has worked in complete harmony with governments which accept the basic ILO standards for their people..

We were, however, also assisting embryonic organisations through programmes of education, training, organising and projects in these "grey" areas where association with the new FAO approach would necessitate government involvement.

In such circumstances we note the omission of the Director-General of any positive reference to the role of international NGOs in page 8. of his statement relating to participation in development Here he states:..... "ideally, such organisations should be spontaneous, not sponsored from outside. In practice, some degree of encouragement may be necessary, and FAO in cooperation with governments is now in the early stages of a programme for this purpose". "Encouragement" is a strange word. How many of the millions of the world's refugees have received governments "encouragement" to adopt such status. We are confident that the Director-General was not using this word in that context but clearly it is governments who will finally determine what in their individual approach is the quotation given. In relation to this we can only reiterate the views expressed only a few weeks ago in Peru when these matters were discussed in a forum at which the FAO was by invitation represented as an observer. Here, delegates from IFPAAW affiliates in 9 countries expressed definite apprehension at any programme designed to assist them which must come from or through governments.

As their International we must hear and share these apprehensions. Hence the inability of both IFPAAW and ICFTU to participate in the envisaged programme at this time and in the absence of greater assurances in relation to the points raised above.

Instead this matter will remain open to be further considered at a joint meeting of representatives of both organisations when decisions appropriate to the majority decision of those represented will be taken 1/.

The meeting rose at 17.45 hours

La séance est levée à 17 h 45

Se levanta la sesión a las 17.45 horas

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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

C

C 81/II/PV/18

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Twenty-first Session

Vingt et unième session

21° período de sesiones

COMMISSION II

COMMISSION II

COMMISSION II

EIGHTTEENTH MEETING

DIX-HUITIEME SEANCE

18ª SESION

(23 November 1981)

The Eighteenth Meeting was opened at 10.15 hours.

R. Steiner, Chairman of Commission II, presiding

La dix-huitième séance est ouverte à 10 h 00 sous la présidence de

R. Steiner, Président de la Commission II

Se abre la 18ª sesión a las 10.00 horas bajo la presidencia de

R. Steiner, Presidente de la Comisión II

II. ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMES OF THE ORGANIZATION (continued)

II. ACTIVITES ET PROGRAMMES DE L'ORGANISATION (suite)

II. ACTIVIDADES Y PROGRAMAS DE LA ORGANIZACION (continuación)

9. Programme of Work and Budget 1982-83

9. Programme de Travail et Budget 1982-83

9. Programa de Labores y Presupuesto para 1982-83

CHAIRMAN: We have three resolutions in front of us, the first is contained in Document C 81/LIM/29, the World Food Day, moved by Hungary. We shall then move on to the resolution on resources for food production, agriculture and development contained in document C 81/LIM/31 and then we shall take the resolution on the Establishment of an International Plant Germplasm Bank of Agricultural Interest under the Custody of FAO, moved by the delegation of Mexico and as contained in document C 81/LIM/29.

I now open the debate and I would first draw the attention of delegates to the Arabic text which contains two typing errors. These correspond to the bracketed portion of the first line of preambular paragraph 3 and the first line of operative paragraph 2 in the English version.

Draft Resolution on World Food Day

Projet de résolution sur la Journée mondiale de l'alimentation

Proyecto de resolución sobre el Día Mundial de la Alimentación

The debate is open on the resolution on the World Food Day. I take it that the subject as presented in the draft resolution has been well presented by the delegate of Hungary, there was only support for the resolution.

Y. KUROKOCHI (Japan): My delegation does not have very much to say on the resolution as presented here, it is almost wholeheartedly in favour of the resolution. As for the little note at the foot of the page, "The Resolutions Committee suggests that this paragraph be moved up to become the second preambular paragraph", my delegation is also in favour of this suggestion by the Resolutions Committee.

As for Japan, we very actively participated in this world-wide attempt of the World Food Day and we have found our attempt a resounding success.

Mme. E. LINER MAMMONE (Italie): Qu'il me soit permis de remercier le délégué de la Hongrie d'avoir déposé le projet de résolution dont nous sommes saisis. Mon gouvernement, depuis le sommet d'Ottawa, a indiqué soit dans les enceintes internationales soit dans les enceintes nationales quelle priorité il attribue à la lutte contre la faim dans le monde. La célébration de la Journée mondiale de l'alimentation représente sans aucun doute un instrument très utile en vue d'augmenter la sensibilité de l'opinion publique envers ce problème angoissant qui menace des centaines de millions d'êtres humains.

Avec grande satisfaction, nous avons enregistré la réponse très positive que les Etats Membres de la FAO ont donnée à l'occasion de la première Journée de l'alimentation à laquelle mon pays a également participé avec une adhésion totale.

Cela dit, Monsieur le Président, j'apporte notre appui total à la résolution et j'ajoute que nous préférons le projet de texte qui contient les modifications proposées par le Comité des résolutions.

Sra. A. CAVERO MONCANUT (España): Mi delegación apoya plenamente la resolución sobre el Día Mundial de la Alimentación. También queremos decir que preferimos las modificaciones, al igual que Italia, del texto que se presenta en esta resolución.

E. MAZURKIEWICS (Poland): My delegation also supports very strongly the resolution of the Hungarian delegation on World Food Day. I think it will be very good if our Commission takes this resolution.

Ms. I. L. PERTTUNEN (Finland): Regarding paragraph 4 of the resolution, I am speaking on behalf of the Nordic countries and we would like to make a minor correction to the last paragraph since we are willing to support the additional reference to extra-budgetary resources only when it is absolutely necessary. Therefore we would like to see this paragraph as follows:

“4. Requests the Director-General to take all necessary measures within approved budgetary resources and on a voluntary basis to assist Member Governments....” and so on and leave out at the end after the last brackets the part “supported by extra-budgetary resources”. In other words, we would like to leave the resolution as it is and we support it.

CHAIRMAN: Where does the last bit come in, “supported by extra-budgetary resources”?

Ms. I. L. PERTTUNEN (Finland): We leave out after the last brackets the five words “supported by extra-budgetary resources”, and instead we add at the beginning after “within approved budgetary resources”, “and on a voluntary basis to assist Member Governments.....”

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): We just want to place on record our agreement with the text of the resolution, including the small editorial correction suggested by the Resolutions Committee.

On the point proposed by our Finnish colleagues on behalf of the Nordic countries, I see the point but I do not think it reads very well as suggested now. I think we are aware that in the Regular Programme there has been a very small, very modest amount perceived for such purposes just to assist Member Governments in a very general way indeed and any other assistance, as we all know, should be provided on the basis of extra-budgetary voluntary contributions.

So we think that paragraph 4 as it stands now reflects faithfully what was suggested, that means using in a very general way the very little money that is provided in the Regular Programme and then on a voluntary basis through FAO assisting Member Countries. Again, we all know that a very modest amount is involved. So we would prefer paragraph 4 to stay as it is now.

Ms. I. L. PERTTUNEN (Finland): I have had a very good suggestion from the FAO Secretariat. It sounds better if instead of “on a voluntary basis” we say “within approved budgetary resources and voluntary contributions to assist Member Governments”. Does that sound better?

CHAIRMAN: And as you have suggested we leave out the last one?

Ms. I. L. PERTTUNEN (Finland): Exactly.

Ms. C. McASKIE (Canada): I wonder if we could find a way out of this dilemma, by combining the two proposals and adding the Nordic amendment at the end so that it would read: “supported by voluntary extra-budgetary contributions for World Food Day activities.”

CHAIRMAN: That means the word “resources” would be substituted by “contributions”.

Ms. C. McASKIE (Canada): With the adjective “voluntary” added, “supported by voluntary extra-budgetary contributions”.



V. BEAUGE (Argentina): Cuando solicité el uso de la palabra, quería referirme a otro tema, y posteriormente salió la cuestión que estamos ahora considerando. No sé si usted me autoriza a hablar de otro párrafo, o de lo contrario, esperaré hasta que se resuelva esta situación.

CHAIRMAN: If the Argentinian delegate could make all his contributions it would be welcome.

V. BEAUGE (Argentina): En el párrafo 3, en el texto en español, en la tercera línea se usa la expresión: "promover la participación de las masas rurales etc...". En español y en distintos países es también distinta la significación de la expresión: "masas rurales". En algunos de ellos, puede incluso adquirir hasta cierto carácter peyorativo. Por eso, nosotros preferiríamos que esta expresión: "masas rurales" fuese reemplazada por la expresión más universal y general de: "población rural". Es decir, diría "promover la participación de la población rural etc...".

CHAIRMAN: Thank you, delegate of Argentina. Is that proposal acceptable to the Spanish-speaking delegates and the Spanish text of the resolution?

Sra. A. CAVERO MONCANUT (España): Me parece muy oportuna la propuesta del delegado de Argentina.

O. LUCO ECHEVERRIA (Chile): Mi delegación también apoya la propuesta hecha por el señor delegado de Argentina.

A. JUAN MARCOS ISSA (México): Nos parece muy oportuna la observación hecha por el delegado de Argentina y por lo tanto la apoyamos.

Mile M. MUSSO (France): Je voudrais m'exprimer également sur la proposition argentine. Je voudrais qu'en français aussi on mette:... participation des "populations" rurales. Le terme est effectivement meilleur en français comme en espagnol.

NGA-MA MAPELA (Zaire): Je vous avais demandé la parole bien avant cette bataille des amendements. Je voulais simplement dire que notre délégation appuie le projet de résolution tel qu'il a été proposé par le Comité des résolutions.

Un amendement propose que l'on fasse référence à des contributions volontaires. A partir du moment où l'on parle de ressources extrabudgétaires nous sommes tout de même rassurés, puisqu'on ne va pas puiser dans le budget ordinaire. Mais si l'on insiste, nous n'avons pas de mal à accepter cette précision pour dire: ressources dues aux contributions volontaires.

MS. I.L. PERTTUNEN (Finland): Regarding paragraph 4 again, the amendment made by Canada is acceptable by the Nordic countries as well.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you, delegate of Finland. Let me take the operative paragraph 4 and make it clear now. We would follow the compromise that came out of the proposals from the delegates of Finland and Canada, and the only amendment to the text in operative paragraph 4 would relate to the second line from the bottom, and would read now "supported by voluntary extra-budgetary contributions", and then the text continues to read as it is. I see agreement to that. I also take it that those parts of the resolution that have been placed in brackets, indicating that in the Resolutions Committee apparently there were different views, has also been accepted by now.

I see no further comments on the resolution on the World Food Day. I take it that we can include the text of the draft resolution, as we have it now, in our draft report, that will be in front of the Commission tomorrow. I see no objections to that procedure.

Draft Resolution on Resources for Food Production and Agricultural Development  
Projet de résolution sur les ressources pour la production alimentaire et le développement agricole  
Proyecto de resolución sobre Recursos para la producción alimentaria y el desarrollo agrícola

A.E. GUROFF (United States of America): First of all I would just like to indicate that my delegation is having considerable difficulty with the procedural situation which has evolved, whereby on the first day of the third week of the Conference we find that we are suddenly confronted with trying to react in very short order two Resolutions which we find to be at the heart of the job of this Conference, and we would urge the Secretariat for the next Conference to look very carefully at how the resolutions might be handled, so that these were available to governments early in the Conference, so that they might consult their capitals, if necessary, and certainly consult their delegations, which we have barely had time to do, in order to conduct this very important business.

In the matter of the resolution that is on hand, I do not see any alternative but try to deal with it here in a large group, which may basically turn into an unwieldy drafting committee. But the United States has a number of suggestions regarding the resolution, that I will lay on the table at this point for consideration.

Working through it paragraph by paragraph, where we talk about, in the fourth line, "noting further the priority..."

CHAIRMAN: Distinguished delegate, where exactly? In the operative part, or in the preambular part of the resolution?

A.E. GUROFF (United States of America): I am sorry, Mr. Chairman, this is the preambular part beginning, "Noting further the priority assigned to food and agricultural development", we would delete the words beginning "the conclusions and recommendations on food and agricultural development of", and add the word "Ottawa comma", before "Melbourne".

Then three paragraphs further down, "Recognizing the current economic difficulties", we would change the word "but considering that" to "and considering that", and change the words "far outweighed" to "intensified".

Then again three paragraphs below that, the last section of the preambular part, "Reiterating its", add the word "general" before "approval", and then put a period after the words "implement these". The sentence would end with, "and the need to implement these" "period".

Then in the numbered paragraphs, paragraph number 3, we would delete the words "can only be achieved through fuller" and insert the word "requires" so the sentence would read, "Affirms that greater self-reliance requires international co-operation "comma" including not only economic and technical co-operation between developing countries but also", and delete the word, "increased", and then the rest of the sentence reads the same. The rest of the paragraph reads the same.

Paragraph 4 would read, "Strongly urges Member Nations to take" here is the change "necessary steps toward the replenishment of" delete the words "the concessional resources for food and agricultural development of the multilateral financing institutions". We would then put a period - I guess a semicolon, and delete the rest of the paragraph.

One more change, in paragraph 5, we would suggest it read the same down through the words "fight against hunger and malnutrition", and then end the paragraph there with a semi-colon.

Those are our suggestions, Mr. Chairman. Thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN: Can I get your very last point that referred to operative paragraph 5. I understood you wanted to delete as from the second line and from the word "fight".

A.E. GUROFF (United States of America): No, Mr. Chairman. The deletion would be after the words "hunger and malnutrition". After "malnutrition" there would be a semi-colon, and delete the rest of the paragraph.

CHAIRMAN: Delete the rest of the paragraph. Well, distinguished delegate of the United States, I was informed that that resolution would be coming up on Friday afternoon, and I mentioned this in the Commission, and I understand that the Resolutions Committee was very active in speeding it up, but it was not possible to do it earlier.

J.L.F. BUIST (United Kingdom): I do not know whether Resolutions Committee speeded this up or not but it reached my Delegation roughly 10 minutes ago, which does not exactly seem to give us much chance to examine it closely. In supporting the various changes which have been proposed by the United States to make this resolution generally acceptable, I would reiterate that we have a certain overlap with other decisions which the Conference has already been taking. For instance, there is a reference to the replenishment of IFAD, when we have already, as I understood it, agreed a resolution in Commission I on that subject. There are separate decisions which have to be taken about the level of resources we provided in the budget. My general impression, looking at this text rather quickly, is that it does not reflect the sense of the discussions, at least in this Commission, as that has been set out in the draft report which, of course, still has to be adopted by this Commission but which was produced by the drafting group in its extensive labours last week. Those labours did not end until quite late on Friday night, in any case, and I seem to recall that quite a number of points were raised and resolved then between the members of the drafting group which are directly relevant to the text of this resolution and that this resolution does not square with the terms of the report which we still have to consider. There is therefore a procedural problem as well as a problem of substance in dealing with this at this moment.

H. WETZEL (Germany, Federal Republic of) (Original language German): My delegation, too, has been rather surprised by this type of procedure. I must admit that I have not yet been able to read this draft resolution through even once, and, given the fact that many other draft resolutions have been put forward at an early stage and could be discussed quite sufficiently in the Commission, I think it is rather strange that the resolution which is of the most importance should have been submitted in this way, so quickly and at such a late hour, and therefore has to be discussed and adopted quickly here. I would therefore ask the Secretariat to consider whether we could not find some procedural possibility in order to postpone consideration of this draft at the moment and to meet at a later stage - perhaps this afternoon - in order to be able to discuss it. I think everyone will understand that there are many of us who first have to seek instructions from our Cabinets, and I do not think we should prevent them from doing that. Therefore, I would not wish to speak either to the resolution itself or to the amendments put forward by the American Delegate. I would reserve my position and would ask to speak later on this resolution.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): I do not think there is anything unusual with this type of resolution. Since Yugoslavia is one of the co-sponsors of the resolution, I would only say that it is just a follow-up of Resolution 6/79 which was approved in a similar way by the last Conference. But, to remove any procedural problems that may quite justifiably be raised, I would also suggest that we postpone the debate on the resolution until, let us say, the early afternoon, in order to make it possible for delegations to study the whole matter and, if necessary, to seek further instructions from their capitals, though I do not think there is anything new in the resolution. The resolution covers only things which have been debated in this Commission.

On behalf of the sponsors, I must also say that we, of course, also wanted to hear the whole debate on the various aspects of the regular programme and field programmes before we decided to submit the resolution. The resolution was submitted on Thursday of last week but unfortunately, because of processing difficulties, the resolution's Committee was only able to look at the draft on Friday

morning Here again, I think you are fully aware that the processing usually takes an enormous time. Unfortunately the French version had to be reprinted this morning and so all the other versions were held up because of the typing error. However, to remove any procedural problem, I would also suggest that we postpone discussion of the resolution until this afternoon.

Mile M. MUSSO (France): Je voudrais joindre ma voix à celle des délégués qui ont parlé précédemment et essentiellement appuyer les observations des délégués du Royaume-Uni et de l'Allemagne fédérale. Nous pensons nous aussi que c'est une résolution importante qui touche au fond du problème, et j'ai à peine eu le temps de la lire moi aussi. Je ne pense pas que nous puissions discuter valablement avant cet après-midi et je ne penserais pas être en mesure d'avoir les instructions avant même au moins demain, car effectivement nous aussi avons des observations à faire sur divers paragraphes. Je ne m'étendrai pas sur les changements que nous souhaiterions, mais il est certain qu'aux paragraphes 5 et 6 par exemple nous aurions aussi des modifications à apporter. Donc je pense qu'il faudrait avoir le temps d'étudier cette résolution importante et de ne pas la faire passer devant notre Commission avant demain.

LE PRESIDENT: Je remercie le délégué de la France. Je voudrais ajouter immédiatement qu'il ne sera pas possible de différer le débat sur cette résolution jusqu'à demain, car demain nous avons devant nous le rapport qu'il faut approuver, qu'il faut rapporter, et il faut terminer la discussion, le débat sur les trois résolutions aujourd'hui, même si les délégués semblent prêts à prolonger le débat ce soir.

Y. KUROKOCHI (Japan): My delegation tried its very best to go through this resolution. We tried to understand the purposes and also the context, just as the Resolutions Committee tried its best to organize. As some other delegates have already indicated, the draft resolution only came out this morning, although this was dated the 20th, Friday of last week. Since my delegation has not had time to seek instructions from its home office, we are trying to be a little more restrictive in understanding and accepting the resolution.

My delegation is quite aware of the thrust of paragraphs 4 and 5 in the operative part, and yet, as I said earlier, because of the lack of instructions, my delegation is tempted to agree to the amendments as proposed by the delegate of the United States of America. With all due respect to the very hectic work that must have been done by the Resolutions Committee, my delegation is, as of this moment, strongly inclined towards the suggestions of the American delegate.

J. ROWAN (Ireland): I should like to join with the delegates who seek to have a postponement for some time on this matter because it is vital that delegations, especially those of limited numbers like mine, should have an opportunity to discuss it. We have just not had time, Sir, so could you please do something in this regard.

T. SEYOUM (Ethiopia): My delegation does not see anything new about the procedure at all, neither does it see the need for postponing our discussion at this stage. My delegation also feels the draft resolution tabled before us to be extremely important and would like to give it its full support as it stands.

K. CHOUERI (Liban) (langue originale arabe): Puisque le Liban est un des auteurs ou co-auteurs de ce projet de résolution, j'appuie la proposition du délégué de la Yougoslavie.

CHAIRMAN: I now appeal to all delegates to debate this resolution in a spirit of total understanding of the matter involved. I would appeal to you that we should do it in a democratic manner as it is practised and I would hence suggest that we take the proposals as spelled out by most of the speakers and move the debate to this afternoon. We could, with your support, take on straight away the draft resolution on the germ bank moved by Mexico so that we should not lose any time. Is this acceptable to you?

J.L.F. BUIST (United Kingdom): It seems to me that, from the interventions of several other delegations who feel the need to consult capitals on this text which is of great importance, it would not be possible for us profitably to discuss this resolution this afternoon. My own delegation is in a position to do so but we have to have regard to those who cannot. I suggest, therefore, that we might be able to take this in the light of the report of the Commission which, of course, does cover to some extent the same ground and which we shall have to deal with, I think, also. That might mean, of course, that we would have rather a lot of work tomorrow, but we, for our part, are ready to engage upon it.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you. I repeat that I would not find it possible to carry the debate on to tomorrow, but I am quite prepared to debate the whole night through until the start of tomorrow morning's session at 9.30. Is this acceptable to the delegate of the United Kingdom?

J.L.F. BUIST (United Kingdom): I said that we were ready to talk about this resolution now but that I had noted that several delegations were not. If they themselves are content, of course, I have no objection either.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you, but I understood that all delegates who have spoken so far were just for an afternoon debate. That is what I understood and as I see no further reaction to that statement of mine, I take it that that is the case.

I will now state our present position. I take it that we will delay the debate on the draft resolution on the resources for food production and agricultural development to this afternoon. Those delegates who may not yet find themselves in a position to speak out clearly on that draft text can ask for the floor at a later time this afternoon.

A.E. GUROFF (United States of America): Just to clarify so that it is fully understood what the United States will be able to do this afternoon when we re-open discussion, what we have proposed basically deletes from the text all those areas where we might need to consult our own government. Clearly, if we get into areas that require consultation time differences will preclude any possibility of our doing that during the course of the debate of this afternoon. I just wanted it understood that what we have proposed defines the limits that we can go to without requiring consultation and referral to our own capital this afternoon.

Ms C. McASKIE (Canada): I should like to endorse the remarks of my colleague from the United States because we share the same time zones. We are quite happy to discuss the question this afternoon, and, in fact, there may be some advantages in doing so, but we would need to state now that, depending on how the discussion goes this afternoon, we may need to refer back to Ottawa if necessary after the discussion.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): Speaking procedurally, as I have already indicated we see absolutely nothing new in this resolution. In this resolution we generalize, I would even say highly generalize, the things that were fully discussed in the Commission and in the Plenary. We do not, therefore, see any real need for world-wide consultation with capitals, on the ground principally that things are more than clear and that there is absolutely nothing new. In the course of debate we could give you cross-references to the various texts that we agreed, either here or elsewhere. It should be quite clear then, Mr. Chairman, that most, if not all, governments are already agreed on similar wordings, let alone the substance. I really cannot see any procedural difficulty with regard to starting to debate the resolution this afternoon.

CHAIRMAN: I should like to point out to delegates that we can debate that draft resolution this afternoon but that is not the end of it. It is not even the end tomorrow when we have the draft report of Commission II in front of us. It will come to the Plenary which will sit, at the earliest, on Wednesday afternoon. This, I think, takes care of the concern expressed by the delegates of the United States and Canada about the time lag in communications. If this is the case, you may well find the opportunity of communicating exhaustingly and exhaustively with your offices at home.

Looking around, I take it that we can now move on to the debate on the next draft resolution.

Draft Resolution on the Establishment of an International Plant Germplasm Bank of Agricultural Interest under the Custody of FAO

Projet de résolution sur la création d'une banque internationale de matériel phylogénétique à usage agricole placée sous la garde de la FAO

Proyecto de resolución sobre la creación de un Banco Internacional de Fitogermoplasma de interés agrícola dependiente de FAO

A. JUAN MARCOS ISSA (México): Como indicaba, todos sabemos que los recursos genéticos vegetales constituyen elementos indispensables para el mejoramiento de las plantas cultivadas. Asimismo creemos que su importancia en el futuro será aún mayor y estratégica si tenemos en cuenta la evidente necesidad de aumentar constantemente la productividad en la agricultura, donde los recursos genéticos constituyen una de las materias primas en este proceso.

Sabemos también, señor Presidente, que estos recursos están expuestos al peligro de erosión, pérdida y, por lo tanto, la posibilidad de no ser renovables y, por ello mismo, disponer en cantidades limitadas de estos recursos. Por estas razones pensamos que los recursos genéticos constituyen un elemento muy importante dentro del esquema de la seguridad alimentaria mundial.

Estos recursos, señor Presidente, por razones ecológicas se encuentran dispersos principalmente en los países en desarrollo. Como lo señalase la primera Ministro de la India, señora Indira Ghandi en esta Conferencia, dichos recursos pertenecen a la humanidad. Conscientes de ello creemos que duplicados estos recursos deben conservarse, administrarse y controlarse por una organización en la que se encuentren representados todos los países que así lo deseen. Ello permitiría garantizar el libre acceso de estos recursos a todos los pueblos sin ataduras ni presiones de ninguna especie. La creación de un Banco Internacional de Fitogermoplasma de interés agrícola corresponde, creemos, por su naturaleza y propósito, a la Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Agricultura y la Alimentación; más aún sabemos que la mayoría de nuestros países en desarrollo no tienen posibilidades para establecer, por limitaciones técnicas y financieras, bancos de fitogermoplasma a nivel local, razón aún mayor por la que creemos se refuerza la idea de establecer un banco internacional custodiado por la FAO.

En base a todas estas consideraciones, se le está solicitando en este proyecto de resolución al Sr. Director General prepare un proyecto para establecer un banco internacional de semillas ortodoxas de interés agrícola dependiente de la FAO, donde se depositen duplicados de estos valiosos recursos considerando los aspectos institucionales, los costos de capitales que se requiere, así como las posibles fuentes de financiamiento. Se toma en cuenta en el proyecto de resolución de los trabajos que de esta materia ha venido elaborando la FAO en colaboración con el Consejo Internacional de Recursos Fitogenéticos. Evidentemente todas estas acciones complementarán los trabajos del Banco propuesto. Convencidos también de la necesidad de un acuerdo internacional que asegure la conservación, mantenimiento e intercambio de recursos genéticos de interés agrícola que se encuentran depositados actualmente en los Bancos de Germoplasma de diversos países, el proyecto de resolución solicita, asimismo, al Director General que examine y prepare un proyecto de acuerdo internacional para tales fines. Igualmente, se le solicita al Director General presente los estudios mencionados al Comité de Agricultura para que sean considerados en su séptimo período de sesiones en 1982 con miras a que sean sometidas a través del Consejo al 22º período de sesiones de la Conferencia.

Los recursos genéticos son fundamentales para la alimentación de hoy y del mañana, su libre acceso a todos los pueblos constituyen un principio que cae dentro de la seguridad alimentaria mundial. Hagamos un reconocimiento a la acción multilateral y al espíritu que rige a todos los países miembros de esta Institución, FAO, procurándole a este organismo de un instrumento vital y necesario para el buen desarrollo de todos los pueblos y de su agricultura.

CHAIRMAN: I would like to indicate that prior to that debate during the last week I had occasion to meet twice with the Mexican Delegation and to get a very good insight of the thinking of the Mexican Delegation and also on procedure and methods. I note with interest that since then new procedural considerations have been evolved that may lead up to the handling and debate of that subject in other organs of the Organization.

I also had the opportunity of having been contacted by other delegates on that subject which is of great importance, enormous importance, for agriculture in the future in the whole world, and as there had been opinions and views expressed sometimes indicating the need for a comprehensive background presentation, I thought it would be very helpful for that debate if the Assistant Director-General of the Agriculture Department, Professor Bommer, gave us the benefit of a statement on that subject.

D.F.R. BOMMER (Assistant Director-General, Agriculture Department): The draft resolutions have certainly attracted a very important problem which needs very careful consideration, actually referring to the various collections of the world on plant genetic resources, important for present and future plant breeding. It contains actually two elements; one is a technical one which is the establishment of a world gene bank under the custody of FAO, and the other one is related to an international agreement which covers generally the conservation and exchange of plant genetic resources. Certainly the study of the feasibility of these two elements needs a very careful consideration of the complexity of the matter, a complexity which is two fold. It is a technical complexity and it is a political complexity at the same time.

On the technical complexity I want to give you only some indications. The programme of FAO to which the resolution refers, I repeat, has made considerable efforts over the years to identify the existence of these resources to stimulate collection and to make sure that various institutions in the world have various collections, and some are even identified as keeping the global collection of a specific crop. Just to mention at the moment, the three major crops are maize, wheat and rice. We have between 40 and over 50 institutions all over the world having major collections. This is for the already collected material. I think that the distinguished delegate for Mexico referred to the major origin, and the important availability of our major crops is in specific geographical regions; most of them or all of them located in developing countries. Further efforts have to be made to collect this material, certainly to register it and document it and later on to test this material. It needs a considerable world wide effort to do that.

Now to draw the application of this material together to this international gene bank under the custody of FAO - I assume it would be in Rome in one location - needs first of all a suitable technical set up; a technical set up which has to be explored as to the type of set up it should be, but usually if such very valuable material is being maintained as for instance in the International Agriculture Research Institute, this has to be safe against earthquakes, it has to be safe against fire, it has to be safe against any other interferences because if this material is lost it is lost forever. At the same time it has been custom so far in all these efforts to store this material only in one location, because something can happen in spite of all the safety measures, so there must be at least one duplicate in another place. The present policy is even to go for triplicates, because there is always a danger that something is being lost and if this material which now may still be present is being collected and registered so far, is once lost, then it is lost forever. So it is a considerable involvement and such that the gene bank at the same time needs certainly specific procedural handling which means it needs staff, a very qualified professional staff, channel service staff, it needs the necessary equipment for the testing of the viability of the seeds; of the sealing of this material which is being stored, for maintenance by specific temperatures, usually rather deep low temperatures, minus 20 or minus 30 degrees; it needs the respective involvement for shipping, and what is more important it needs an arrangement that if any specific sample becomes multiplied again, multiplied so that it maintains its original character so that there is another set. So you see there are considerable costs involved. I think the Conference must be clear on that, and certainly the feasibility study must address itself to the costs being involved, and you are certainly clear that no provision has been made so far in FAO's budget for this purpose.

These are a few of the technical issues I wanted to draw your attention to. The other issue is the question of the international agreement in which certainly we need in this world an agreement that what is being collected and being held specifically with international effort, that there is a responsibility to maintain it; and the second point is to have some responsibility to exchange it internationally. I only want to draw attention at this point that there are a number of countries growing specifically important industrial crops, that they have restrictions on exchanging such material, and most of those

countries are developing countries. So I think we must clearly tackle this problem as well. The question is on which scope the gene bank will concentrate: only on major food crops? Should industrial crops become involved? The isolation refers to orthodox seed which means too safe to be stored, so it excludes crops which are vegetatively propagated, but you remember that some major food crops are vegetatively propagated like potatoes and other root crops, so I think all this needs exploration before something of a meaningful proposal can be discussed in the respective organs of FAO, and finally brought to the attention of the FAO Conference.

J.L., TAMAYO- RIGAIL (Ecuador): En nombre de la Delegación del Ecuador, como también en representación de los 30 países del Grupo Latinoamericano, quiero presentar una efusiva felicitación a la distinguida Delegación de México por el magnífico Proyecto de Resolución sobre la creación de un Banco Internacional de Fito-Germoplasma, bajo la custodia de la FAO.

La delegación del Ecuador considera que el establecimiento de este Banco, a cargo de la FAO, constituiría una de las más concretas y positivas ratificaciones del papel que le corresponde a nuestra Organización, en cuanto organismo internacional creado para fomentar, estimular y garantizar la producción de alimentos.

Los recursos genéticos vegetales constituyen elementos indispensables para el mejoramiento genético de las plantas cultivadas. Su importancia en el futuro será aún mayor, si tenemos en cuenta la evidente necesidad de aumentar constantemente la productividad agrícola.

Los recursos fitogenéticos, como sabemos, están expuestos al peligro de erosión o pérdida y tal riesgo puede convertirlos en no renovables y, por ende, limitados.

De concretarse, como estoy seguro que sucederá, la feliz iniciativa que contiene el documento mexicano, ello daría forma precisa a una aspiración que es compartida por todos los países, particularmente aquellos en desarrollo, empeñados en que la Comunidad Internacional disponga de sistemas cada vez mejores y más racionales para una justa distribución de los recursos alimenticios.

El establecimiento, en 1974, del Consejo Internacional de Recursos Fitogenéticos fue un primer paso importante para iniciar una colaboración internacional coherente que sirva a la necesidad de conservar e intercambiar los recursos fitogenéticos. El Proyecto de Resolución toma en cuenta, precisamente, los trabajos que ha venido elaborando la FAO, trabajos que complementarán y servirán a los del Banco que se propone.

La Delegación del Ecuador cree indispensable que la FAO asuma plena y directamente la responsabilidad sobre la custodia de los elementos portadores de germoplasma y evitar que tan importantes recursos puedan convertirse en eventuales instrumentos de presión de cualquier género.

Los problemas cada vez más graves que enfrenta la humanidad en cuanto a disponibilidades de bienes alimenticios y su adecuada distribución obligan a que organismos como la FAO consideren de manera permanente todas las posibilidades y alternativas para asegurar al futuro, al menos los medios de subsistencia. Dentro de este marco, cree la Delegación del Ecuador que la importancia de los recursos fitogenéticos de interés agrícola bien puede ya equipararse a la de los bienes que constituyen patrimonio común de la humanidad. La señora Primera Ministra de la India, Indira Gandhi, lo manifestó clara y directamente cuando dijo que tales recursos "pertenecen a la humanidad".

Es un hecho, señor Presidente, que los recursos fitogenéticos se encuentran dispersos especialmente en los países en desarrollo. Si la FAO, por medio del Banco propuesto, consigue coleccionar y almacenar los duplicados, se garantizaría el libre acceso de todos los países a tales recursos.

Es sabido que en la actualidad existen algunos bancos de germoplasma localizados en determinados países desarrollados, cuyas disponibilidades técnicas y financieras les permiten mantenerlos. El acceso a los recursos allí concentrados, sin embargo, es limitado y, por ello, es impostergable que se implemente un Acuerdo Internacional que considere, junto con la creación del Banco de Germoplasma bajo custodia de la FAO, las medidas orientadas a asegurar, conservar e intercambiar los recursos fitogenéticos de interés agrícola que hoy se encuentran depositados en diversos centros. Por eso, el Proyecto de Resolución solicita también al Director General que prepare un proyecto de Acuerdo de esa naturaleza.

Creo necesario aclarar, de todas maneras, que el Acuerdo por sí mismo no tendría la efectividad deseada si no está consolidado, por decirlo así, con el establecimiento del Banco, el cual constituirá el instrumento necesario para llevar a la práctica los propósitos y objetivos del Acuerdo.



El Proyecto de Resolución presentado por México solicita al Director General que prepare los elementos necesarios para establecer un Banco Internacional de semillas ortodoxas de interés agrícola dependiente de la FAO, en donde se depositen duplicados de tan valiosos recursos, considerando los aspectos institucionales y los costos que se requieren, así como las posibles fuentes de financiamiento que bien pueden ser, por ejemplo, aportaciones de los propios países en desarrollo, a cuyo interés serviría principalmente el Banco propuesto.

Señor Presidente: el Grupo Latinoamericano de la FAO, actualmente presidido por el Delegado del Ecuador, tuvo la oportunidad de recibir amplia información acerca del proyecto de México. El Grupo acogió con entusiasmo la iniciativa y, en forma unánime, comprometió su apoyo a la misma por considerar, entre otras cosas, que está en interés de los países en desarrollo el salvaguardar y asegurar los recursos fitogenéticos de importancia agrícola para que se los ponga a disposición de la Comunidad Internacional y, a través de mecanismos adecuados, sirvan a las necesidades de los países sin condiciones ni reservas.

Me complace ser el portavoz del Grupo Latinoamericano para expresar, señor Presidente, el decidido apoyo del Grupo al Proyecto de Resolución presentado por México para la creación del Banco de Germoplasma. Los recursos fitogenéticos son fundamentales para la alimentación de hoy y de mañana, y el libre acceso a ellos constituye un aspecto esencial para la Seguridad Alimentaria Mundial. Si proveemos a la Organización de un instrumento vital como lo es este Banco, estaremos consolidando el valor de la acción multilateral en la lucha contra el hambre.

S. V. HAGEN (Norway): On behalf of the Nordic countries, Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden I would like to express our position on the proposed resolution. The preservation of natural genetic variation in crop plants and related species is of great importance to present and future plant breeding programmes. There are, however, also other ways of obtaining genetic variability.

Different methods exist for inducing mutations. We can make interspecific crosses and cell fusions may become important for the creation of new genetic variations. There have already been substantial collections of plant germplasm and these collections are placed in gene banks around the world. Most of this material is available to most countries upon request.

The Nordic countries support the point that all this material should be available to all countries, as expressed in the Mexican resolutions. However, the establishment of a new gene bank would require substantial investments of various kinds which means duplications of investments already made. For these reasons we cannot support the resolution in its present form. To guarantee all Member Nations access to gene banks an international agreement, if necessary in the form of a convention, should be reached. We request the Director-General to conduct a thorough study of the feasibility of FAO playing a coordinating role in the international supply of material from the existing gene banks.

Sra. A. CAVERO MONCANUT (España): Mi delegación felicita a la delegación de México y al Grupo Latinoamericano y apoya esta resolución. Agradecemos al Dr. Bommer sus explicaciones, como siempre interesantes y esperamos que con el mismo éxito que ha logrado al empeñarse en tantas otras empresas de su competencia, pueda resolver viablemente en sus dos aspectos, técnico y político, todo lo necesario para la elaboración de este proyecto.

Mi delegación ya en la anterior Conferencia Regional, en su declaración, habló de la creación de un Banco de Germoplasma de la FAO por creer que estamos ante un problema de seguridad alimentaria que entra de lleno en el campo de competencia de esta Organización. También lo dijo en su declaración del presente período de sesiones, y ahora como digo, apoya esta resolución con las siguientes posibles enmiendas, que puedo pasar a citar.

En la página 4 del texto en español del documento C 81/LIM/29, pensamos que el título debería decir, en lugar de: "bajo la custodia", debería decir: "de la FAO" o "dependiente de la FAO". Enmiendas que proponemos para su posible aceptación. También pensamos que en la página 5, en el punto 1 en la primera línea debiera decir: "proyectos" en lugar de "elementos". Y en la segunda línea también suprimiríamos: "bajo la custodia" para dejar simplemente "de la FAO". En el punto 2 en la primera línea suprimiríamos "elementos" y diríamos "proyectos". Y para terminar, en el punto 3 en la primera línea sustituiríamos "estudios" para poner "proyectos".

R. GARCELL (Cuba): Gracias señor Presidente, gracias a la Secretaría por los interesantes aportes que nos han hecho. En el trascurso de nuestros debates, varias delegaciones han expresado sus opiniones favorables acerca de la incuestionable necesidad de constituir e instrumentar un Banco de Germoplasma. Consideramos necesario insistir en los argumentos técnicos, sociales y económicos que determinan la necesidad de su creación.

Señores delegados; la agricultura es la fuente más importante de sustento alimentario de la humanidad y lo seguirá siendo por mucho tiempo. Eminentes científicos e investigadores de todas las latitudes, y en todos los tiempos, han realizado aportes significativos al progreso del incremento de la productividad por área agrícola mediante la utilización de semillas de mejor calidad, y se requiere seguir adelante esa obra y vartebrrarla institucionalmente.

El mejoramiento de la alimentación requiere del desarrollo de la agricultura, y a su vez ésta depende de la combinación exitosa de los recursos naturales y el hombre. Los recursos naturales, incluyendo tanto la tierra como las semillas. La gran extensión territorial de los países en desarrollo, en su conjunto, así como su gran diversidad agrícola determinan que, de una forma natural en los mismos hayan existido y existan grandes e importantes reservas genéticas.

Por otra parte, en muchos países se han llevado a cabo interesantes y valiosos trabajos de mejoramiento genético. Sin embargo, es necesario que los resultados de estas tareas a veces trascendentes sean apoyados y sistematizados por un organismo internacional que asegure su continuidad, y que los beneficios estén al alcance de todos los países.

Nuestra delegación, y seguramente el resto de los países miembros, considera que es una responsabilidad de todos lograr que no se pierdan ni degeneren las semillas de mayor potencialidad, e insiste en que es necesario que las mismas puedan estar al alcance de todos los pueblos, en especial de los más necesitados. No escapa a nuestro análisis que la creación del Banco de Germoplasma necesitará de un estudio previo que calcule los requerimientos financieros y materiales para su operación técnico-operativa. Debe corresponder a la FAO dar los pasos necesarios en tal sentido, y todos estaremos satisfechos de que nuestra Conferencia pueda adoptar acuerdos en este sentido, que podrán convertirse en decisiones históricas al aprobar la resolución propuesta.

Sra. M.I. CASELLAS (Venezuela): Mi delegación quiere en esta Comisión continuar manifestando su apoyo a la idea de la creación de un Banco Internacional de Fitogermoplasma de interés agrícola dependiente de la FAO. En este sentido, apoyamos la resolución que aparece en el documento C 81/LIM/29.

J.O. ALABI (Nigeria): On behalf of my delegation, I wish to support the resolution by Mexico relating to placing world genetic resources under the custody of FAO and regulating the conditions of their use and exchange by international agreement.

We note however that the resolution is directed to plants, but we are of the view that it should also cover animals. There are several countries which are achieving genetic resources and these resources are essential for the creation of new varieties of plants and animals for food and for industrial purposes.

If we are to ensure the elimination of hunger and malnutrition, genetic resources have a great part to play. Too often, under present circumstances, it is difficult for many countries to obtain new genetic resources at reasonable prices. The right of all countries will be ensured by international legislation. No doubt there is some cost involved but we should not allow this to put us off making a beginning. Use can be made of national institutions in various countries in the world storing these genetic resources which we think need not necessarily be looked at in Rome.

Ms.C.McAskie (Canada): My delegation would like to thank the Mexican delegate for bringing this important matter to the attention of the Conference. Canada fully supports the need to maintain and to preserve the plant genetic material which is the subject of this resolution. Canada has consistently supported international efforts to coordinate the actions of existing germplasm banks, provided of course that these actions do not duplicate existing coordinating mechanisms.

It is for this reason that Canada strongly supports the work of the International Board for Plant Genetic Resources which already has a network of duplicate based collections of individual crops or groups of crops. Canada itself stores germplasm material of some collections and these stores are already paired with other countries, providing for the security against accidental loss for restricted access for other reasons. I should add that Canada has no restrictions of access on her collections.

If however the existing system is not far-reaching enough, we would ask why it is not possible to make the adjustments necessary to the existing system rather than the proposal before us which appears to recommend the establishment of an additional system. For these reasons Canada cannot support the proposal before us to create a separate bank which would be both physically and administratively complex.

In view of these comments which I must add reflect the reaction of my own headquarters in Ottawa to the first draft of the resolution, my delegation will have to place our reservation on the revised version as it now stands, if there is adequate support for its approval by this Commission, until our authorities in Ottawa have studied it.

A. E. GUROFF (United States of America): First of all my delegation would like to express its appreciation to the Mexican delegation for calling the attention of the Conference to this very important question. The U.S. has some sympathy for the utility of examining the question of an international plant germplasm bank further. We must profess to finding the basis put forward for such an initiative to be somewhat less than compelling. In addition, we find Dr. Bommer's comments at the outset of this debate as to the intricacies and sensitivities of this subject to be particularly compelling and they suggest to us a more measured and careful approach to the problem.

For these reasons we would propose the following modifications to the draft resolution which might also accommodate the position expressed by Norway on behalf of the Nordic delegations and the position just expressed by my Canadian colleague. The changes would be as follows: in the title we would delete the words, "of agricultural interest under the custody of FAO". Then in the body of the resolution in the preambular part we would delete in its entirety the fifth paragraph beginning, "Recalling further, that countries, faced with..." etc. and we would also delete the paragraph beginning, "Recalling the proposal made during the Seventy-ninth Session..." etc. Then in the numbered paragraphs we would revise paragraph 1. to read, "Requests the Director General to examine the feasibility of establishing an international bank of orthodox seeds") and then delete the phrase "of agricultural interest under the custody of FAO..." and the remainder of paragraph 1. would read as it is in our text.

Paragraph 2 would remain the same with the substitution of the words "the feasibility" for the words, "and prepare the elements". So it would read, "Request the Director-General to examine the feasibility of a draft" etcetera. Paragraph 3 would then read, "Request the Director-General to present the studies mentioned to the IBPGR and in turn to the Committee on Agriculture for consideration at its Seventh Session in 1982" period.

M. SALAMEH (Syria) (Original language Arabic):. Concerning the resolution before us, I believe, given the interest that we have for improving seeds, and the fact that we have set up a governmental institution to distribute these improved seeds, and given the interest that we have in increased productivity, and that the International Center for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas (ICARDA) has its seat in Aleppo, and given what has been said by the representative from the International Organization of Consumer's Union (IOCU), and taking into consideration what was said at the first COAG meeting, 1964 and the role played by the FAO in this sector in helping IBPGR since 1974, and that this idea was launched amongst developing countries, and was only implemented in developing countries, having said all this the delegation of my country, Mr. Chairman, gives its support to the idea of creating such a bank and the conclusion of an international agreement covering the exchange of seeds placed in that bank. We believe that this would enable the FAO to defend the interests of all Member countries of the FAO and it would also concern itself with the improvement and storage of all elements which are of vital importance to our countries. This would, therefore, avoid any monopoly being exerted by large companies.

We agree with the proposals made by the Spanish delegation concerning the substitution of the word "elements" by the word "projects".

M.S. ZEHNI (Lybia) (Original language Arabic): I would like to thank the Mexican delegation and the Ambassador of Mexico and his delegation for having raised this important question and for tabling this resolution. We are grateful for the efforts His Excellency the Ambassador of Mexico has undertaken and for the extensive consultations he pursued. I would also like to thank the Latin American Group for having supported this resolution.

The problem concerning plant/germplasm material and the need to store this material drew attention to the difficulties and dangers of losing these resources. These problems which have drawn the attention of specialists since the 1940's, and the initiatives taken by the FAO have meant that this subject has become extremely important for the international community, and it has drawn the attention of the community to the urgency of this matter, and to its importance, it has meant that they have understood the impact of this subject. I do not intend, Mr. Chairman, to enter into the details of all the efforts which have been made in the past, but I would simply like to shed a little light, if I may say so, on the main thrusts of this problem. There was a meeting in Rome in 1961 on the subject, and an expert group was set up in 1965. There were also two international conferences in 1967 and in 1973 at the FAO Headquarters, the results of which were an appeal to create an international framework for seed centres. FAO published a series of reports on this. Efforts undertaken led finally to certain regional projects, such as that in South-east Asia and other regions. Perhaps the most important decision, institutionally speaking, which was taken in the FAO, was that concerning the setting-up of the seed and plant germplasm unit in 1968. Also the FAO's efforts brought about the setting-up of the International Board in collaboration with the Consultative Group which I mentioned. The Consultative Group is provided with secretariat and other services, by FAO. Although this Board has managed to do many things, and has obtained considerable success as far as the extension and the awareness of the importance of plant germplasm material and its preservation are concerned, nevertheless, because of limited resources, the nature of its membership and its very financing, it has been impossible for it, in spite of the very important role that it has played, to be a true international body, responsible to governments at international level. It is a small group which does a lot of work, but it is not really international in the sense of the understanding of international organizations such as the FAO or the United Nations. This, I think, should be taken into account. Some speakers did, in fact, mention, the IBPGR. We must also point out that other international bodies have understood the importance of the role given by the FAO to the IBPGR. For example, the United Nations Conference on Environment, which was held in Stockholm in 1972, and where I represented my country. At that conference, attention was drawn to the fact that the FAO should deal with this problem of plant genetic material. I am sure you know all this, but this was to show that FAO was the first organization to draw attention to this important problem. Its role in this field has been very positive, and the responsibility that it assumed in the past means that our organization should now have basic responsibility for any efforts undertaken in the future. Therefore, our organization should shoulder its responsibilities, given the fact that this is a subject which has come to the FAO, and is the responsibility of the FAO, which we believe is an excellent place and could certainly not be given to any other organization since no other organization has the universal international nature of the FAO,

Efforts made in the past, either by FAO or by other organizations, have been positive, but in spite of these efforts there are two problems which have remained somewhat without solution: first of all, the problem of the elaboration of an international convention which would define in a code of conduct the rights and duties of all parties, interested in the exchange, the use of plant genetic material, and governing the interests of countries concerned which have this material, and these resources available.

Another problem where not a lot of progress has been made, is the creation of an international network for plant genetic material. As far as the first problem is concerned, this refers to the need for an international agreement on the storage of plant genetic material, it has been the subject of various colloquies recently. There was the 5-Member Committee of IBPGR, which was set up five years after the inception of the IBPGR, and that Committee did make a recommendation that it is for the Board and the FAO to look into the legal framework which would enable free exchange of plant genetic material, and especially to look at questions of agricultural quarantine.

I would, therefore, give my full support to the contents of the Mexican proposal, most specifically where it stresses the need for an international agreement, or charter, and I think that FAO is certainly capable of doing this work. In fact, the question is not whether the FAO would be capable of doing this, but that the essential elements of such an agreement could be drawn up by it, so that the Secretariat can be guided by these elements when a draft agreement is prepared.

I think that many of us are in a position to submit prepared suggestions. The essential elements of this resolution are first of all the maintenance or the protection of the interests of developing countries, the problem of storage, and that of establishing the proper procedure.

I would very much like to have gone further than the Mexican proposal, since this limits the international agreement to the question of the setting up of the plant germplasm bank.

I personally think that this agreement should deal with all genetic problems in a general way, given the very complexities of this problem, and Mr. Bommer mentioned some of the aspects in his introductory speech.

The second problem, concerning the establishment of an international network of plant genetic material, was one of the aims of the first meeting which was held on this subject where we thought of setting up a network of international centres which would distribute in a logical manner throughout those regions plant genetic material. But there was a general recognition that this could not be done, either because of the impossibility of doing it or because the necessary effort was not made. I believe that there are many specialists among us today who could perhaps explain why this aim could not be implemented.

The first thing we must realize is that there is a chain of plant genetic banks, either at a national or regional level. There are even, perhaps, banks or international centres, as we call them. But I do not think any of these institutions could really be defined as being an International institution in the true sense of the word. This is the missing link in the chain: there is not really a true international network of centres for plant genetic material which we could consider to be a common heritage of mankind and which could be managed according to the standards of the international community. Certainly there are important banks but they have not reached a stage whereby we could qualify them as international.

Therefore, I think that the Mexican draft has well understood this and taken into account this problem.

In expressing my opinion, I would say that, when we call for the setting-up of an international plant germplasm bank, this does not mean that it should be organically linked to the FAO. It should not necessarily be in the same building nor should it be one single bank in one single place: it could be formed of a series of banks. The essential idea in the Mexican proposal, to which I would give my support, is that whatever the idea, it should receive our support, whether it is a bank or a series of centres, it should nevertheless be under the responsibility of the United Nations: that is, that that organization should be responsible to the Member States of the United Nations because, if we leave matters as they are at the moment, without an agreement, without a true international plant genetic bank, then this will mean that the previous situation will simply continue and the results will be very harmful.

I apologize for being rather lengthy, but I quite agree with what has been said: that is, that the problem is not an easy one since there are many complexities and it is a very sensitive point. There are administrative, financial and legal problems involved. Nevertheless, I would launch an appeal to everyone here that we should not consider those problems as insurmountable. We should ask our Organization to study this problem and give it all freedom to do so. Afterwards we can look at the problems involved. I think that if we say as of now that this is a financial or administrative problem of a very complicated nature, then perhaps we should be led off on another line and to further studies and we shall have made no progress at all.

Mile M. MUSSO (France): La délégation française voudrait tout d'abord remercier la délégation mexicaine de s'être penchée sur cette question vitale. Nous pensons en effet que la question des matériels phytogénétiques est extrêmement importante et qu'il est nécessaire pour l'avenir de les préserver.

Effectivement, les conditions d'accès aux ressources phytogénétiques sauvages, ainsi qu'aux hybrides servant de base aux obtentions nouvelles pourraient certainement être améliorées. Mais il existe déjà dans le monde de nombreuses banques de gènes auxquelles ont accès de plein droit les pays en développement. On peut citer ainsi plusieurs centres internationaux de recherche agricole, comme le CIMIT pour le blé et le maïs, et l'IRI pour le riz.

Les dépenses qu'entraîne la gestion de telles banques de gènes doivent donc nous inciter à la prudence avant d'en accepter une nouvelle à créer dans le cadre de l'OAA. Il convient en outre de se souvenir que l'UPOV, l'Union pour la protection des obtentions végétales protège déjà un certain nombre d'obtentions végétales.

Nous remercions M. Bommer de ses très importantes explications et nous partageons les préoccupations qu'il a exprimées. C'est pourquoi, nous ne pouvons malheureusement appuyer la résolution telle qu'elle nous a été présentée.

Nous pensons que la résolution devrait se borner à affirmer la nécessité de stocker ce matériel phytogénétique dans tout conservatoire présentant les garanties scientifiques voulues et juridiquement accessibles à tous les pays. L'OAA se doit de veiller aux intérêts de la Communauté internationale, mais nous ne pensons pas qu'elle ait obligatoirement vocation à assurer elle-même la gestion physique des ressources en cause. Aussi, préférons nous que la résolution mentionne que c'est le rôle de l'OAA de veiller à ce que les ressources phytogénétiques soient conservées dans des endroits présentant les garanties scientifiques voulues et juridiquement accessibles à tous les pays, mais sans aller au-delà.

C'est pourquoi le mandat donné au Directeur général devrait se limiter à la présentation au Comité de l'agriculture, au COAG et au GSRAI, aux inventaires des banques de gènes existantes, aux évaluations, aux lacunes, aux problèmes juridiques et aux améliorations souhaitables. En effet, seul un inventaire complet des banques existantes et une évaluation des besoins des pays en développement peut permettre de choisir une solution appropriée.

Nous ne pensons pas qu'il doit être automatique qu'une Banque internationale soit créée en raison du coût extrêmement élevé d'une telle banque, comme l'a dit M. Bommer.

De plus, après une étude sérieuse du problème, il pourrait être décidé qu'il est totalement satisfaisant et réaliste d'améliorer les procédures actuelles des institutions existantes, sans créer une nouvelle banque qui serait très complexe et très onéreuse.

Nous souhaitons donc que la résolution se limite à demander au Directeur général d'étudier le problème, d'étudier les données existantes et l'amélioration possible. Toutefois, si le principe d'une nouvelle banque devait quand même être adopté, nous pensons que son fonctionnement ne pourrait être établi que sur une base exclusivement volontaire, notamment en ce qui concerne le dépôt de matériel. En outre, la délégation française ne saurait préjuger l'attitude ultérieure de notre pays en faveur de ce projet de banque.

G. IJIGU (Ethiopia): My delegation congratulates the delegation of Mexico for an excellent draft resolution. The delegation of Socialist Ethiopia has the duty and pleasure of supporting the theory and aim which is so clearly and correctly embodied in the draft resolution tabled by Mexico.

For our part, we have a rather well established genetic bank which we are determined to advance, both in terms of quality and quantity. We call for the strongest possible support for the idea of establishing a gene bank of international content under the aegis of FAO. We would stress the importance of seeing that FAO becomes the custodian so that genetic resources may be used for all humanity rather than as political tools, and so on, by a few.

I will be brief. We intend to come back to this highly important subject should opposition to the adoption of the draft resolution as presented by Mexico dictate a further debate.

We think monopolies should not be allowed to enter the arena of genetic resources of those of our countries who do not yet have gene banks.

J. GAZZO (Perú): Felicito muy sinceramente al hermano país de México que ha presentado un excelente proyecto fruto de su larga experiencia en el sector agrícola y de la capacidad de sus hombres. Sin embargo, quiero recalcar que ya ha habido varias reuniones en las cuales se ha tocado este punto. Yo recuerdo que debía asistir a una de ellas, del 6 al 10 de abril que hubo aquí en Roma y vino el Doctor Alexander Grobman. En esa Conferencia, el Doctor Alexander Grobman, con el grupo de México y con los latinoamericanos, ya tuvieron un proyecto, el cual, cuando ha sido publicado no aparece en los anales ni en ningún lado, parece que fue tamizado o quizás se ausentó a la hora final, pero este proyecto no aparece.

Posteriormente, a raíz del entusiasmo que generó esta reunión en Roma, del 28 al 30 de abril de 1961 sucede en Lima una reunión que se llama Reunión sobre Recursos Fitogenéticos de interés agrícola en la región andina. En esa reunión, los delegados de los países convinieron en que el intercambio de materiales de países y regiones se veía grandemente facilitado mediante el establecimiento de un banco internacional, cuya sede podría ser la FAO o cualquier otra rama de las Naciones Unidas en que exista representación de la mayor parte de los países.

Dicho Banco contaría con un estatuto propio, garantizaría legislativamente los derechos de todos los países a acceder a los recursos fitogenéticos que hayan sido depositados libremente y, digo libremente, porque siempre en cualquier Banco se actúa libremente y no es bajo presiones que se depositan los recursos. Estos recursos serían depositados libremente por los países o instituciones públicas o privadas que así lo deseen. Esto contribuiría a evitar suspicacias y malentendidos, y aseguraría altruistamente la preservación de germoplasma para el beneficio actual y futuro de la humanidad. Recojo aquí las doctas palabras del Doctor Bommer que dice que en colecciones no debía tener una o dos, sino hasta tres, digamos con un sentido de preservacionista. Yo creo que lo que buscamos todos los países es la internacionalización de la materia de los recursos genéticos. Nosotros respetamos los bancos privados. Yo he sido beneficiario de mi país enormemente; por ejemplo, en la Four Collins, material que hemos pedido nos ha sido enviado; hemos tenido apoyos de bancos de germoplasma alemán, e incluso las GTZ nos han dado un fondo para un banco de germoplasma de lupinos, un recurso genético preincaico.

La idea es muy clara, al menos yo la veo muy clara. No es que este banco va a ocupar el lugar del otro banco, sino que va a complementar los aspectos que el otro banco no cubre. Por ejemplo, en el Reglamento del Four Collins se dice que el material genético que ingresa al Banco se vuelve propiedad federal. Eso es lógico, pero eso no cubre el aspecto que quiere este grupo que es que se vuelva propiedad internacional de todos.

Tengo entendido que a Perú nunca se le ha negado material; pero sí a otros países se les ha negado esta ayuda, incluso algunos países en vías de desarrollo que no dejan salir algún material. Nosotros lo que queremos es que esta valiosa arma de los recursos que nos da la naturaleza se use, que no haya el peligro de que en algún momento por alguna razón política se le niegue a algún país este recurso. Para eso estará este Banco. Si alguno de estos Bancos privados, no internacionales les niega el recurso al país equis, la FAO con este Banco de germoplasma sería una especie de seguridad para cuando un país no pueda llegar a un acceso genético, por razones respetables, pero que yo no comparto, tenga el acceso a esta materia. Lo que yo quisiera es que nuestros amigos de Noruega, Francia y Canadá entiendan y comprendan que no se trata aquí de ningún tipo de presiones que se quiera hacer con ese Banco. Lo que deseamos es que los recursos de la humanidad sean para toda la humanidad y que todos tengan acceso a este recurso.

Tengo la impresión de que esto viene a ser el adjetivo y lo sustantivo es que ese material sea internacional; eso no se opone a que otros países tengan el material que necesitan. Esto lo respetamos, coincidimos con esa idea, pero queremos tener la seguridad de que usemos más a la FAO para lo que es, un organismo nuestro, de todos nosotros; nos sentimos familia, hijos y parientes muy directos.

Por consiguiente, mi país apoya decididamente, con mucho calor, el proyecto de la distinguida delegación de México, ahora estoy hablando aparte del representante permanente de Perú; soy miembro del Grupo Consultivo Internacional de Investigación Agrícola (CGIAR), represento a América Latina junto con Costa Rica hasta diciembre de este año. Además soy miembro del Consejo Directivo del Centro Internacional de la Papa (CIP) y este problema de recurso genético, que es un problema que incluso para los que hemos sido formados en universidades de países desarrollados, nos han dado esta semilla en la importancia de los recursos genéticos y ahora estamos traduciendo lo que nos enseñaron los países desarrollados en un proyecto justo, en un proyecto que humaniza esta gestión, esta acción.

A los acuerdos internacionales les tengo miedo; los acuerdos de armamento los conozco y no se cumplen, entonces no prostituyamos la semilla, esta cosa maravillosa que nos ha dado la naturaleza, y si quiera eventualmente, pueda suceder que algún país le diga al otro: yo no te doy esas semillas por alguna situación política. Eso no debe suceder y estoy seguro que no va a suceder. Esto es una forma de que no suceda.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia) Sin duda ésta es una de las más valiosas iniciativas que se han presentado en esta Conferencia. Debo agradecer en particular al distinguido Embajador de Libia su interesante exposición, cuyo contenido facilita nuestra declaración.

Las reservas que algunas pocas delegaciones han expresado sobre este asunto, realmente no son valiosas, sobre todo cuando se dice que en caso de aceptar esta creación del Banco sería sobre base voluntaria. Obviamente eso está en el texto del proyecto de resolución, en el último de los considerandos, y en el párrafo primero de la parte expositiva se usan los términos libre y libremente. Nadie va a forzar a aquellos países que no lo deseen a que hagan los depósitos del caso.

Además, creemos también que es necesario hacer un análisis serio y profundo de la relación costo-beneficio para salir de este ambiente conformista que nos impide avanzar iniciativas tan valiosas como ésta, sólo porque cuestan dinero. Estamos seguros de que por la misma validez de esta iniciativa, se

obtendrán las fuentes de financiamiento. Tampoco podemos compartir las ideas de aquellas delegaciones que han afirmado que nos deberíamos limitar a manifestar que aunque la FAO se preocupe por que se conserven estos recursos, etc., todos sabemos que esta es una función de la FAO. Bastaría haber elaborado un proyecto de resolución incluyendo la constitución de la FAO.

No vamos a estas alturas a prolongar nuestra intervención, porque ya aquí se han expresado ideas valiosas y estamos seguros que a través de la reunión del COAG y del Consejo se consolidará esta iniciativa para discutirla ya en firme en la Conferencia de 1983.

P. ROSENEGGER (Austria) (original language German): Austria has always given great importance to the question of the storage of seeds, and the FAO activities in this field have always been supported by us without limitation. Certainly, there is no question in our mind - and here all speakers agree - that the storage of plant genetic resources is of great importance in this world. These genetic resources should be available to all countries. To this end we give our full support to the resolution before us. Certainly, there is no question that the obvious organization to implement the ideas contained in this resolution is the FAO.

However, and this was mentioned by the delegate from Norway, the implementation of these ideas does imply considerable financial expenditure. It therefore seems to us that it is only prudent that there should be proper coordination amongst existing important gene centres or banks or other important organizations. In this regard, therefore, we consider that the IBPGR, to which reference has been made several times, could provide a detailed report on existing activities in this sector. On the basis of such a report, the Secretariat of the FAO would later be able to carry out a preliminary inquiry as to whether, and in what organisational way, we could include existing centres and set up an international plant germplasm bank, to see whether this is at all possible. We ourselves would prefer this method and, in view of what Mr. Bommer said earlier about the many technical problems raised by the resolution before us, which would require to be resolved, the preliminary nature of the study which is being required from the Secretariat of the FAO should be made clear.

V. BEAUGE (Argentina): Voy a ser muy breve por cuanto ya se ha dicho aquí que el Grupo Latinoamericano apoya calurosamente esta propuesta. Argentina apoya esta propuesta presentada por la delegación de México, y en particular en lo que se refiere a su parte resolutive, espera o va a esperar con interés los estudios y proyectos que preparará la Secretaría para ser considerados en 1982 y posteriormente en la 22ª sesión de la Conferencia, que es la parte esencial de estos tres puntos de la parte resolutive que contiene el proyecto de Resolución.

La distinguida delegación de España ha formulado algunas consideraciones y ha presentado algunas enmiendas de tipo formal, diría yo, que mejoran la redacción de alguna manera de este proyecto, y mi delegación quisiera formular su aprecio a esa contribución de la delegación de España, en lo que se refiere a reemplazar la palabra "elementos" por la palabra "proyectos", en los tres párrafos de la parte resolutive de este proyecto de Resolución.

CHAIRMAN: I have been informed by Mr. Bommer that there is a printing error in operative paragraph 3: the 7th Session of the Committee on Agriculture will take place in 1983, not 1982.

Ms. S.M. MAIER (Netherlands): The Netherlands delegation shares the concern of other delegations about the dangers of genetic erosion consequent upon agricultural development. Our Government has supported the International Board for Plant Genetic Resources from its inception and is impressed by its achievements with the means it has had available; but the Netherlands delegation supports the need for new initiatives as the funds available for genetic conservation appear totally inadequate. It is not, however, a matter of just assembling samples of genetic material for storage. A world-wide effort is required to help study genetic resources and their conservation in both natural and artificial conditions. A distinction should be drawn between reference solutions for plant breeding and maintaining overall genetic resources.

The FAO is advised to start taking initiatives, in cooperation with the International Board for Plant Genetic and existing banks, to develop a world-wide programme of action in connection with genetic resources. The proposal for a central gene bank and international agreement regulating the exchange of genetic material should be evaluated in the light of the overall study of the conservation of genetic resources.



A. ACUÑA (Panamá): Esta delegación ya ha tenido oportunidad de expresarse a favor de la propuesta de la distinguida delegación de México, en el sentido de que se establezca o se crea un Banco Internacional de Fitogermoplasma de interés agrícola dependiente de la FAO. Ha sido fundamentalmente valiosa en arrojar luces sobre el tema que discutimos, la excelente intervención del delegado de Libia así como la del delegado de Perú, en las cuales ellos han hecho gala de su experiencia como experimentadores agrícolas.

En esta oportunidad, la delegación de Panamá reitera el apoyo a esta propuesta de la delegación mexicana, y la hacemos, señor Presidente, por la importancia que la creación de ese Banco Internacional de Fitogermoplasma dependiente de la FAO tendría en cuanto a evitar un eventual problema de utilización de estos recursos como instrumentos de presión política y/o económica, tal como bien se señala en el párrafo 5 de la parte preambular de la Resolución propuesta.

Es por esta razón, que la delegación de Panamá propugna por la aprobación, por parte de esta Conferencia, de esta resolución conforme ha sido presentada por la distinguida delegación de México, con las modificaciones propuestas por la delegación de España, que en esencia, solicita al Director General de la FAO que prepare un proyecto para el establecimiento de un Banco Internacional de Fitogermoplasma, sin que esto entre en contradicción con las consideraciones, tanto técnicas como políticas, expuestas por el Sr. Subdirector General encargado del Departamento de Agricultura de la FAO, el Dr. Bommer.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): My delegation is also grateful to the delegation of Mexico for its initiative, and it is not a matter of courtesy on our part Mr. Chairman, because we strongly believe that this is one of the most essential areas, so we want to support, and emphatically support, the basic objectives and basic motives behind this resolution.

As you say, the main objectives are two, first to conserve this material or varieties, and second to guarantee the free exchange of and free accessibility to such material wherever it exists, meaning that it should not be related only to the public institutions but to private institutions as well, and that to that effect it should perhaps be amended to national legislation.

Mr. Chairman, as we understand the debate we feel that nobody opposes the idea of having a resolution, nor anybody opposes its basic trust. Indeed Mr. Chairman, we feel that an international convention with binding provisions is very necessary, and there is no doubt in our minds, please, that the Director-General in his study will find such a recommendation not only feasible but very necessary, and would be able consequently to present to COAG and the Council in two years' time the draft of such a resolution.

The second issue, Mr. Chairman, is a bank, and we also feel that the two ideas are not of a substitute nature but they tend to complement each other. We are open minded, Mr. Chairman, and we must agree with what Libya and a number of other delegations have already stated. The Director-General should undertake a very total study and explore the feasibility of a bank if he feels that such an action is necessary to reinforce the basic objectives and the importance of the action intended to meet fully the two basic objectives.

Mr. Chairman we feel that since we all, it seems, at least agree that we need a resolution and that we welcome very much the Mexican initiative, it is my feeling that with very little extra effort and some more consultations we will also be able to fully agree on operative paragraphs on which we would then address the Director-General in clear terms, asking him I think first to study the idea of an international convention which is general and very broad, and secondly to examine and study thoroughly the feasibility for the establishment of an international bank. I will not go into it any further because we are aware of the complexity of the matter and the many vital aspects that need to be studied very carefully before any kind of decision is taken. As it is obvious now that we are unable to take any decision, even a decision in principle with regard to the need for an international convention, we would favour of course such an operative part of the resolution which would ask the Director-General to study both aspects, and to GOAG and the Council submit his proposals to the next Conference, and in two years' time we will be then able to study all matters involved and take final decisions. So Mr. Chairman we feel that perhaps some little more private consultations are needed before we come to the fully agreed text of the resolution. Thank you very much.

Y. KUROKOCHI (Japan): Since you may still have about half a dozen countries who wish to take the floor, I have decided to shorten my intervention. I should like to say on behalf of my delegation that my country is also in favour of the objectives which are contained and which are being promoted by the distinguished delegate from Mexico. We have taken note with much appreciation of the initiatives that Mexico and other countries sponsoring the idea have devoted to the formulation of this resolution.

However, when I heard the introductory remarks by the Assistant Director-General for the Agricultural Department I came to realize that the task which we are facing in connection with this resolution is really a gargantuan task and there are still so many things to be considered in order to put afloat this basic idea.

My delegation is also somewhat fearful that there may be possibilities of duplications between international organizations, international machineries, other international conventions and so forth. For instance if I may just record there exists a convention called International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants. So for all the members of FAO it should be necessary to minimize the possibilities of duplications so that the objectives that we commonly seek should be obtained without stepping upon other people's toes and also making the most cost effective approach.

Also I have taken note of the intervention by the honourable delegate of France suggesting that there is much more room for making a whole list of organs, both national and international, which are providing information and also access to genetic resources, so my delegation is rather under the impression that the first thing we should do is to have a complete feasibility study in order to bring this idea to a fruitful conclusion. It is from this point of view that my delegation is tempted to agree with the amendments proposed by the delegate of the United States which says that operative paragraphs 1 and 2 should read more along the line of making feasibility studies.

Another thing I should like to say is in the preamble paragraphs there is one which refers to the political and/or economic pressure. I think this paragraph, although understandable, could be very controversial and my delegation suggests that it had better be removed. I think that is all that I want to make on behalf of my delegation.

M.S. SWAMINATHAN (India): The two studies proposed in this resolution introduced by Mexico are in our view exceedingly important and urgent, urgent because as Dr. Bommer already pointed out there are certain restrictive national policies, and compounding with this fact is the growing commercialization of plant breeding associated with the introduction of various forms of patent rights, and hence we would support this resolution calling for the two studies. I would only like to suggest a small amendment to operative paragraphs.

1. Requests the Director-General and so on, "an international bank of plant genetic resources" rather than "of orthodox seeds of agricultural interest" because sometimes it might be worthwhile maintaining the material in the form of cellular tissue cultures or a given pool and therefore will not preclude in the study the possibility of maintaining this material in the most appropriate form.

Secondly, Mr. Chairman in operative paragraph 3, taking note of the intervention made by some of the distinguished delegates, I would like to suggest: "Requests the Director-General to present the studies prepared in consultation with the International Board for Plant Genetic Resources to the Committee on Agriculture." This would take care, although it is quite obvious, FAO since it provides the Secretariat for the International Board for Plant Genetic Resources will take its help. We could make it explicit so that the ongoing facts are fully taken into account while preparing these two studies.

With these two small suggestions we would like to recommend this resolution for adoption because I think this common heritage should be preserved for the use of all concerned.

Sra. M.E. JIMENEZ (El Salvador): Seré sumamente breve considerando que ya se han vertido suficientes elementos de juicio que apoyan la importancia que de por sí tiene este. La delegación de mi país desea felicitar a la delegación de México por el magnífico trabajo realizado y la presentación del proyecto de Resolución que nos ocupa en esta oportunidad.

Consideramos la creación de un Banco Internacional de Fitogermoplasma como una cuestión de vital importancia para la conservación y uso de recursos tan apreciados que permitirán incrementar la producción agrícola y mejorar las condiciones alimentarias a nivel mundial. Por ello, nos unimos a los conceptos vertidos por el delegado de Ecuador que patentiza el sentir del Grupo Latinoamericano sobre este importante asunto, y ratificamos nuestro total apoyo a la resolución presentada y sugerida por la delegación de España en lo referente al reemplazo de la palabra "elementos" por "proyectos".

Sra. L. ELIZONDO C. (Nicaragua): La delegación de Nicaragua desea expresar su más firme apoyo al proyecto de resolución que, sobre la creación de un banco de germoplasma bajo la custodia de la FAO, ha presentado a consideración de esta Asamblea la distinguida representación de México.

Es de sobra conocido, Sr. Presidente, que los recursos tecnológicos han sido históricamente utilizados por los países que los poseen, como instrumento de presión política y como un recurso escaso, el cual no ha sido retribuido a los países en desarrollo en la misma proporción con que éstos han contribuido con sus recursos naturales a los países desarrollados.

Un gran número de nuestros países del tercer mundo, aun contando con el agua, el suelo, el clima y la fuerza de trabajo suficientes para lograr óptimos niveles de producción y productividad, nos encontramos con que los recursos tecnológicos necesarios y, en particular, los materiales fitogenéticos de alta calidad, que en su mayor parte han sido extraídos de nuestros propios países, se encuentran en manos de países desarrollados, algunos de los cuales están dispuestos a utilizarlos como instrumento de presión política.

Se ha mencionado que este banco de germoplasma presenta complicaciones operativas para su implementación y que vendría a duplicar esfuerzos que ya se están llevando a cabo. Se argumenta que un sistema que refuerce la coordinación sería suficiente. Sin embargo, Sr. Presidente, nuestra delegación opina que el problema de fondo no puede ser resuelto por la coordinación, ya que el problema crucial es precisamente que el material genético pertenece a todos los pueblos y que el sistema actual resulta insatisfactorio por tratar un material genético como una mercancía de propiedad individual y no como, ya se ha repetido en varias ocasiones, un patrimonio de la Humanidad.

Compartimos con las distinguidas delegaciones de Colombia y Perú la moción de que es necesario internacionalizar el material genético para garantizar el libre acceso de todos los pueblos del mundo, independientemente de raza, color e ideología, a estos recursos.

Consideramos que una resolución de esta naturaleza no puede ser rechazada en base a los costos que un proyecto como éste implicaría, cuando aún no se cuenta con ninguna cifra u orden de magnitud. Por lo tanto, proponemos e invitamos a aquellos países que han manifestado sus reservas por estas causas o que han manifestado estar de acuerdo con los objetivos, a que apoyen la moción de que se realicen los estudios de factibilidad para la realización de este proyecto y que, posteriormente, con los datos en la mano y con una mayor claridad de los costos y beneficios económicos que el banco representa, se tome la decisión final.

J.B. WARREN (United Kingdom): We too thank the Mexican delegation for bringing this very important topic to the attention of this conference. My delegation readily accepts the importance of conserving plant genetic resources and in much a way that they are readily available to plant breeders. We have listened carefully to Dr. Bommer's introduction and are impressed by the sheer scale of the technical exercise implicit in this proposal. Dr. Bommer referred to existing germplasm collections, as did the delegates of Canada and Norway. We believe that these collections are comprehensive and cover most major crops. There are good technical reasons why these should be concentrated in specific locations.

We believe that they are freely available as required.

Our problem is that until this Conference there was no indication that these existing arrangements were in any way inadequate. Therefore we agree with the delegate from Japan that this resolution should be rewritten as suggested by the delegate from the United States.

We should however like the study to cover two additional points. One is that the study should examine carefully the existing system in order to identify any weaknesses, either actual or potential. The second -and this echoes a point made by the delegate of Austria - is that the study should consider alternative ways of implementing the strategy which is the basic objective of this resolution.

A. TRAORE (Guinée): Ma délégation voudrait apporter son soutien au projet de résolution présenté par le Mexique parce qu'il soulève un problème d'une extrême importance pour assurer à long terme la sécurité alimentaire de manière efficace.

Il n'est pas utile de s'étendre sur l'importance de conserver et de disposer d'une gamme étendue de germoplasmes pour les nouvelles variétés à haut rendement qui soient également adaptées aux conditions économiques diverses. Il est par contre utile de rappeler que les principales ressources phytogénétiques des espèces se trouvent en zone tropicale dans le tiers monde. Malheureusement, les pays en

développement n'ont souvent pas les moyens de faire les recherches nécessaires sur le matériel phytogénétique pour l'inventorier et le stocker. Ces dernières années, sous le couvert d'organisations internationales diverses, et notamment de la FAO, il y a eu un effort important de collecte des germoplasmes en vue de les conserver. La collecte a eu lieu dans les pays en développement, et la conservation a lieu soit dans les pays développés soit dans les institutions contrôlées par les entreprises de ces pays.

Compte tenu du fait que la FAO, ses organes consultatifs, et certaines institutions qui coopèrent avec la FAO, comme le Conseil international des ressources phytogénétiques, sont concernés par le problème, ma délégation souhaiterait que la Conférence, à travers cette résolution, donne des directives au Directeur général de la FAO pour non seulement nous présenter un projet de création d'une banque internationale des gènes, mais en plus, un projet d'accord international portant non seulement sur la création de cette banque mais en plus accordant des garanties visant à assurer les ressources génétiques qui ont déjà été collectées sous le couvert d'organisations internationales ou intergouvernementales, et celles qui vont être collectées et conservées par la suite par la banque internationale seront disponibles pour tous, sans restriction d'aucune sorte.

D. LUCO ECHEVERRIA (Chile): La delegación de Chile apoya el proyecto de resolución presentado por la distinguida delegación de México, por considerarle de gran interés y trascendencia mundial. Además mi delegación estima de importancia que la FAO prepare los documentos que se indican en el citado proyecto de resolución, pues ello permitirá a la próxima Conferencia pronunciarse de forma cabal sobre esta iniciativa.

J. ROWAN (Ireland): The subject we are discussing at the moment is one which is involved in most work relating to agricultural research and development since it is the basis on which plant improvement is carried out. I think that as most delegates are clear now, we are aware that FAO has been putting a lot of work into this area, closely associating its activities of recent years with the International Board for Plant Genetic Resources for which indeed it provides the Secretariat. I am aware that that work has gone on and is making considerable progress.

The fundamental difficulty that arises undoubtedly is the question of the funding of a variety of additional works that might be desired and where those resources are to be obtained. Clearly I think, as the Assistant Director-General pointed out, on the technical aspects one cannot conceive of proceeding to set up a bank or system which is independent of existing systems. They are developed and have been developed closely with the variety of research organisations that can help them. I am not aware that in the great majority of cases, indeed I cannot think of any one case where fundamental germplasm has been refused from these centres.

Clearly there is some worry in the minds of a number of countries and peoples, especially in the developing countries, that this may be so. If it is, then they know better than I do. But I would say that the most important thing that FAO must do in the immediate future, before we assemble in two years' time, is to see how far they can go on getting an international agreement or convention in this area. I think there is already a large volume of information relating to the international networks. I am sure that at that stage you will be in a position to indicate clearly how that network is working, how much it must be assisted and where and what discussions must be added to it.

I think that is what the conference must direct itself to so that I am in full agreement with the principle and the purpose of this and I am glad that the delegation has brought it forward and that there has been such a wonderful discussion about it. But I think it is clear that we must move towards an understanding which is closer to that which the United States has suggested and indeed has also been indicated to some extent by the representative of Spain.

M. CALVO MATA (Costa Rica): Seré sumamente breve. La delegación de Costa Rica se une a las delegaciones que le han precedido para apoyar plenamente la creación de un Banco Internacional de Fitogermoplasma, órgano de interés agrícola que, bajo la administración de la FAO, garantizaría el libre acceso a todos los países del mundo desarrollado y en vías de desarrollo, sin limitación de carácter político o económico, y que contribuiría a aliviar enormemente los esfuerzos hechos por vencer el hambre y la malnutrición en el mundo. Deseo expresar en nombre de mi delegación la más sincera felicitación a la hermana República de México por la magnífica labor hecha en la presentación del proyecto para la creación de dicho Banco.

M. PHOOFOLO (Lesotho): Our gratitude is extended to the distinguished delegate from Mexico for his honourable proposal that an international plant germplasm bank be set up. This draft resolution calls for the universal protection and rational distribution of the genetic wealth of the earth and of course, everyone knows, like many other treasures, most of it will be found in the Third World. This draft resolution calls on this international organization, FAO, to assist in the establishment of a germ bank, which will be the common heritage of mankind, to be used freely by those who may need it. Up to now germplasm is kept in the places where access to it may be restricted at the discretion of those who keep it. It is fitting that it should be kept under the auspices of the natural body in which the Third World countries can have a say about when, how and to whom it should be given. We believe it should be given without prejudice for the benefit of all. Thus my delegation supports the resolution. In doing so we wish to warn that many problems that are vital for developing countries are often fraught with sabotage; delaying tactics and never ending studies after studies until nothing happens. We urge the Director-General to be very vigilant and ensure that this particular problem does not fall into the hands that may be tempted to cripple it.

Sra. R. MEDERO (Uruguay): Solamente para señalar el apoyo de la delegación de Uruguay al proyecto presentado y un apoyo muy decidido a la propuesta del Gobierno mexicano. Queremos también señalar nuestro acuerdo a las modificaciones propuestas por España, especialmente en la forma con respecto a la versión española, sustituyendo "elementos" por "proyectos".

Mme E. LINER-MAMMONE (Italie): Jene pense pas avoir quelque chose à ajouter à ce qui vient d'être dit par les autres délégués. Le problème est très intéressant mais, pour le moment, je trouve qu'il est encore très difficile de se prononcer.

R. BRUGGER (Suisse): La Suisse accepte le principe d'un échange libre des ressources génétiques entre tous les pays. La pratique existante démontre que ce principe est suivi par la plupart des pays détenteurs de banques de gènes. Nous sommes cependant conscients de la nécessité d'un système facilitant de tels échanges au niveau mondial et nous sommes convaincus que la FAO peut en effet jouer un rôle utile en promouvant la mise en oeuvre d'un système de communication entre banques de gènes existantes et utilisateurs potentiels.

Par contre, la création d'un centre de ressources génétiques par la FAO nous paraît peu réaliste. Elle ne créerait pas seulement de doubles emplois à des coûts prohibitifs mais rendrait plus difficile le fonctionnement et l'amélioration du système existant. Il nous paraît plus prometteur de nous engager davantage dans la direction d'une coordination des banques de gènes existantes, ainsi que le préconise le programme européen FAO/PNUD pour la conservation et l'échange des ressources phytogénétiques. Ce programme auquel nous avons l'intention de participer activement respecte le principe de l'universalité et tient compte, par conséquent, du souci exprimé dans la résolution qui nous est soumise.

G. LIEBER (Germany, Federal Republic of) (Original language German): My delegation too is very grateful to the Mexican delegation for having raised this very important subject in the form of a resolution, and has brought this to the attention of our meeting. It has, therefore, made possible this very interesting debate. I can be brief, Mr. Chairman. All that my delegation has to say has, in fact, already been stated by the representatives of the Nordic countries, Canada, Japan and France.

Allow me, therefore, to put forward two ideas which are very important as far as we are concerned. First of all, the reference made by the representative of Canada to the danger of doubling up of efforts, and the less efficient use of resources which automatically derives from that. The second point was raised by the representative from Japan, who also referred to the danger of duplication of effort, and I think it is very important that before we try to set up a new system we should consider the question as to how the existing system, especially that for collecting and storing genetic material which already exists in my country as well, Chairman. How, therefore, in this sector could we provide better coordination, and I think there the FAO could play a considerable role, and especially how could we bring about better use of the existing institutions and, therefore, be more effective? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

B.E. PHIRI (Zambia): I wish to express our support to the resolution of the delegation of Mexico, and if possible would wish to see it strengthened, for example, by guaranteeing that developing countries benefit from the genetic resources of important food and agricultural plants growing within their borders. Such resources at the present time are collected in our countries, and taken for storage in germ banks in the industrialized countries, from which they are made available to breeders, often commercial breeders, in those particular countries. The developing countries often only have access to these genetic resources by paying heavily for them. We think that the only way to guarantee the rights of developing countries to the benefits to be derived from their own genetic resources is by way of an international agreement regulating the conditions of conservation and exchange of such resources and, above all, prohibiting restrictive practices limiting access to them. For these reasons, we believe that the Mexican resolution should call for a project, and we support the amendment by Spain to establish an FAO gene bank, and a project to prepare a draft international agreement. We feel that given the importance of genetic resources, and the agency created by their continuing loss, to request a study of the problem is not enough. We have heard what the distinguished delegate of Lesotho has said just now. We think that we should not have to talk about costs at this stage, that is to try to cross the bridge before we come to it. The preservation of genetic material is crucial for the very survival of mankind, and we believe that the sooner we start on the project preserving such material the better. If we keep postponing the issue the question of costs will become even more serious. If we do not take action now it does not mean that in five years time the question of finance will become any better. We think that instead of waiting, therefore, for such a time when the cost will become an even greater problem for us, we must begin spending the meagre resources that we have on something of substance, rather than on the studies that appear to be the norm of the day. Talking about studies, we do not think that this is the direction we should follow because a study in itself does not guarantee that when it is completed the project will start. FAO has said, for example, as in the past that about 17 to 18 percent of grain reserves would be required as a minimum safe level for food security. This has not been accepted, yet FAO had undertaken a study and came up to this. The study, for example, of Agriculture: Toward 2000, while we asked FAO, and while we commended the FAO for carrying it out, when the work was completed, we hear quite often in these same rooms delegates saying they cannot be bound by what is contained in Toward 2000, that was FAO's study.

Yet another example, Chairman, is that the World Food Council at its Manila session indicated that about \$8.3 billion at 1975 prices of external aid would be required to assist developing countries to increase food production to an agreed level of 4 percent. That has not been accepted up to this time.

I have just mentioned a few of these to show that a study does not in itself mean, or guarantee, that action is going to be taken, and we sit here now looking at this resolution. We are told that FAO must yet undertake another study.

We do not know whether, when that study is completed, the countries which are asking for it will eventually accept it and start implementing the project. Therefore, we submit that, in considering this resolution, we should consider taking tangible action rather than the amorphous sort of approach that we normally take in these fora of just talking about the study. We therefore strongly support the amendment that, instead of requesting the Director-General to prepare the elements, we should say that he should prepare the project. With whatever meagre resources, let us start moving. The important thing is to break the inertia. Once the project is set in motion, we believe that things will become a little better.

AMIDJONO MARTOSUWIRYO (Indonesia): First, I wish to congratulate the distinguished delegate of Mexico for having presented the resolution. My delegation shares the view that plant genetic resources are in danger of erosion and loss and is convinced that the establishment of an international germplasm bank is the right step to prevent the danger for the benefit of agricultural development and of all human beings.

Many previous speakers have spoken about many important points which support the establishment of this bank.

My delegation understands that in-depth studies should be made in advance. I believe that two years from now will give enough time to make the studies and preparation, and the Director-General will then be in a position to present the draft studies in 1983.

In the light of what I have heard stated, I appeal to the Commission to adopt the draft resolution presented by the delegation of Mexico.

O. RAMADAN (Tchad): La délégation du Tchad remercie le Mexique d'avoir tenu à soulever le problème relatif au matériel phytogénétique car cela concourt au développement agricole tant souhaité pour parvenir à l'autosuffisance alimentaire.

Au sujet des problèmes soulevés par certains délégués, je pense que la résolution proposée dit bien que le terrain doit d'abord être déblayé, c'est-à-dire préparé, sur les points techniques (matériel, financier) comme cela est demandé au Directeur général de la FAO.

Et cette banque internationale si, sous l'égide de la FAO, elle était créée, serait profitable aussi bien pour les pays en développement que pour les pays développés et le délégué du Pérou a bien vu le problème. Il a indiqué par exemple que les pays grands ou petits peuvent faire du chantage politique à propos de l'échange de matériel phytogénétique. Le délégué du Pérou a cité en exemple un pays du tiers monde.

Cette banque Internationale aura nécessairement à collaborer avec les institutions nationales et internationales déjà existantes, et surtout à créer des antennes, comme l'a bien vu le délégué de la Libye.

Si la masse monétaire des pays riches (cela s'entend aussi bien des pays développés que des pays en développement) si la masse monétaire des pays riches destinée spécialement à l'entretien des foyers de tension ou de conflits armés dans le tiers monde était détournée au profit de la création d'une éventuelle banque internationale de matériel phytogénétique, le problème serait résolu, et cela en un temps record.

Ce qui a pu troubler certains délégués, c'est peut-être le titre donné à la résolution. Si on avait dit tout simplement: Etude pour une possibilité de création d'une banque internationale de matériel phytogénétique, il y aurait eu moins de discussions dans notre Commission.

La délégation tchadienne soutient la résolution proposée par le Mexique.

CHAIRMAN: We have had 37 speakers this morning. I thank the distinguished delegates for the comprehensive way we have proceeded this morning, but it still leaves us with the resolution and it still leaves us with the manner in which we should approach it in order to find the wide consensus of the Commission.

I would suggest that you should use the break not only for a good lunch but also maybe for some thinking as to how we should proceed this afternoon in terms of the content of, and the approach to, this extremely important subject.

The meeting rose at 13.15 hours

La séance est levée à 13 h 15

Se levanta la sesión a las 13.15 horas

## conference

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

## conférence

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

## conferencia

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION

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C 81/II/PV/19

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Twenty-first Session

Vingt et unième session

21° período de sesiones

COMMISSION II

COMMISSION II

COMMISSION II

NINETEENTH MEETING  
DIX-NEUVIEME SEANCE  
19ª SESION

(23 November 1981)

The Nineteenth Meeting was opened at 15.15 hours,  
R. Steiner, Chairman of Commission II, presiding

La dix-neuvième séance est ouverte à 15 h 15 sous la présidence de  
R. Steiner, Président de la Commission II

Se abre la 19ª sesión a las 15.15 horas bajo la presidencia de  
R. Steiner, Presidente de la Comisión II



II. ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMES OF THE ORGANIZATION (continued)

II. ACTIVITES ET PROGRAMMES DE L'ORGANISATION (suite)

I. ACTIVIDADES Y PROGRAMAS DE LA ORGANIZACION (continuación)

9. Programme of Work and Budget 1982-83 (continued)

9. Programme de travail et budget 1982-83 (suite)

9. Programa de Labores y Presupuesto para 1982-83 (continuación)

Draft Resolution on the Establishment of an International Plant Germplasm Bank of Agricultural Interest under the Custody of FAO (continued)

Projet de résolution sur la création d'une banque internationale de matériel phytogénétique à usage agricole placée sous la garde de la FAO (suite)

Proyecto de resolución sobre la creación de un Banco Internacional de Fitogermoplasma de interés agrícola dependiente de FAO (continuación)

CHAIRMAN: I first would like to apologize to delegates that we start 20 minutes later than was indicated but I think it was worthwhile. I would thank very much the distinguished delegates of Mexico, India, Canada, Colombia, Norway, the Netherlands and Yugoslavia for having sacrificed part of their luncheon break to sit and try to find a reconciling formula of the draft resolution. May I kindly invite the distinguished delegate of India to present the views that have come up in the little group.

M.S. SWAMINATHAN (India): At the meeting I have just taken, the following suggestions were put forward for the consideration of the Commission with regard to Resolution 81. The title of the Resolution will be "Establishment of an International Plant Germplasm Bank of Agricultural Interest Under the Auspices of FAO".

The next suggested change, Mr. Chairman, is in the preamble in the paragraph starting; "Recalling further that countries, faced with the possibility of these resources being used as an instrument of pressure", omitting "political and/or economic"... just with "instrument of pressure, have pointed out at various technical meetings" etc., and then the rest of it remains the same.

Coming to the operative part of the Resolution, the present number 2, paragraph two, will become paragraph 1. "Requests the Director-General to examine and prepare the elements of a draft international convention - of a draft international convention - including legal provisions designed to ensure that global plant genetic resources will be conserved and used for the benefit of all human beings, of this and future generations, without restrictive practices that limit their availability or exchange, whatever the source of such practices. This will be number 1.

Number 2; "Requests the Director-General to prepare a proposal for the establishment of an international bank of plant genetic resources under the auspices of FAO, taking into account the provisions of the proposed international convention and on-going national, regional and international efforts in this field".

The third paragraph, Mr. Chairman, will be as follows; - "Requests the Director-General to present proposals based on the studies mentioned to the Committee on Agriculture for consideration at its Seventh Session in 1983, so that they may be submitted through the Council to the Twenty-second Session of the FAO Conference".

CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much distinguished delegates of India. I feel that this is indeed a very substantial compromise that we may have achieved so far.

A. JUAN MARCOS ISSA (México): Señor Presidente, le agradecemos también a usted y a todos los presentes la reunión informal a la que nos citó y en especial al distinguido delegado de la India por su colaboración y excelente trabajo que ha realizado.

Creo que se olvidó mencionar en la nueva Resolución 2 después de plantas de recursos fitogenéticos, incluir la frase "de interés agrícola" para que rece en concordancia con el título del proyecto de resolución.

Por otra parte, Sr. Presidente, nosotros pensamos que en español sólo la palabra “auspicios” no significa que este banco o este posible banco esté bajo el control de una institución intergubernamental de carácter internacional. Por eso consideramos que en español por lo menos debe decir “bajo los auspicios y control de la FAO”, queriendo señalar con esto que no solamente la FAO va a alentar la creación de un banco, sino que la FAO en todo caso va a controlar a dicho banco como el organismo de las Naciones Unidas más representativa para estos fines.

Por lo tanto, Sr. Presidente, estas modificaciones vendrían en todas y cada una de las partes que diga “auspicios”, debiendo decir “auspicios y control de la FAO”.

CHAIRMAN: I think the suggestion made by the delegate of Mexico would implicitly now bring about the situation where we have the heading in English “under the auspices and control of FAO” and I think in French it would be “sous les auspices et le contrôle de la FAO”.

Miss C. McASKIE (Canada): I wonder if it would not be helpful at this stage if we could just leave it at the word “auspices”. I fully understand the point made by my Mexican colleague and I think this could be very readily be taken into account much later when we come actually to the question of establishing the international bank. At that time the role of FAO would of course be defined absolutely. Right now we are only calling for proposals, so perhaps the word “auspices” would suffice for the moment.

Sra. Doña A. CAVERO (España): Creo que me corresponde decir algo en este momento sobre la palabra “auspicios” que no entiendo que en español quiera decir control ni dependencia, sino solamente un alentar el proyecto o alentar estos elementos para el proyecto. Creo que en español no se puede decir “auspicios”, es una palabra que no resume la idea de control ni dependencia.

Además de agradecer al Presidente y a cuantos han trabajado en la reunión informal convocada anteriormente y que nos han facilitado el texto, quería pedir que en el segundo párrafo modificado, la palabra “propuesta” fuera seguida de “proyecto”, o sea “propuesta de proyecto”, porque una propuesta simplemente no dice nada completo; es una “propuesta de proyecto”.

Mr.S. ZEHNI (Libya): I have to speak in English because the amendments and the text are in English, so I shall try best to be clear in that language. I think the words “auspices and control” are not a language matter. Those who suggested “auspices” of course know the meaning of the word and avoiding custody means avoiding control, so it is clearly not a linguistic point.

However I start from what the delegate from Canada has just mentioned and I will use this the other way around. If it is a proposal which is not for anybody to follow, let it explore the possibilities, it is not committing anybody now. But when we ask the FAO for a proposal the FAO has to be very clear: are we talking about auspices or about control of the FAO or custody of the FAO? Because I am sure the proposal which we submitted will be completely different in many ways. So if we have no fear of commitment at this stage, let us put it very clearly that it is “auspices and control”, “and/or control”, if you like, because we want to see a proposal where it is taken control of by FAO, we see that is for and against it, or a proposal for “auspices”, because the two things are different. This is my first point.

The second point is just a question. In the second new paragraph there is talk about the ongoing international efforts. I would be very glad if I could be given an example of these international ongoing activities because if the reference is to the agricultural research centres then I do not think, especially in the collection or in the gene banks they are keeping, they are international in the sense that they are, as we said this morning, international. They are very independent bodies. They are not even responsible immediately to the CGIAR, the mother group, they are autonomous and are run by a few learned men chosen on their personal capacity. They are run by boards of directors and they are completely independent.

So I would be grateful if the international ongoing activities could be explained a little further before I comment further.

CHAIRMAN: I would like to come in here and indicate that the phrase “regional, national and international efforts”, as suggested in the wording of the delegate of India, was embracing the activities as we have them now. I may not be aware of all of them or know them but I am sure the Secretariat would and the FAO would take into account, with its best knowledge, the ongoing efforts that exist at present. I do not qualify them, now but I have confidence that the Secretariat of FAO would be in a good position to value and judge what should be taken into account.

I think the point is open now about “under the auspices and control of FAO” as against “under the auspices of FAO” alone. Perhaps we could ask the Legal Counsel to advise us on the indications of custody and control as against the auspices of FAO.

LEGAL COUNSEL: “Under the auspices of FAO” is a very generic term. It means essentially that FAO takes the initiative for establishing an entity. The relationship between FAO and that entity can be of various types. The entity can be so closely related to FAO that it could be an integral part of the structure of FAO. That is the solution at one end of the scale.

At the other end of the scale there is the possibility of FAO giving its assistance to an existing institution or to the establishment of new entity that is to fulfill these tasks completely outside the framework of FAO. It would still be created under the auspices of FAO but it would be completely autonomous and all the ties that might exist between FAO and that entity would be in the form of a relationship agreement, assuming that that entity is an intergovernmental body.

There are some intermediate solutions: one that immediately comes to mind is an institution created under Article XV of the Constitution. The Conference has adopted a number of Guiding Principles relating to so-called Article XV bodies and although they were originally intended mainly as research and training institutes they could also be adapted to the type of institution that is now being envisaged. It should be kept in mind, however, that the legal status of that institution is also outlined in the Principles which related inter alia, to the contents of an agreement establishing such an institution. I quote from Section T of the Basic Texts: “The agreement should contain a clause to the effect that the institute is to be recognized as an international foundation and is to have the capacity of a legal person to perform any legal act”. It would, therefore, be an institution that has its own legal personality and could, therefore, not be in any way under the custody of FAO. There might be some measure of control that FAO could exercise, but these control measures are limited, for instance, through the representation on the governing board of that institution of the Director-General or his representative, or the submission of the programme of work of the institution to FAO.

To sum up, I think that the term “control” is likely to prejudice the freedom of the Director-General, to some extent at least, in devising methods that could lead to the objective that I understand the Conference is pursuing at this time. As I said, the term “auspices” is the broadest term but I would caution against the use of the term “control” and “supervision” and “custody” would certainly not be appropriate, unless the entity were entirely within the administrative framework of FAO, and directly under the control of the Director-General and of the governing bodies of the Organization.

CHAIRMAN: As I am not a legally trained person, I see it in a more simple fashion. I regret to say so. Where we departed from was the following position, the Mexican draft text clearly spelled out the word ‘custody’, taking into consideration that there would be an organization to which Member States would have confidence to entrust in this organization a very important job for the future of agriculture and development. In the small working group one wanted to get rid of that word, and one has found then the term ‘auspices’ that seems to satisfy not totally now the Mexican delegation, but I have seen also a certain waving of the head of the distinguished lady from Canada that it also did not satisfy her completely to have ‘the control’ at least to have ‘the control’ in the resolution, I mean. Maybe the distinguished delegate of the United States can offer us a solution?

A.E. GUROFF (United States of America): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, but I suspect my offering will result in more confusion rather than less. Frankly, I think that this discussion about ‘auspices’ versus ‘custody’ is really missing the point. The U.S. on that particular question does not preclude the possibility of either FAO ‘auspices’ or ‘custody’, or both, or neither. I think the problem we have in front of us is the vast disparity of views that were expressed in the morning debate which took several hours, as I recall, do not seem to have really been dealt with by the contact group that was formed. It seemed to reflect a fairly narrow range of concerns, and as a result I think we are trying now to tinker with words on a document where we are not really even in agreement on what ball park

we are playing in yet. I do not think it is particularly to worry at this point about 'auspices' versus 'custody'. I do not think dropping of the words 'political and or economic' before the word 'pressure' conceals the difficulty with the notion that remains. We are not talking about geothermal pressure here, I presume, so all we are doing really is trying to paper over rather strong differences that a number of countries expressed this morning, and I do not think we are going to accomplish that here in this group this afternoon. I think that the U.S. still has virtually all of the same problems after hearing the contact group's report, that we had this morning, and I suspect from looking at others that that is still true. So perhaps we need a reading of the broader issue of where we are, and how to get over our hurdle, and not spend a lot of time at this point on the legal nuances of the word 'auspices'.

CHAIRMAN: I thank the delegate of the United States. After that careful analysis could we also have out of this analysis a constructive proposal?

A.E. GUROFF (United States of America): Mr. Chairman, the United States intervention this morning was offered in the spirit of trying to find a ground, a middle ground, that we could all agree to. We tried to be as constructive as we could, given the limitations of time, resources, and the job we have in front of us. What we have this afternoon is basically a proposal to go back to very close to the original proposition. So I think if we are going to be constructive we are going to have to find some way to come together on this, not just continue on the same course until those that have difficulties decide to forget about them. That is not going to happen.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you. I did not notice when the distinguished delegate of the United States returned to the Conference room. Can I take it that you took into account the suggestions made regarding the amendments to the operative paragraphs?

A.E. GUROFF (United States of America): Mr. Chairman, let me repeat again. I listened with care to the proposals of the contact group. I found them not to deal with the fundamental problems that a number of countries raised in the morning, and I think that perhaps this is largely the result of the way in which the contact group was constituted, not reflecting the spectrum of opinions and difficulties we have in the House. I think we need to find another way of coming together on this.

CHAIRMAN: Any suggestions? Let me re-state again, I think the distinguished delegates of Mexico, Canada, Colombia, Norway, the Netherlands, India and Yugoslavia did their best to find a formula, and to find formulations that could be carried by a larger majority than we saw this morning, and their sincerity that was demonstrated by all these delegates during that little working session during the luncheon break was impressive to me. I do not want in any way to minimize now the keenness and support shown by the delegates during that time.

J.L.F. BUIST (United Kingdom): Mr. Chairman, unlike my U.S. colleague I have not been present all the time, but my delegation has been present, and I equally think I have a clear grasp of the suggestions which have been made. First of all, I would like to say how very grateful we are to you yourself, and those delegations whom you have mentioned now who did make the efforts which have had the result set out in these amendments put forward to us. I note, however, that there are already suggestions that these do not completely meet the views even of those delegations that took part, and it is plain from the U.S. intervention, with much of which I sympathize myself, that it does not equally cover the views of many of those who were absent. I think myself that that puts us in a difficult position. Either we have to try and deal with this line by line and word by word, which would take up a great deal of time and be extremely difficult for this meeting, and, indeed, for yourself, or perhaps we have to have this wider range of views on both sides, on both sides of the spectrum, reflected in further efforts to be conducted under, if I may put it this way, your own auspices, and perhaps even your own control.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you for the confidence you are showing. You are very kind.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): Mr. Chairman, we feel that after the debate of this morning we have, I think, almost reached a full agreement on the text of the Resolution, including also your own understanding of what we are asking the Director-General to do. It is my feeling at least that even those present in the small working party, as you yourself said, certainly satisfied some of their concerns, and we put it now, I think, in proper sequence, asking, first of all, the Director-General to provide elements for the draft before the Commission, and then in connection with these, of course, we ask the Director-General to study carefully the issue which is very closely interlinked, that is for a bank.

That, as I understood it, was your own understanding of what we agreed in the small group, and, in the light of what legal counsel said, I feel that "the auspices" covers the whole range of possibilities and would keep open all options for the Director-General to consider. I would very strongly suggest that we agreed with "the auspices" instead of "the custody", which seems to be a bit narrower, and adopt this resolution which, I would say again, meets more or less all concerns, including the concerns of the United States delegation, because I do not think that even pressure against them - why not?

CHAIRMAN: This is just a suggestion from the floor, but I wonder if that resolution, as it is now in front of us and as it was kindly read out by the distinguished delegate of India, is carried by a large number of delegates here and we would just find an expression of reservation by those who cannot go along with it.

J.L.F. BUIST (United Kingdom): I am trying to reflect on the situation which we have here in the Conference, but I also think we have to consider the realities which will have to be met if the proposal in the form in which it has been discussed, or in one of the many forms, is to come to fruition. It seems to my delegation that we should look at the facts, at what is outside this conference hall, at what exists around the world in all the different institutions where there would be need for a very wide consensus indeed for an effective set of arrangements, whatever those may be, to be produced and given the full backing of the international community. I think it is on that that we ought to reflect first and not on how quickly, or how, we should dispose of these texts in front of us. The fact is that we can pass resolutions here, we can set up institutions - alas, this happened sometimes before - which then are not adequately endorsed by those people who have to make wider decisions about the related questions outside, in our governments and elsewhere.

I think, on that basis, we ought to perhaps pause a little for reflection, and you might feel yourself, Mr. Chairman, that it would be desirable to take a short break or to devote a little more thought to this before giving us further guidance on how we should proceed now. We can, of course, pursue the course which you have just suggested, but I do invite you to think what then may happen about the effectiveness of any text which carried with it a large number of reservations or numbers of dissent. I am not sure that that is the best way of getting at what we all, and I believe FAO generally, would wish to see.

CHAIRMAN: I should like to repeat that this morning 37 countries spoke to this subject. Twelve, while accepting the thrust of the Mexican resolution, were not agreeable to the format and to the text of the resolution as presented to us. Those 12 countries included the Nordic group and Canada. I would infer from the work done during the luncheon break that the Nordic group went along with the proposal that we had submitted and had presented later by the distinguished delegate of India. I also thought that the distinguished delegate of Canada was in agreement with that approach. That left us with 5 countries less, which meant that there were seven countries remaining opposed to the Mexican draft resolution and the rest were speaking in favour.

I would appeal to you all in the spirit of a democratic procedure in that forum that we should reflect somehow that situation, in whatever manner you like. I am in your hands, distinguished delegates, but my proposal was that we should now come to a conclusion, saying that a number, which you can establish, supported that resolution, while the others had reservations.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL: I have no reservations myself about carrying out any study. We shall be happy to carry out the studies which are envisaged in this resolution. I understand very well the position of some governments, and I would hope that they could not have reservations on the studies. They may have reservations later on when a decision has to be taken to establish a bank or to agree on a convention. All that is requested by the majority now is for studies to be carried out. This is what I understand from the resolution which is now under consideration. It requests me to formulate proposals for the establishment of an international plant genetic resources. I do not think anyone can disagree on studying reports and examining proposals.

Certainly it would be impossible, as was implied in some statements, for FAO and for all member countries to carry out any project without the full cooperation and support of some countries which have the data and material which will need to be disseminated. I would say that, without the United States without the United Kingdom, and even without the USSR and others, the bank would be a failure and never function. Therefore, I hope that at this stage they will not make reservations about a study. Later on they can make their comments. In fact, the study has to convince the donors - I am not talking in financial terms - of the usefulness of disseminating such genetic material.

We are in your hands, Mr. Chairman. The proposed study is not an easy one. It will require great care. There will be many alternatives and scenarios. We know that no proposal would succeed if those countries which have played a very important role in the past, with regard to plant genetic material, and continue to do so, are not willing to cooperate.

CHAIRMAN: I again draw the attention of delegates to the third operative paragraph which requests the Director-General to present proposals and so forth to the Committee on Agriculture and, through the Council, to the Conference. Therefore, we have the full range of consultation within the bodies of FAO ahead of us.

M.S. ZEHNI (Libya): The Director-General has just said part of what I wanted to say: what we are asking about now is just proposals for a study, and there is time later on for anybody to express their opinions on this.

I personally approach this subject because of the interest I have in it and the importance I attach to it. In that sense, I agree with the previous speaker that this resolution should really be given the chance to be accepted by all and that it is not just a matter of numbers for and against, I accept this. I am sure that the Director-General and the Secretariat, once they embark on considering this proposal, will take into consideration, as they always do, all the views that have been expressed during this debate and at the same time will take into consideration all the views that they will encounter in their wide consultation. At this stage, therefore, I feel that the cooperation of everybody from all sides is necessary, and there will be room for everybody to express their views when we come to the actual thing.

I add my appeal to your appeal, Mr. Chairman, that we should accept the resolution as it stands now because it only calls for a proposal and study.

J.L.F. BUIST (United Kingdom): I find the Director-General's remarks extremely helpful to my delegation. I think he is absolutely right in the way in which he considers it correct to approach this subject if the conference passes a resolution of this kind. At the same time, I think that the difficulties arise precisely because the studies which he mentioned are not, in fact, the exact terms of this resolution. It talks about proposals. Proposals already pre-judge the result of a study, and herein lies the real difficulty for my own delegation. I can assure the Director-General that in many ways my delegation is willing to be convinced on this, but it wishes to be convinced on the facts of what is actually required. I think that the best way to deal with this is, indeed, to make slight changes to the operative paragraphs 1 and 2, in order to talk about preparing studies on the possible establishment and the elements thereof in what used to be 1 and what used to be 2, and in the new paragraph 1 again request the Director-General to examine and to study, etc.

I am not making a formal drafting proposal now because I feel it is not very sensible to try to do that in so large a group, but I think that, with changes of this kind, we would have a consensus which would enable the Secretariat to go forward in the fullest confidence that the work that we are doing was backed widely by member nations.

A. RODRIGUES PIRES (Cap-Vert): Ma délégation rejoint l'opinion des orateurs qui m'ont précédé. Tout le monde parle de développement rural, que ce soit à Cancún ou à Paris. Nous pensons donc que cette résolution mérite d'être adoptée.

A.E. GUROFF (United States of America): I am trying to pick up on a number of threads here. First of all, I want to make it clear that the United States also values the proposal and we should hate to see a solution to this that splintered us into something that some had reservations on, and as a result of which we could not move forward in any direction.

I should also like to associate the United States with the United Kingdom's comments. We fully agree with what the Director-General has said.

In fact, we agree with what the Yugoslav delegation indicated, that we do not want to preclude FAO from looking, in its studies, at all feasible options. Our problem is that we do not think the words we are dealing with here reflect the sense of what the Director-General and the Yugoslav delegate has said.

If we take the Director-General's formulation as the spirit of what we are trying to come away with here, and take that perhaps into yet another small compact group to sort out some of these nuances, we can probably come together on these fairly readily; but if we are going to go to a compact group we need to leave this hall with some framework agreed upon. As I say, we would concur that the Director-General has captured that in his intervention.

Mile M. MUSSO (France): Je voudrais simplement indiquer que nous partageons la préoccupation exprimée par le représentant du Royaume-Uni. Les modifications qui ont été proposées par le Groupe de travail - nous reconnaissons que c'était un travail difficile, et nous l'en remercions - ne nous paraissent pas malheureusement répondre aux objections présentées ce matin par de nombreuses délégations et préjugent des conclusions de l'étude que nous demandons au Directeur général et à la FAO d'entreprendre.

Nous souhaitons donc que cette étude soit faite d'abord, et nous savons que la FAO la fera avec soin et examinera tous les points et possibilités. Nous souhaitons qu'aucune recommandation sur une Convention pour la création d'une banque internationale ne soit présentée avant que la FAO n'ait fait cette étude et en ait tiré les conclusions nécessaires. Une fois que cette étude aura été faite et présentée au COAG, nous verrons si nous devons préparer une Convention pour établir une banque internationale dans la mesure où cela s'avérera fiable et réaliste. Mais pour le moment nous ne pouvons pas préjuger des résultats de cette étude et demander à l'avance, dans la résolution, que soit préparé un projet de banque dont nous ne sommes pas sûrs que ce soit la meilleure solution.

Comme le Royaume-Uni, nous voudrions un consensus sur ce sujet où toutes les opinions seraient reflétées et qui laisserait à la FAO le soin de faire toutes les études nécessaires pour que nous en discutons les conclusions ultérieurement.

A.G. NGONGI NAMANGA (Cameroon): I am a little baffled by all the arguments which have taken place this morning and this afternoon. Throughout the debate it has been quite clear that the idea of having some form of structure to safeguard plant genetic resources is very much needed by many countries.

The delegate from Libya gave us a long account of the evolution of this idea of the creation of a bank, which I thought was commendable, a history which places much emphasis on the problems which many countries have had in having genetic material. The delegate from Peru gave some examples and most of us took note of them.

There have been many arguments pro and con but even the countries not in a position to accept all the segments of the resolution as at present realize that there is a need for such a structure.

We may depend on the definitions that will be given to the structure and the particular words which should go into this resolution but what we see before us does not definitely say that FAO should present one specific study or one project for the creation of this bank. It leaves room for FAO to study the various possibilities and accepts that these proposals can come forward. I do not see why we need to be tied down in arguing about what auspices or what control, etc.

The contact group has done a good job in putting these ideas together. I would go so far as to say, without precluding any nation except the countries who insist that we have another contact group, that we should go ahead, adopt this and allow the Director-General to present a proposal which, as I see it, will give us several alternatives.

CHAIRMAN: I should like to take that suggestion up because it links up very smoothly with the one made by the delegate of the United Kingdom. Let us have another working group. I would suggest straightaway, Cameroon, with your indulgence, of course, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, the distinguished delegate of India, with the indulgence of the Indian delegation, Yugoslavia and Mexico, of course, as the country which moved the resolution. Does that meet with your agreement? Libya was a very strong advocate of that case so I would like to include him. In this way, the working group would have the advantage of some of the thoughts that were in my opinion already somehow consolidated in that first group, and those distinguished delegates from that group could carry them into the newly established one.

Sra. Dona A. CAVERO (España): Señor Presidente, España estaría interesada en formar parte de este pequeño grupo de trabajo.

CHAIRMAN: With great pleasure. Thank you for your kind offer.

D. BETI (Suisse): Ma délégation ne peut pas en offrir autant, mais je me demande s'il ne serait pas opportun que le Canada par exemple, qui a participé à midi à ce groupe, en fasse de nouveau partie, à condition évidemment que le Canada soit d'accord.

LE PRESIDENT: Je vous remercie pour cette proposition. Je vois que Madame le délégué du Canada l'accepte. It is just a question now of when this working group should meet. We have to be rational now in terms of the time available to us. It is now half past four. I look at the Secretariat on my left and suggest we prepare for an evening session because we have another resolution before us. Either that working group leaves and meets and reports back and, in the meantime, we take on the resolution on resources for food production and agricultural development; or we move on to the resolution on resources for food production and agricultural development and let that working group meet subsequently. What is your preference, distinguished delegates? You cannot tell me you have none.

I realize Cameroon is usually permanently represented here but with only one distinguished delegate. He cannot split himself, nor can the Libyan delegate, I presume. So would it be acceptable to the assembly that we move on now to the resolution on resources for food production and agricultural development and have the working group sit subsequently?

A.G. NGONGI NAMANGA (Cameroon): Either way, I shall have a problem because after this session I am supposed to take part in a drafting committee. If the contact group is going to meet after this session, I would not be able to go to both meetings, so probably Cameroon should be replaced by some other delegation.

M. TRUKLJA (Yugoslavia): I thought we were already on the last resolution. So I wanted to say something in the way of introducing it, but if you are still on the previous one, the Mexican resolution, then, of course, I am quite prepared to follow your suggestion. We will do our best to be helpful in this small working party.

A.E. GUROFF (United States of America): I know of your anxiety in getting on with this tonight and getting it over with, but it seems to me, in deference to those who cannot be in more than one place, and with a long discussion left here in Plenary, I suspect, on the next resolution, and the drafting



committee after that, that really the only alternative is for this working group to begin its business first thing tomorrow morning and take that up. I suspect we may have two draft resolutions on our plate by then. It is unfortunate that we are getting at this so late in the game but it is too important to rush into decisions at literally the eleventh hour tonight rather than have clear heads when we deal with it in the morning.

CHAIRMAN: The only thing I would like to point out in reply to this suggestion is that we should not shift too much of our responsibilities to Tuesday because tomorrow we have to approve the report and that is certainly going to take a very long day. I doubt very much that we will have time to work on the resolutions tomorrow.

M.S. SWAMINATHAN (India): The contact group which you convened during the lunch break tried to recapitulate the various comments which were made this morning to the best of our ability and within the time available. I thought that the revised suggestions really, as our Director-General said, were aimed at providing fairly clear-cut guidelines to the Director-General of the FAO in preparing the studies, and there was agreement among the members of the contact group. Now that the distinguished delegate of the United States is of the view that the revised formulation really does not get the flavour of the various divergent viewpoints which were expressed this morning, what I would like to suggest is that the distinguished delegate of the United States be good enough to make a reformulation. That would be of great help to the other members of the contact group because several of the people whom we have nominated are common. In other words, the whole timing for the meeting of the contact group will have to depend upon the convenient time for the delegation of the United States. I would go along with you in suggesting that, if possible, members of the contact group should adjourn now to another place, but for that it will be useful if the US delegation can indicate whether they would be in a position to suggest suitable amendments to the revised draft as a basis for our starting the discussion.

CHAIRMAN: Could the distinguished delegate of the United States accept that suggestion?

A.E. GUROFF (United States of America): I guess I am prepared to write the thing and publish it myself, but I am not comfortable with that, frankly. Certainly, the US had specific suggestions to make but I think it is wrong to suggest that the US is somehow in the advance guard on this and that we can reflect all the different problems. Perhaps we have been more voluble in the debate but there are numerous others. I would simply suggest that we work from, when we do get together, the text as revised by today's Contact Group, and I think with relatively minor word changes from that - perhaps not so minor substantive changes - but relatively quickly, we could go through and identify where we still have problems, but I would certainly hasten to reiterate that is the United States' view and I am not comfortable in the suggestion that somehow that will capture the center stage where we need to wind up. I am prepared to indicate those changes as soon as we meet.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I was very happy to hear the Distinguished Delegate of the United States of America. I have heard him and the Delegate of the United Kingdom, and I am ready to meet with the Contact Group. I suggest we meet after we have discussed the second resolution because as you have explained, some members of the Contact Group are here by themselves. I am ready to work with the Contact Group and I feel sure that we can reach agreement.

M. HOUYENGAH (Togo): La délégation togolaise a étudié le document C 81/LIM/29 relatif aux projets de résolutions sur la journée mondiale de l'alimentation et sur la création d'une banque internationale de matériel phytogénétique à usage agricole placée sous la garde de la FAO.

La délégation togolaise appuie fortement ces deux résolutions et voudrait intervenir plus spécialement sur la deuxième résolution, à savoir: la résolution relative à la création d'une banque internationale de matériel phytogénétique à usage agricole placée sous la garde de la FAO.

Du reste si vous vous le rappelez, la délégation togolaise dans son intervention au niveau de la Commission II avait, le 13 novembre 1981, attiré l'attention de la Commission sur la nécessité que la recherche des variétés à haut rendement doive tenir compte des propriétés organolytiques et des goûts des populations et recommandait vivement à la Commission de se pencher sérieusement sur le problème grave des ressources phytogénétiques.

La délégation togolaise considère que cette question a été déjà débattue dans plusieurs assises de la FAO, pour preuve, la recommandation formulée par le Comité consultatif de l'agriculture à sa première session en 1946, plusieurs autres conférences de la FAO ont eu à se pencher sur le problème de ressources phytogénétiques, et trouve que le stade d'études est révolu. Par conséquent, la délégation togolaise apporte quelques amendements à la formulation de la présente résolution: au lieu de "demande au Directeur général d'étudier les éléments...", la délégation togolaise souhaite formuler la phrase en ces termes: "Demande au Directeur général de la FAO d'élaborer un projet de création d'une banque internationale de semences à usage agricole", le reste sans changement.

Par ailleurs, à l'alinéa 5 de la même résolution il semble qu'il y a un mot en trop, il s'agit de "en outre", à moins qu'il y ait eu une idée qui a été supprimée...\*

Draft Resolution on Resources for Food Production and Agricultural Development (continued)

Projet de résolution sur Ressources pour la Production alimentaire et le développement agricole (suite)

Proyecto de resolución sobre Recursos para la producción alimentaria y el desarrollo agrícola (continuación)

CHAIRMAN: I think that proposal has now been presented for the second time, and if the Commission goes along we will move on to the Resolution, the draft resolution of rural resources for food production and agricultural development. I see no objection to that.

The debate is open and the draft resolution on resources for food production and agricultural development as contained in document C 81/LIM/31.

M. A. AL-SANEH (Kuwait) (original language Arabic): I would briefly like to state that this draft resolution is merely a confirmation of one of the objectives of FAO's tasks, the development of agriculture and of food production. But since it is related to the resources needed to achieve that objective, this draft resolution requires all member countries to provide the necessary resources. This is a very important resolution indeed, particularly if we think that there is a decline in the development of developing countries and a shortage of resources. That is why we strongly support this draft resolution. Thank you, sir.

S. P. MUKHERJEE (India): According to my mind, Mr. Chairman, this resolution represents the quintessence of all discussions and feelings that have been expressed by various countries in various commissions at the last Plenary Session. As a matter of fact I consider this Resolution to articulate the soul of this Conference. The Resolution enshrines a number of thoughts which have been repeated and re-repeated by a number of Distinguished Delegations, by our Prime Minister, by the Director-General, and even by the resolution of a similar nature, Resolution 6/79 which was passed in the same Conference in 1979, and my Delegation feels that expression of these noble thoughts would be very useful to remind ourselves of the global responsibility that each one of us has towards mankind as such.

I would like to very briefly reflect the thoughts that have been indicated in this Resolution. The Constitution of the FAO is framed round a centre theme of mankind's fight against hunger and malnutrition, and this is exactly the feeling behind this Resolution, the central theme which runs throughout this Resolution.

Mr. Chairman at the present juncture the world is populated by a number of countries of three or four categories. There are some countries which are surplus in food and therefore they have the technology to produce food, and they have also a surplus in funds. The second category is of countries which are

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\* Texte reçu avec demande d'insertion au procès-verbal

surplus in funds but not surplus in food. There is still a third category of countries, which are neither surplus in funds nor surplus in food, but they have somehow gathered some experience and expertise in food production. And the last category, is that unfortunate category of countries which is placed in not being in surplus either in food or in funds or in technology.

Now the FAO's role is to put all these four categories of countries together and have a system of international collaboration so that those who are in surplus in food share their food with those who are not so fortunately placed and have a deficiency in food. Those who are surplussed in funds but not surplussed in food, they can buy the food with the funds that they have at their disposal, and those who have the knowledge and experience and technology, they can share the technology with other countries who are not so well placed. Now this mutual collaboration between these four categories of countries is, I think the foundation on which the FAO is built and is the foundation of the Director-General's thoughts on FAO having a global society, and that is also the idea which our Prime Minister indicated in the McDougall lecture about self-reliance and global collaboration.

Now this resolution is also based on this theme of self-reliance and collective collaboration between the various countries, for having more food production and self-reliance, and of course the idea in FAO's activities is to promote self-reliance in a manner so that those countries which are not self-reliant today and have to depend on others by virtue of collaboration are able to stand on their own legs insofar as food-self sufficiency as well as technology of production is concerned.

Sharing of food, sharing of technology and helping the less fortunate countries with aid and trade, are other thoughts which have been indicated in this Resolution to be implemented through the FAO, and of course it goes without saying, as I had indicated earlier also in this house, that the collective wisdom of the world community had established Food and Agriculture Organization as the northern agency, as the apex agency for conceiving and executing of ideas which will help in increasing food production, agricultural development and rural development, and if all these ideas have to be implemented through the FAO it is but necessary that the FAO is back-stopped by financial arrangements so that they are able to discharge the responsibility cast on them, and that is why in one of the points which have been indicated in this Resolution, expression has been made of the urging of this Conference to the world community, that funds should be given to the FAO through the various conduits like IFAD, Special Action Programmes i.e. and IFAD so on, so that FAO is strengthened and the hands of FAO are strengthened in discharging its responsibility.

So in that context, Mr. Chairman, we fully support this Resolution as we are one of the first sponsors of this Resolution, and if this Conference has to go down in the annals of humanity as one of the milestones in humanity's effort to have self reliance through international collaboration, I think this Resolution should be adopted by this house without any reservation.

R. GARCELL (Cuba): Respetamos las opiniones expresadas por unas pocas delegaciones en cuanto a la preocupación en esta comisión para aprobar la resolución: "Recursos para la producción alimentaria y el desarrollo agrícola", e incluso solicitar orientaciones a sus capitales.

Varias reuniones internacionales, señor Presidente, incluso celebradas recientemente coinciden con constancia de criterio, en cuanto a la necesidad de aliviar la impresionante situación alimentaria; tales pronunciamientos han contado con la opinión favorable de cuantos comentarios hemos conocido. El proyecto de resolución que se nos ha presentado es amplio y en lo fundamental es una exhortación a mantener la prioridad que requiere la preocupación alimentaria y no comprendemos cómo es posible rechazar un proyecto de resolución de carácter tan general que sólo incluye nobles propósitos.

Invitamos a todos los delegados a que esta resolución, que por su contenido no debe presentar dificultades a las Delegaciones sea aprobada en la forma que se nos ha presentado.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): Mr. Chairman, I am sorry you failed to note my wish to say a couple of sentences by way of introducing this resolution on behalf of the six countries. But since many of my previous colleagues, especially my Indian friend, have very eloquently introduced the general and basic motives that led us, the six countries to submit this resolution, I will try only to add a couple of more specific observations.

We felt strongly that such a resolution which has already become a sort of tradition should be adopted by this conference with the basic aim of epitomizing the central theme, the central feelings expressed in the long debate in this commission as well as in the plenary.

I want to assure you, Mr. Chairman, that in considering the text of the draft resolution we paid full attention to all the views and the concern expressed and we believed and still believe that the text now before you is a very balanced reflection of the views expressed here and in the plenary.

I want only to indicate that in the six operative paragraphs, we wanted to get across a number of messages that we thought were very important and essential for this conference to agree. First of all I do not think that the first paragraph would be controversial to any measurable degree. We are asking all Member Nations to give the highest priority to food and agriculture and to refrain from any measure which would reduce the availability of food supplies.

Then again we are asking all developing countries in particular to pursue the policy of collective self-reliance in food and agriculture.

In the third paragraph we want to spell out in clear terms that to achieve the objective that we agreed on on so many occasions of a four percent minimum growth in food production, international cooperation should be viewed as an essential element. But in the technical, and not only in the technical sense, paragraphs 4 and 5 represent the core of the whole resolution. In paragraph 4 we are strongly urging all nations to undertake immediate steps to ensure the replenishment of the concessional resources, and I want to underline "concessional resources". We wanted further to enlist those international financial institutions that in our view should be replenished immediately, that is IFAD, a case already agreed in Commission I; then the UNDP target envisaged and then the FAO special action programmes. We made reference of course to the WFP targets and the need for food aid channeled through international emergency food reserves.

As I said this morning, we feel that there is absolutely nothing new here, that all the things covered by paragraph 4 have been discussed thoroughly in our debate, have been reflected in all plenary speeches and were the subject of so many international meetings and international commitments.

In paragraph 5 we want just to stress again and remind ourselves of the four basic constitutional FAO responsibilities. Finally, we want the Director-General to continue to streamline, as he said, the programmes, staffing and administrative costs and to make improvements in efficiency and economy. In the last part of the same paragraph we want the Director-General to make his best judgment, and I have in mind the world food situation and the prevailing needs as well as constraints.

That is the basic thrust of our resolution and we feel that this commission should adopt such a text and submit it to the Plenary for final adoption.

M. M. MUKOLWE (Kenya): I would also like here to take the same stand as the previous speakers and I agree and sympathize with those other members who are finding it difficult to get to support this particular resolution.

We have discussed it in detail during the past days, this is not a new subject as the delegate from Yugoslavia put it, yet our concern is still over deteriorating agricultural production, food being in the forefront, without mentioning some other terms of trade imbalances which are not favourable to the countries that draw their foreign exchange from certain cash crops on international markets. The situation is moving from bad to worse in many developing countries where food deficits are becoming almost the order of the day.

If we ask ourselves what would happen, surely the answer is not anywhere else except here where we are all concerned with food production and where we have taken all this time to discuss it. First and foremost comes enhancing the operation of this very vital organisation, the FAO, to which we belong and which is concerned with food production, and the removal of hunger, malnutrition and poverty. Surely it cannot be only a slogan but it should be among its family members so that mankind as a whole can benefit here.

If again we implement or follow up the WCARRD recommendations, in addition to increased food production and other related fields such as energy, strengthening of national agricultural research, transport technology to the rural poor, nutrition, protection of the environment as other agencies have already discussed or mentioned here, whatever their problems in their own bodies, this is a very important area that we should support.

Furthermore, recently we had very important summits which have already been mentioned by the Heads of State at Ottawa, Cancún, Paris, Lagos, all supporting food production. Surely if we have to make it a reality - and we are all here - it is better that we impress this on people and decide on the course to support the very modest budget of the Director-General for the coming biennium.

The task before us is formidable so it is only for us to cooperate to make it a reality if we mean business.

Mme F. LARBI (Tunisie): Ma délégation ne peut s'empêcher de faire part de son étonnement devant la réticence manifestée par certains délégués quant à l'examen et l'adoption de la résolution qui nous est soumise. Elle est d'autant plus surprise que le problème qui nous concerne a toujours fait l'objet d'une avis unanime, l'accroissement des ressources pour la production alimentaire et le développement agricole a toujours été au centre des débats de nos réunions. Il est unanimement reconnu qu'il est nécessaire de répondre à ces préoccupations en augmentant et diversifiant les crédits destinés à l'alimentation et à l'agriculture.

Il n'y a, dans cette résolution, pas un seul aspect qui n'ait été débattu dans l'une ou l'autre commission, et dans tous les cas ou presque, il a été accepté au moins par consensus. Les idées ne sont pas nouvelles et les notions sont familières à tous les délégués. En réalité, cette résolution ne fait que regrouper, sous un même chapeau, divers éléments qui ont été discutés séparément par d'autres comités. Aussi, ne peuvent-ils constituer pour les délégués une nouveauté qui nécessite des mois d'étude approfondie à l'avance et des débats interminables.

En un mot, cette résolution rafraîchit les mémoires et nous rappelle les priorités et les nécessités dont nous avons convenu auparavant dans d'autres réunions. Cette résolution ne fait qu'insister sur la nécessité de mettre en oeuvre les mesures qui ont obtenu notre consensus à plus d'une reprise et qui incombent tant aux pays en développement qu'aux pays développés.

Aussi, ma délégation demeure-t-elle perplexe devant l'évocation de certaines difficultés que rencontrent certains délégués pour l'adoption de cette résolution.

A la lumière de ce qui précède, ma délégation ne peut s'empêcher d'appuyer sans réserve le projet de résolution qui nous est présenté, et ce, tout en lançant un appel aux autres pays pour qu'ils considèrent ce texte avec compréhension et objectivité.

T. MIRCEA (Roumanie): Ma délégation aimerait adresser ses félicitations aux délégations qui ont pris l'initiative de proposer une telle résolution. Notre avis coïncide avec l'avis de beaucoup de pays en voie de développement. En effet, ce projet de résolution incorpore certaines idées essentielles qui ont été discutées aussi bien en séance plénière que dans les commissions. Il nous semble également que la manière dont ces idées sont incorporées dans le texte le rend très équilibré.

Nous voulons surtout exprimer notre satisfaction de voir que l'on a souligné l'effort propre de chaque pays en développement, la coopération horizontale entre pays en voie de développement ainsi que la nécessité d'oeuvrer avec l'appui international pour aider les efforts des pays en voie de développement.

Nous sommes très satisfaits que l'on ait souligné une fois de plus le rôle très important qu'à joué et que peut jouer encore notre Organisation pour la mise en place pratique de ces buts essentiels, non seulement dans le domaine de l'agriculture et de l'alimentation mais dans les relations internationales en général.

M. ARAFAH (Jordan) (Original language Arabic): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all I will try briefly to comment on this resolution. My delegation thanks the group of countries who submitted this resolution, which is balanced. It also provides a practical and realistic solution to our problems by implementing our principals and our criteria insofar as food production is concerned. Therefore my delegation appeals to all countries to support it.

Sra. Dña. A. CAVERO (España): Mi delegación apoya esta resolución, pues como ha dicho el delegado de Yugoslavia, este proyecto de resolución es ya casi una tradición, y pensamos que el texto es una

expresión de opiniones emitidas en esta Organización e incluso en otros foros y vértices internacionales como Ottawa, París, y recientemente Cancún. Por esto, pedimos que esta Comisión adopte pues este texto para ser presentado a la Plenaria.

WANG SHOU RU (China) (Original language Chinese): The Chinese delegation is of the view that the draft resolution on the resources for food production and agricultural development reflects the general economic situation facing the international community, and particularly the challenges we are facing in the field of food and agriculture. As was pointed out by the delegate of Yugoslavia, the draft resolution contains some requests and appeals to the Member States and international community as well as to the FAO, which were touched upon by our discussions on our previous agenda items. Therefore, the Chinese delegation supports this draft resolution and commends it to the Conference for its adoption.

T. AHMED (Pakistan): May I with your permission convey my deepest gratitude and appreciation to all my friends who so wholeheartedly, warmly and most emphatically supported the draft resolution, because my country with India, Lebanon, Indonesia, Sudan and Yugoslavia, is the co-sponsor of this resolution.

Mr. Chairman, we think this is a very balanced resolution which takes into consideration most of the points of view expressed not only during this Conference but on other international fora, including the summit conferences like Ottawa, Cancun and Melbourne. My country has been consistently of the view, and we have expressed this on all platforms, that developing countries have to stand on their own feet, become self-reliant, and strive in this direction, gear their policies in the field of agriculture and food in such a manner that they do become self-reliant in a very short period. Mr. Chairman the Resolution precisely reflects this point of view, and it also reflects the point of view, to which we subscribe, that the administrative costs, the staffing efficiency of the FAO, should be enhanced as far as possible so that the money available for agricultural development and combating malnutrition and hunger with all the international organizations is spent most effectively.

We share the bewilderment and surprise of the distinguished delegate from Tunisia that how is it possible that such resolution which we think, and which most of the delegates think, is so balanced, and reflects the opinion of most of the countries which have been expressed at different forums, and on different platforms, should cause any concern or discomfort to any delegate from any country. We think we have gathered here, and we have been spending this two or three weeks here simply in an effort to fight against malnutrition and hunger all over the world. If we want to do this we should have no hesitation in supporting this resolution, going along with this. I only want to briefly say that my country, which co-sponsored this resolution, wholeheartedly supports it and appreciates the words of support expressed by all the delegates for this resolution. I have so far not heard any word of resistance or discomfort with this resolution, so may I suggest, Mr. Chairman, that you may like to end the debate at this level and then say the resolution has been adopted by Commission II, and it goes to the Plenary in this context, unless there is some word pronounced of objection to it, which we have not heard so far.

P. OLMOS MORALES (Uruguay): Mi delegación comparte el criterio de las delegaciones preopinantes en cuanto a su apoyo a la resolución sobre recursos para la producción alimentaria y el desarrollo agrícola. Nuestro apoyo se basa en que constituye una valiosa síntesis de todos los aspectos generales que se han analizado en esta Conferencia, tanto en lo que se refiere al desarrollo agrícola como a los problemas de la malnutrición.

Desde este punto de vista, se han sintetizado, en esta resolución, los distintos aspectos en lo que tiene que ver con la prioridad a nivel de cada uno de los Estados, particularmente el enfoque de los países en desarrollo, y por otra parte, la consecución efectiva de los aspectos en cuanto a financiamiento que evidentemente requieren el alcance de las metas, que en distintas instancias en el concierto internacional ha existido consenso entre los distintos países. Por otra parte, deseamos recalcar lo concerniente a la cooperación internacional la cual tiene una debida cabida dentro de este texto. Finalmente, también se ha tenido en cuenta y se ha exhortado a procurar el máximo de simplificación de programas y reducción de costos, con el fin justamente de que los fondos destinados a nivel internacional propendan más efectivamente al desarrollo agrícola y a un efectivo enfrentamiento de los problemas de la malnutrición en el mundo.

Por todos estos elementos, mi delegación considera que esta resolución constituye la piedra angular de este período de sesiones, y además reafirma en su Artículo V los objetivos generales de nuestra Organización.

J.O. ALABI (Nigeria): From what I have heard so far I have not heard any word of dissent, and this makes me very happy that the resolution will be carried. My delegation does not think there should be any problem with support for this resolution since the past two weeks we have said many words about the urgent need to provide adequate food production to ensure the elimination of hunger and malnutrition from the world. In the recent past there have been several international meetings urging that adequate resources should be provided for food production. The resolution is a good one, Mr. Chairman. I need not repeat the points made by many speakers in support of the resolution in view of the time constraints. We had better support this resolution, Mr. Chairman, and we request this Commission to recommend the adoption to the Conference.

K. CHOUEIRI (Liban) (Langue originale arabe): La délégation de mon pays est coauteur de ce projet de résolution. De nombreux arguments nous ont amenés à présenter ce projet de résolution, et l'honorable délégué de Yougoslavie a déjà évoqué toutes ces raisons. Ce projet de résolution n'apporte rien de nouveau, ni de révolutionnaire, qui puisse susciter des interrogations ou des réticences. Les délégations ont discuté toutes les questions mentionnées dans ce projet de résolution et la majorité écrasante des pays membres a appuyé les questions qui ont été discutées pendant cette Conférence.

En outre, les procédures qui ont été suivies pour vous soumettre ce projet de résolution sont tout à fait régulières et représentent le minimum que nous puissions demander pour assurer les ressources nécessaires pour la production alimentaire et le développement agricole. C'est là quelque chose de très important pour lutter contre la faim, la pauvreté et la malnutrition dans les pays en développement.

Le projet de résolution parle de questions que nous connaissons tous, qui ne doivent pas susciter des réserves de la part de certains d'entre nous.

Dans le premier paragraphe, on demande de développer l'agriculture et la production alimentaire, et dans le deuxième paragraphe il est question de l'autosuffisance. Ce projet fait appel à la coopération Internationale.

Pensez-vous que toutes ces questions méritent d'être rejetées? Nous ne le pensons pas. C'est la raison pour laquelle la délégation de mon pays appuie ce projet de résolution et invite tous les pays membres à l'approuver, étant donné que ce projet n'a que des aspects positifs qui servent les intérêts des pays en développement.

A.G. NGONGI NAMANG (Cameroon): There is no need to go into any long discussion, since I think that the consensus is that the resolution is well balanced, is broad, it covers all the points of view we have been discussing throughout the Conference. There is no doubt that the Conference should get together for collective self-reliance so that the developing countries must give more emphasis on food production and that the Director-General should exercise all necessary matters to streamline the administration and create more efficient use of the Organization. I think, Mr. Chairman, there will be no need to prolong the debate much longer. If you could, probably after a few more interventions, call for the adoption of this resolution, we would appreciate it very much.

A. RODRIGUES PIRES (Cap-Vert): Je serai très bref, étant donné que le délégué du Cameroun a parlé avant moi. Nous ne devons pas perdre de temps. Le texte de cette résolution constitue la clef du problème, et nous demandons aux délégations ici présentes d'appuyer cette résolution.

Sra. Doña L. ELIZONDO C. (Nicaragua): Solamente una brevísima intervención para expresar nuestro total apoyo al proyecto de Resolución. Nuestra delegación se une a lo expresado por otros países para que este texto sea adoptado como una resolución de esta Conferencia.

B.E. PHIRI (Zambia): As you have noted, Mr. Chairman, the members of the Group of 77 have all spoken in favour of this resolution. When the draft was made by our colleagues, they showed it to us. We discussed the resolution, and the whole Group supports it. We were surprised this morning that some

delegates thought there was material in this resolution which called for consultation with their home governments. All that is said here is something that has been said in a number of fora, in a number of meetings. It is merely a repetition of what we have agreed upon in the past. Seriously speaking, we really do not understand those who think they should consult their home governments. What is there to consult the government about? Some of the things here have been said by those particular governments, and it is surprising that anyone would go back to them to say, "Do you think we should say this in Commission II?"

We see that possibly those who want to consult their governments are considering operative paragraph 4 because it urges Member Nations to take immediate steps, and some proposal for amendment has been made to change it to say that we should take necessary steps. While taking necessary steps is not something that we could object to, the trouble is that necessary steps can be taken today or they can be taken in 10 years' time. The Group of 77 feels that we should take immediate steps to begin to implement some of the things that we have talked of for a long time in the past. It is high time that we began to take action, and we think action should be taken.

Without wasting much time, I wish to affirm that the Group of 77 is fully behind this resolution.

AMIDJONO MARTOSUWIRYO (Indonesia): My delegation is convinced that agricultural developments aimed at increasing food production and agricultural commodities, particularly in food-deficient countries, are the right efforts and the shortest way to cope with the problem of hunger and malnutrition. Self-reliance must be the basis of all efforts and activities and policies pursued by developing countries, otherwise they never achieve real independence. It is true that to some extent they need support from international organizations, from countries who are economically in a better position in terms of funds and expertise.

In this context I wish to refer to paragraph 3, particularly line 1 which states that self-reliance can only be achieved through fuller international cooperation. That seems to my delegation a little misleading. In this context I would suggest that the word "acquired" should be used.

Except for this amendment, my delegation fully supports the entire resolution since it covers many points which are of paramount importance in strengthening policies and actions in the development of food and agriculture, strengthening capabilities of international funding institutions like IFAD, recognizing that FAO is an indispensable instrument of international cooperation in the efforts of the international community to overcome hunger and malnutrition, and increasing or promoting cooperation among developing countries.

ABUL ARSAN (Bangladesh): In view of the comments made by the various distinguished delegates supporting the resolution, I shall be very brief.

First of all, I should think that this is a very balanced resolution. On the one hand, it speaks in terms of the priority that agriculture should get, a point which has been endorsed by several international agencies, the different conferences recently held, and, more important, this Conference of FAO itself. We should be failing in our resolve if we did not reflect what has been very forcefully made out by a very large number of delegations in the general statements and elsewhere that agriculture should be given first priority; that in order to attain the objective of becoming self-sufficient the developing countries need to be supported both by the international organizations and the country concerned. Therefore, I say that we should be failing in our responsibility if we did not reflect that concern which this Conference itself has articulated, and the only way we can do that is by giving full support to this resolution.

Frankly speaking, I do not see any ground on which any reservation can be made on the draft as it is. Personally, I should have thought that there was even scope for strengthening the resolution.

NGA MA MAPELA (Zaire): Nous aimerions nous aussi accorder notre plein appui à ce projet de résolution. Comme d'autres délégués l'ont si bien dit, cette résolution ne fait que reprendre le thème qui fait l'objet d'accords au niveau international. En effet, que ce soit dans la résolution 6/19 que notre Conférence avait adoptée lors de sa vingtième session ou que ce soit dans les recommandations de Cancún ou d'Ottawa, tous nous avons toujours reconnu et souligné la nécessité d'augmenter la production alimentaire et agricole. Encore une fois nous donnons notre plein appui à cette résolution et nous ne pensons qu'on devrait, à cette heure tardive, procéder à des amendements sur ce texte.



J.L.F. BUIST (United Kingdom): Thank you, first of all, Mr. Chairman, for giving me the floor, since, when I intervened in the discussion earlier this morning, I really did so primarily on the question of procedure. The Zambian delegate told us that he himself and many of his colleagues had had the advantage of seeing this text in the making, so to speak, and it almost inclined me to wish that my delegation belonged to the Group of 77 so that I could have had the advantage equally of seeing it at an earlier stage. However, as you know, we did not get it until this morning, and I think it was quite natural that we should therefore take a rather close look at it to see what it said. Indeed, I think it would have been very helpful, if, when the resolution was in the making, it could have been discussed with us or shown to us in some way, so that, as one of my colleagues said earlier, we did not find ourselves in the danger of starting a very long debate at the eleventh hour and the fifty-ninth minute of our work.

My delegation would very much like to join in supporting a resolution of this kind. As the Yugoslav delegate has reminded us, it is to some extent traditional to have such a text which is put forward, and I have looked at the one which was passed in 1979, though I am bound to say, in deference to him, that I think it is not quite the same as the one we have in front of us now. That in itself indicates, of course, that the text which has now been prepared is shaped to take account of new situations and new developments, and that again requires us to look rather carefully at it to make sure that it responds properly to those developments.

I listened with the deepest attention to the interventions of others, particularly the eloquent presentation by the Indian delegation and what was said by the delegation of Kenya who made some very thoughtful remarks recalling to us the very real state of affairs in the world outside. We are glad that there is a universal desire such as was expressed by the distinguished delegate for Pakistan that the text should be properly balanced. That is something we would equally endorse. We would also agree with the view of the Zambian delegation that the text should reflect what had already been agreed upon.

I think those points are extremely fair and, if they are observed, there seems to me no difficulty in our arriving at a fairly speedy conclusion to this discussion.

As to the substance of the text itself, I should like to make one advance remark of general importance which relates to the question of matters covered or to be covered in other resolutions by this conference.

This resolution itself overlaps with texts or decisions which will separately be put to the conference for adoption. I give as an example the replenishment of IFAD, which is mentioned in paragraph 4. Another example is the budget question, which was mentioned by Kenya. We fully understand the views of most countries here on this point but, since there is to be a separate decision on that, it does not seem to us either wise or satisfactory to include overlapping matter in this particular text.

That relates, of course, not only to one or two points in the preliminary recitals, but also to some extent to paragraphs 5 and 6 of the resolution presented to us in draft.

More generally, it is the view of the majority of countries here, which, as we have made clear in earlier discussion, we respect but do not share, that the FAO is not to be compared with orthodox multilateral aid agencies or to be examined in value against those agencies in terms of the developmental orientation in a number of different ways. That view was taken quite strongly in earlier discussion by some of those delegations who have now sponsored this resolution. I find that the language which comes to us sits rather oddly when it talks of these points, given those previous discussions, which are of course recorded elsewhere in the papers we have to consider.

I think it would be an unhappy event if this sort of inclusion of other matter obliged us to bring forward as a result other sorts of considerations which perhaps ought to be included in any resolution because they reflected the course of discussion so far.

That is a general point which I am making. It is not a point on which I wish to go over old ground or re-open anything which has already been exhaustively discussed in this Commission.

It does behove us to take into account these points when we are considering a text, and a text which we certainly wish that all member nations represented here be able to subscribe to.

I would now turn to the text itself and explain why, although in general, we go along with it, as usual, as we say in English, the devil is in the detail. Everyone is agreeable, I think, to the general plea which has been made very forcefully by many members in this room during the discussion so far that there should be a resolution, for the wider reasons they have given.

Let us look, however, at some of the points at which we might need to make some adaptation in order to take account of the views actually expressed. If we look, for instance, at the recitals in the preamble, the seventh contains a thought which certainly has not been extensively - let me say, unanimously - shared, to the extent of its being possible to be represented in consensus form. I think there are ways of rephrasing that recital in such a way as to overcome what appears to be a difficulty there.

If we look at the tenth recital, the last one, again there are ways in which I am sure these could be reformulated without raising the difficulty I mentioned earlier.

On the third operative paragraph, I believe that the Indonesian delegation made an excellent point. It seems paradoxical to argue that greater self-reliance involves less self-reliance, and I feel sure that some minor changes to that paragraph - perhaps on the lines he proposed - could see us through any difficulty there.

In paragraph four, this text takes up a number of points which we have already discussed and which are, to some extent, reflected in the draft records of our earlier discussions. I believe that it would be fair, right and necessary, if I can adopt a word which again, I think, the Indonesian delegation used, to include references to all these, organs of multilateral financing except the International Fund for Agricultural Development, for the reasons I have given.

I say that, if I can make a remark off the record, particularly because I am responsible for advising on policy towards all these institutions in my own country and I think it is right that they should be given their proper weight.

At the same time, as some delegates will realize, this does not tell the whole story, nor does it necessarily put the formulation in a way which, I believe, we could all accept. So think we shall have to do some work on that paragraph.

Then we come to the fifth and sixth. With regard to the fifth operative paragraph, I have already referred to possible problems of overlap there. As far as the sixth is concerned, we are glad to see this paragraph but in one sense I do not believe that it should be here at all, any more than 5, for the reason I gave earlier. If it is to stay, I believe we shall have to attempt to adapt it somewhat in order to reflect the balance of the discussion in relation to the further efforts which ought to be made, and, as far as the latter part of the paragraph is concerned, to accord more closely with what I believe is the usual procedure in the Organisation. If I may make what is almost a frivolous remark, it seems rather strange to invite the Director-General to use "his best judgment". I am quite sure that no one would dream of his doing anything else when putting forward the budget, and it almost casts a shadow on that judgment to include those words. However, I believe we should reflect first on whether paragraphs of this kind ought to be in at all. Let us focus this on where it is really needed, upon the international aid agencies, and let us come up with a text that can be unanimously adopted by acclamation by the Conference.

CHAIRMAN: With reference to your last remark, I think your comments have been carefully noted.

We have had so far 21 speakers. Apart from the UK, one has made suggestions as to the text, the delegate from Indonesia. The others have made no suggestions for change at all. I feel I ought to say this as your Chairman, looking at the proceedings objectively.

F. DE MENEZES (Sao Tomé-et-Principe): Je vous remercie, Monsieur le Président, de me donner la parole, même s'il est déjà tard, et malgré que nous ayons compris qu'il y avait un consensus pour l'adoption de la résolution qui nous est soumise. Puisqu'il y a un consensus, la délégation de Sao Tomé-et-Principe veut se joindre à ce consensus et demande que cette résolution soit immédiatement adoptée telle qu'elle nous est présentée.

Pour terminer, nous voudrions attirer l'attention de cette commission sur le fait qu'à la réunion de Cancún tous les pays participants se sont prononcés à l'unanimité pour l'agriculture, l'alimentation et le développement rural et, si notre mémoire n'est pas défaillante, le Président des Etats-Unis et le Premier ministre du Royaume-Uni y étaient présents.

J. ROWAN (Ireland): When I intruded this morning and asked that you should give us time to consider this particular resolution, I did so without consideration of any other delegation. I have not seen anything, except what you told me on Friday evening, that the resolution was; available; it came to me only when I arrived here to sit in this chair. Any comment I made at that time, therefore, was without reference to anyone else and in pursuance of the function I bear here, to see that whatever resolutions are carried through here conform with the wishes of my government.

With that, I want to say that our sentiments fully coincide with the resolution, but, as was mentioned by the delegate of the United Kingdom, there are details within it. The one that immediately appears to me, without going much further, is in paragraph 1, where you call for specific action: there is at the end a suggestion "to refrain from reducing the availability of food supplies for the poorest sections of the world's population." Surely we as individuals know that very often it is not governments that do not produce food, it is the farmers. I am only thinking in the context that our production of food this year was lower. Did we do it because, in fact, we did not give to the less well off? Now We are an exporting country. So these are factors.

Clearly, there are good intentions in this. I think the suggestions that came from the delegate of the United Kingdom, if they were given some consideration, could certainly make the resolution much more acceptable in the context of the times we are in. I certainly would not like it to go abroad that there is any feeling within it that we do not want FAO to continue to do all that is possible within our capacity to ensure that the poor of the world do not suffer.

A. TRAORE (Guinée): Pour notre délégation, le projet de résolution qui nous est soumis Sanscrit dans la ligne des points de vue exprimés par de nombreuses Conférences internationales et aussi par la Conférence plénière de la FAO. Aussi, sommes-nous surpris de la réserve que certaines délégations manifestent vis-à-vis de ce projet. Pour sa part, mon pays le trouve bien équilibré et l'appuie fermement.

F. ANBOOL (Yemen, People's Democratic Republic of) (original language Arabic): In brief, I would like to thank the delegations who submitted this draft resolution about the allocation of resources for food production and agricultural development. We are for the unanimous adoption of this draft resolution.

CHAIRMAN: We have so far had this afternoon 25 speakers; I have 15 more on my list. Of these 25, 24 support the resolution. Perhaps we could speed up the debate by expressing this support concisely. Those who have amendments to suggest could perhaps spell them out concisely too.

A. HEZIL (Algérie): Afin d'éviter des répétitions et de permettre à nos travaux d'avancer, je serai très bref.

J'appuie la déclaration du délégué de la Yougoslavie ainsi que celles de beaucoup d'autres délégués. Je ne répéterai donc pas toutes les raisons de notre appui à ce texte, mais je voudrais apporter le soutien total de ma délégation au présent projet de résolution.

M. A. AZAMI (Afghanistan): In order to be brief and not repeat what has already been said by other distinguished delegates, I would like to state that my delegation fully supports the adoption of the draft resolution before us. This resolution helps the development of food and agricultural production in the fight against hunger and malnutrition throughout the world.

Y. KUROKOCHI (Japan): The position of my delegation has not changed very much from this morning when we had a preliminary discussion on this draft resolution. Since then, my delegation has had time to study this draft and we have found that there are several points on which we need some specific instruction from my government. Following your suggestion that at the Plenary any delegation can make a statement of reservation on specific points of the resolution, I should like to put it on record that we will follow your suggestion. Perhaps I should mention there is a time difference of 8 hours between Tokyo and here and we have not so far been in a position to receive specific instructions. We would like, therefore, to reserve the right to make additional comments at the Plenary.

M. SAMBA (Congo): Ma délégation est étonnée de constater que certaines délégations ici présentes suggèrent de longs débats sur une résolution aussi claire et aussi juste que celle qui nous est soumise. Si nous sommes d'accord sur le fond, pourquoi nous attarderions-nous sur des détails. Nous estimons, pour notre part, que le texte qui nous est présenté comporte des recommandations concrètes, équilibrées, qui ne devraient entraîner aucune observation de la part des délégations ici réunies. Par conséquent, nous invitons l'ensemble des délégués à adopter par consensus cette proposition.

P. ROSENEGGER (Austria) (original language German): Thank you very much Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I would like to obey your instructions and be very brief. The text we have before us here, this draft resolution, in our view is very much in line with the prevailing situation and logically dovetails with the spirit, the final document of Ottawa, Cancím, and other conferences.

Austria already in its statement number 14 of the agenda of Commission II has already moved along these lines, and I just wish to recall that in 1979, Resolution 6/79, we also supported a similar text and also at the World Food Conference we also adopted a text which was very compatible with these articles. The urging on the force to reactivate IFAD and to increase the pledges to UNDP, WFP and IEF and item 5 of the resolution, where we again reaffirmed the special position and the importance of the Food and Agriculture Organization in the fight against hunger and malnutrition. All these things our Delegation can support and endorse without further ado.

I. MAAZOU (Niger): Ayant entendu votre appel, Monsieur le Président, nous serons très brefs. Je vous demande simplement d'ajouter une voix de plus à votre décompte de ceux qui appuient sans réserve le présent projet de résolution.

D. R. SHARMA (Nepal): I shall be very brief. Mr. Chairman, coming from a developing country which is predominantly an agricultural one, we appeal that the development of agriculture in a country like ours is a dire, essential and true step towards the efforts in the development of the country.

Mr. Chairman, my delegation feels that the resolution is very timely and well thought of. Not taking up the time to repeat the statements already made by distinguished delegates, I would like to mention that my delegation fully supports the resolution put before us.

G. IJIGU (Ethiopia): Mr. Chairman, my Delegation, without going into any details, wishes to add another voice of support to this Resolution. In fact, my Minister of Agriculture in his speech in the Plenary had called for such a support for the Director-General's Proposed Programme of Work and Budget which at this time means supporting the Resolution before us.

Mr. Chairman with paramount importance on and emphasis laid on eradicating hunger and so on, without any let up, the Delegation of Socialist Ethiopia gives its firm support to the Resolution as presented. On the other hand, my Delegation wishes to call your attention to the call made earlier on that the Resolution has more support to it than opposition, so we may proceed for the adoption of the Resolution by consensus. Consequently any opponents must either provide an alternative or accept the verdict of the majority, otherwise a situation similar to what happened to the idea of forming genetic resources banks which is still going back and forth between the commission floor and some redrafting session might happen again.

H. CARANDANG (Philippines): Mr. Chairman, the Philippines Delegation can agree generally with the Resolution. We believe that high priority should be given to food and agriculture, and from the President of the Philippines as already seen at the Cancím Summit in Mexico, we believe that paragraphs 2 and 3 are interconnected. Self reliance is only valid if it is supported by external aid and technical assistance. We believe we have expressed our support for the replenishment of IFAD, UNDP, IEF and the World Food Programme elsewhere.

With regard to operative paragraph number 5 we generally agree with the priorities indicated here, although the Philippines Delegation has indicated its priority through the role of FAO as a mechanism of transfer for technology. The role of FAO as an international extension mechanism should become our first priority. FAO has a unique potential as a global extension mechanism for transferring technology that should boost food production from all international research institutes. Likewise FAO has all the resources and the technical personnel and machinery to link up the research resources of international research centres with the developing countries of the world.

We have no problems with regard to paragraph number 6 and so Mr. Chairman, we can generally agree with this Resolution.

A. E. GUROFF (United States of America): First of all I would like to recall to this group that the U.S. intervened this morning and identified a series of difficulties with this Resolution which we arrived at without consultation, and I might just add that they seem in great measure to overlap with those that were so well articulated by the United Kingdom delegate.

At the risk of perhaps surprising any number of delegations here who seem quite easily surprised by decisions which are really not a secret, the U.S. position has not changed since this morning. We have the same difficulties and we really do not think it will be useful to sit through another seemingly endless number of interventions telling us how surprising our position is, it isn't bringing us together. I think the procedure, which as I understand you have identified for us to deal with this is simply to hear us out tonight and then hear us out again tomorrow if we are still interested in talking, worries me greatly that we should just again be told how surprised we all are, and I suppose I could say how surprised I am that others are surprised and we wouldn't go very far.

I think there are two courses we should consider. One would be if in fact there are those that find some use in adopting a "consensus resolution" that clearly has no consensus. We have no difficulty with that contradiction but we would then certainly be prepared to enter into some detail all the difficulties we have with that consensus, and I expect the reservations will be longer than the resolution. The alternative is, once again in the spirit of compromise to refer this to a Contact Group of those who have difficulty and are interested in trying to pull this together into something we can all agree to, and if we do take this route I would urge that it be first thing tomorrow morning. I think we are overloaded already for tonight but I would propose the later route, because the U.S. would prefer not to have to reserve on something. We find that serves nobody's purpose so we would suggest early tomorrow morning a Contact Group come together and try and sort out their difficulties, and the U.S. would be prepared to participate in such a group.

M. PHOOFOLO (Lesotho): There has been adequate support for the Resolution and yet no very clear objection to the substance of the Resolution. Therefore we do not wish to take any more time but to support this Resolution.

DATUK AHMAD YUNUS (Malaysia): I only wish to say that the Malaysian Delegation would like to express its support for the Resolution as we consider it most important for agricultural development.

H. WETZEL (Germany, Federal Republic of) (original language German): Unfortunately at the beginning of my statement I have to refer briefly to a matter of procedure. This document LIM/31 we were presented with for the very first time this morning. If we, as a member state of this Organization, have to assume the joint responsibility for a text we must be given an opportunity for in-depth scrutiny of such a text, and, wherever necessary, and if necessary, check and get our instructions from back home. Ultimately, this resolution after its adoption by the FAO Conference will be submitted to the decision making bodies of other organizations where my Government is also represented and where again they have their responsibility vis-à-vis the international community which they fulfill to the best of their powers, as for instance the governing council of the World Bank or the UNDP to just mention two fora.

The Honourable Delegate of India stated that the Resolution was the quintessence of the discussions which were held in the course of this Conference, and the Honourable Delegate of Tunisia pointed out that the individual items and items of this Resolution had at least been the subject of consensus in the course of this Conference. It is my feeling Mr. Chairman, that those who have followed this debate or studied the verbatim records carefully will know that this is not 100 percent the case. Everyone knows what margin of opinion are contained in consensus opinions, and after my first rapid perusal of this tentative draft I want to say that a number of points contained in this text are points which we have had problems with consensus-wise in the debate, and we who are faced with this draft resolution have problems with formulation and with interpretation and scope of interpretation.

This means that we will have to plunge into the details of the text before we can approve the resolution. It appears to me that it is not the task of this Commission to do the job of a drafting or contact group. Moreover, that would have been unnecessary if the resolution had been presented in connection with the original item on the agenda, as was originally intended.

So I have the following proposal. After a general discussion of this draft this afternoon in Commission II, a drafting or contact group should be convened, the members of which will be appointed by our commission, and after that we adjourn. The delegate of Yugoslavia in his statement referred to a tradition and to a similar resolution of the 20th Conference. If my memory is correct, at the 20th Conference we had ample time to discuss Resolution 6 and I believe there was such a thing as a contact group also. I move that we do not deviate from this excellent tradition.

CHAIRMAN: I would like to repeat that I saw the resolution in the present text this morning. I was informed that the resolution would be coming late on Friday evening and I have to accept the fact that tomorrow we have to approve the report. I am very sorry but we have to stick to the timetable and I cannot see a situation where the Conference is prolonged simply because Commission II has not come to the end of its work. So far we have had 38 speakers, all 38 pronounce themselves very clearly on what they felt about the resolution. Four speakers presented their reservations on the draft resolutions and 34 accepted it. As Chairman of the Commission, I have to respect that view of the majority of Commission II.

R.C. ELARD (Syria) (original language Arabic): I would like to declare that our delegation supports the draft resolution. Since this debate has been a lengthy one, I would like to concentrate on three subjects. First, through the international meetings that have been taking place in these last years the problem of malnutrition - from which hundreds of millions of people suffer - has been one of the main items of discussion of the international community. Secondly, FAO is considered the only organisation of the UN family which is competent to carry out successfully the struggle against hunger and malnutrition. Thirdly, in these previous months there have been various meetings of which we would like to mention The Brandt and Commissions, the adoption of the Third international Development Strategy, the Ottawa Summit and the Conference of the Least Developed Countries. So it is strange that some countries are reserving their position when after all they were present in Cancún at a meeting at which 22 heads of state were present, heads of state who agreed that hunger is to be conceded as the most urgent problem that needs financial and technical support.

We do not want to go into the details, but we wonder how can there be such contradiction in the policies of some countries that attended those international meetings. That is why we propose to accept this draft resolution unanimously.

D. BETI (Suisse) (Langue originale allemande): Ma délégation ne voudrait pas prolonger la discussion étant donné l'heure fort avancée. Nous présenterons très brièvement la position de notre délégation.

En ce qui concerne ce projet de résolution, ma délégation se trouve devant un dilemme. D'une part, nous trouvons que la résolution est assez bien équilibrée. Elle répète d'ailleurs ce qui a déjà été dit, elle n'apporte pas grand chose de nouveau. Pour cette raison, nous n'aurions pas de difficulté à lui donner notre accord. Mais d'autre part, nous estimons que de légères modifications de cette résolution ne lui feraient pas de tort. Il s'agirait d'amendements qui pourraient très facilement être acceptés par toutes les délégations. Ces modifications pourraient rendre cette résolution plus conforme à la réalité des choses et tiendraient mieux compte des possibilités des Etats Membres. De cette manière, la résolution pourrait devenir un instrument véritablement utile.

Ma délégation, dans l'état actuel de la discussion, n'a pas de modifications précises à proposer. Cependant, elle pourrait donner son accord à un certain nombre de modifications déjà proposées, par exemple par l'Indonésie. C'est la raison pour laquelle cette Commission pourrait s'attaquer tout de suite à la discussion des différentes modifications qui ont déjà été avancées. Nous pourrions également accepter la proposition faite par la délégation de la République fédérale d'Allemagne.

MISS J. Mc QUEEN (Canada): The Canadian delegation fully supports the spirit of this resolution. We believe it is in accord with the statements coming out of the Ottawa, Melbourne and Cancún summits and the LLDC Conference in Paris. We agree with the statement from Cancún that within as brief a period as possible hunger must be eradicated and that this objective is clearly an obligation of the international community and constitutes a first priority both at the national level and in the field of international cooperation. I think we can all agree on that.

However we do have some problems with some of the specific wording, including some of the points raised by the respective delegates of the United Kingdom, but also one or two others. We do feel that solutions can be found without too much difficulty, but it is obvious by now that this is far too large a group to act as an editorial committee and we associate ourselves with the representatives of the United States and the Federal Republic of Germany in suggesting that a contact group be formed to work out wording and present it to us for consideration during the day tomorrow. This will enable us to meet the scheduling obligations and at the same time produce a resolution that we can all accept wholeheartedly and without reservation.

F. d'ALMEIDA (Bénin): Ma délégation désire simplement faire savoir qu'elle appuie sans réserve le projet de résolution qui nous est proposé.

S. AIDARA (Sénégal): Il se fait tard, je n'ai pas besoin de m'étendre sur les éléments d'une argumentation qui a été très largement développée par beaucoup de délégations qui ont pris la parole avant moi.

Nous pensons que le projet de résolution qui nous est soumis s'inscrit dans le droit fil des résultats et follow up des rencontres au sommet qui ont eu lieu récemment à Ottawa, à Melbourne et surtout à Cancún où les recommandations des Chefs d'Etats des plus grands pays du monde ont mis l'accent sur les problèmes alimentaires et agricoles. A cet égard, vous me permettez de citer quelques-unes des conclusions de Cancún.

En effet, dans le texte final il est indiqué: "La faim doit être éliminée dans des délais aussi brefs que possible. Cet objectif est sans nul doute une obligation pour la Communauté internationale et constitue la première des priorités, à la fois au niveau national et dans le domaine de la coopération internationale". Plus loin, dans le même texte, il est précisé: "Les pays en développement devront définir et, avec l'aide d'un appui international ample et efficace, mettre en oeuvre des stratégies alimentaires nationales embrassant tout le cycle de la productivité, de la distribution et de la consommation alimentaire".

Il apparaît donc tout à fait logique, si nous voulons être conséquents avec nous-mêmes et respecter l'esprit de Cancún, de donner à l'agriculture la place qu'elle mérite en la dotant des ressources nécessaires capables d'insuffler à ce secteur tout le dynamisme dont il a besoin.

Si j'ai pris la parole, c'est donc pour ajouter ma voix à celle des délégations qui ont fermement appuyé le projet de résolution et pour rappeler que les gouvernements, tant à Ottawa, à Melbourne qu'à Cancún, ont décidé de faire du secteur agricole le problème numéro un du développement mondial.

Il est donc logique et naturel d'accorder les ressources indispensables au développement de l'agriculture et au combat contre la faim.

Plusieurs propositions ont été faites. Certains nous disent qu'il faut poursuivre les négociations au sein du Groupe de contact. D'autres nous disent qu'il faut créer des Comités de rédaction.

Une large majorité s'est dégagée au cours des discussions qui ont eu lieu. Il ne m'appartient pas de faire ici le résumé de ces débats. Il ne m'appartient pas non plus de prendre la décision. Cette décision vous revient, Monsieur le Président. Ce faisant, je voudrais vous rappeler l'esprit de démocratie qui a toujours caractérisé nos débats.

G. CAMERARIS (CYPRUS): I will not be long. If, indeed, we expect that the shame of hunger, of poverty, and malnutrition, is eventually to be eliminated from the world, the world indeed has no other way but to go along the lines contained in the resolution before us. So I wish to declare, Mr. Chairman, that the Cyprus delegation is in agreement with the content and substance of the draft resolution before us. I urge, therefore, the Commission for its approval.

Sra. Doña M. RUIZ ZAPATA (México): Seré muy breve. Quiero solamente dejar constancia de que México apoya con entusiasmo la Resolución que nos ocupa.

D. NOEL (Grenada): The Grenada delegation wishes to add another voice and give its unreserved support to a resolution we consider worthy of the unanimous support of all countries which have a deep concern about bringing true development to all nations throughout the world.

M.A.M. IBRAHIM (Sudan) (Original language Arabic): Since the delegation of Sudan is one of the delegations that has presented the draft resolution concerning the resources for food production and agricultural development, I simply would like to reiterate the support that my delegation gives to this draft resolution.

M.T. DIARRA (Mali): Si je prends la parole, ce n'est pas pour rappeler ce qu'ont dit les délégations précédentes, c'est simplement pour associer la voix du Mali au soutien de la proposition de résolution qui nous a été soumise.

A. LUTZ (Finland): In order to save the time of this Committee I am speaking on behalf of the Nordic countries, Denmark, Finland, Norway, and Sweden. This draft resolution deals with the resources for development. On such a resolution it is important to attain a consensus, otherwise the effects intended will not be realized. I do not want to go into details of substance of the draft, but rather address the procedure. The suggestion made by the Federal Republic of Germany to discuss the content of this resolution in the contact group is well founded. We think that this is the proper procedure to follow.

M.S. ZEHNI (Lybia) (Original language Arabic): I would simply like to say, Sir, that my delegation would like to be one of those that supports the draft resolution. I will not go into any detail here, I will not say why we support this draft resolution. I feel it unnecessary to give all the reasons for upporting it. Therefore, I simply would like to say I support the resolution.

J.P. WARNIMONT (Belgique): Je me permets de prendre la parole pour indiquer que ma délégation n'est pas en mesure d'appuyer le projet de résolution qui nous est présenté, notamment pour les raisons évoquées par le délégué du Royaume-Uni. Ma délégation suggère, afin de gagner du temps, de se rallier à la proposition faite par la République fédérale allemande.

Sra. Doña M. IVANKOVICH de AROSEMENA (Panamá): Mi delegación también desea unirse a aquellas delegaciones que han apoyado este proyecto de resolución. Las razones que me llevan a apoyarlo ya han sido enumeradas por aquellas delegaciones que me han precedido en el uso de la palabra y no quisiéramos repetirlas en aras del tiempo, debido sobre todo a que la misma se justifica por sí sola, ya que persigue la eliminación del hambre y malnutrición y coincide con las recomendaciones emanadas de las reuniones de Melbourne y Cancún.



Mlle. M. MUSSO (France): Je voudrais indiquer que la délégation française partage les préoccupations qui sous-tendent cette résolution, et peut accepter cette résolution sous réserve de quelques légères modifications qui, je le crois, ne devraient pas prêter à beaucoup de controverses.

Ainsi, dans le préambule, nous souhaiterions nous aussi que dans le septième considérant commençant par “Reconnaissant les difficultés économiques” les mots “prévalent largement” soient remplacés par les mots “rendent plus aiguës ces difficultés”.

Pour ce qui est du dispositif, nous souhaiterions que dans le paragraphe 4 les mots “EXHORTE VIVEMENT les Etats Membres à prendre immédiatement des mesures pour assurer” soient remplacés par les termes “INVITE les Etats Membres à s’efforcer de prendre les mesures nécessaires pour assurer” etc. Nous pensons que cela tiendrait mieux compte des diverses opinions qui ont pu être émises par exemple en ce qui concerne le FIDA et le PNUD.

Pour ce qui est du paragraphe 5, nous souhaiterions qu’il soit fait une distinction entre le programme ordinaire et les activités extra-budgétaires. En effet, les activités extra-budgétaires sont financées sur une base volontaire, et il ne nous paraît pas tout à fait conforme à la réalité d’indiquer une nécessité d’assurer des ressources adéquates sur des fonds extra-budgétaires, puisque par essence les pays contributeurs peuvent estimer qu’il est nécessaire, ou au contraire pas nécessaire, d’appuyer tel ou, tel programme.

Enfin nous souhaiterions que, pour tenir compte des vœux exprimés par ma délégation mais aussi partagés, je le sais, par d’autres délégations, il soit ajouté, dans le paragraphe 6, qu’avant de présenter ses propositions définitives pour le prochain biennium, le Directeur général veuille bien étudier les diverses possibilités avec les Etats Membres, afin qu’il puisse se faire une appréciation la plus exacte possible de la situation de l’agriculture mondiale, des besoins des Etats Membres, mais aussi de leurs difficultés et de leurs limites.

Nous pensons qu’il est indispensable que cette résolution si importante recueille le consensus de tous les délégués, aussi pensons-nous que c’est une proposition qui justifie qu’un groupe de contact puisse être formé afin de trouver une solution aux problèmes qui se posent encore, et je suis sûre qu’ils pourront être résolus.

J. SONNEVELD (Netherlands): We have heard many delegates supporting the text of the present Resolution. However, there is quite a number of the Delegations who have indicated they believe there is a possibility to have a consensus on a text of a Resolution. If this is really a possibility I think we should not miss this opportunity. There is a large majority for the present text, that is a good result. There might be a possibility for a consensus. That would be a better result. I think we should work for the better result.

CHAIRMAN: Distinguished Delegate of the Netherlands, can you make a concrete suggestion for the better result, please?

J. SONNEVELD (Netherlands): Mr. Chairman, we have small suggestions for change in the text. Some are covered by the French Delegation, for instance, but to be more specific we support the suggestion made by the German Delegation.

H.K. CHHETRI (Bhutan): Briefly we feel the Resolution before us is a noble one, noble indeed as it concerns the well-being of the poorest section of the world population. This resolution also reflects in a well-balanced manner the points discussed in the past weeks. We, therefore, fully support the draft resolution.

P. VANDOR (Hungary): I am sorry to be asking for the floor at this late stage, but I am a one-man delegation and during the day I had to attend the Plenary so I had no possibility to express my views on this draft report earlier. In general terms my delegation can support this draft resolution. I have only one remark relating to the working paragraph 1. I think that we have to have a very complex

approach to all these issues which are discussed here, because this is one of the most important resolutions of this Conference, maybe it will be our message which is summarizing up everything that we have achieved. That is why I want to propose to take into consideration, as there was some discussion which went on in Commission II relating to the WCARRD Conference. I think that appropriate agricultural development can be achieved only with good economic and social conditions. This first working paragraph makes references to one question of this very complex issue, that is why I would like to suggest, Mr. Chairman, if it is possible to have such a wording in the first working paragraph where we express our views that the agricultural development can be achieved only in appropriate economic and social conditions, and asking the Member countries to fulfil their commitments which they made two years ago at the WACRRD Conference.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): The sponsors of this resolution have attentively followed the debate and, after some consultation between us, we wish to state our position. We feel that here and there small changes or improvements could be made without substantially altering the text of the resolution. We feel that within a reasonable time, either this evening or tomorrow morning a group which would fairly represent the views expressed in our debate would be able to arrive at a text which we hope would then reflect as full a consensus as possible of the Conference.

I want to make one point quite clear on behalf of the six countries. With regard to the constitutional responsibility of the Director-General, we are not willing to compromise at all, because the constitutional responsibility is quite clear and very simple indeed. If you consult Article XVIII.1, you will see that the Director-General is obliged by the constitution to submit his proposals to every regular session of the Conference for approval. We do not think we should ever agree that the Director-General should be limited or bound by any resolution to negotiate with governments in advance of the Conference, the level of the budget, because we think that the basic purpose of the constitutional provision is that the Director-General should submit a programme of work and budget and not necessarily negotiate the budget, which is only one side, and the sheer monetary consequence of the programme. If there is such a tendency here in this body on the part of some to present such views, then I do not think, speaking on behalf of the six countries that we would be willing to take seriously into account such views because we do not think there is any possibility of narrowing down the constitutional responsibility of the Director-General.

We strongly believe that it should be possible, with slight improvements here and there, faithfully to reflect the facts and the situation here, especially in paragraph 4, without substantially altering the substance, to arrive at a text which would then be acceptable, we hope, to the whole Conference. I should like you, Mr. Chairman, to consider the position of the six sponsoring countries.

Sr. D. SANCHEZ (Colombia): La delegación de Colombia no había intervenido hasta ahora esperando el desarrollo del debate; pero ahora desea sumarse a la gran mayoría de países que aprueban el proyecto de resolución que nos ocupa.

A.G. NGONGI NAMANGA (Cameroon): I do not wish to delay us much longer but, since it seems likely that we are moving towards a decision that we should have a contact group for this item, I think we should have a few points cleared up.

There was broad support for this resolution. Several delegations mentioned that it was actually a weak resolution and that in their opinion it could be strengthened. We have had opinions from one group of countries which clearly cannot associate themselves with this resolution and therefore want to make it more favourable to their opinions.

Do I take it, Mr. Chairman, that when this contact group is established those countries who feel that the resolution is weak can also have their points appreciated in the resolution, because I think we are now attempting to have the resolution amended in one direction which will more or less just make it weaker than it is, although some countries have said it is just to clear up some inconsistencies. If it is a matter of minor changes, I do not think anyone would object to that but, if it is to make major changes which are to reflect positions of home governments which will be contrary to the debates and opinions expressed in the conference so far, it might not be very useful.

My opinion is that, if such a group is established, it should go into it with open minds, not with fixed positions that it has to reflect one particular wish of a group of countries. I am afraid that

especially in operative paragraph 4, countries might like to see restated what all those targets were supposed to be.

I hope it is quite clear that the majority of countries that have spoken in favour of this resolution are not yielding to this position out of a wish to weaken the resolution. This is an attempt to get a consensus on the resolution. It does not mean that they should bow down to all the pressures which will bear on them to change it substantially. I make that appeal. We accepted this resolution as it stood. We thought it was broad and flexible enough to cover all opinions. I should not wish to be in a position whereby we have to spell out exactly what we want to say in operative paragraph 4.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Creo que es un hecho evidente que la gran mayoría de los miembros de esta Comisión aprueban el proyecto de resolución en su forma actual. Sin embargo, el colega de Yugoslavia a nombre de los seis países ha manifestado que puede aceptar alguna mejora de relaciones en el texto. Creo que para evitar la creación de un nuevo grupo de contacto, pero al mismo tiempo para atender en cierta medida la solicitud que han hecho los delegados de la República Federal de Alemania y otros, podríamos decidir que el proyecto de resolución sea ahora enviado al Comité de Redacción de esta Comisión que debe reunirse inmediatamente después que concluyamos, en el entendido de que solo se harán reformas -en la redacción, en los aspectos marginales, y no en el fondo de la resolución, que ha contado con el gran apoyo de la mayoría de la Comisión. Esperamos que el Comité de Redacción pueda presentar un texto que cuando discutamos el proyecto de Informe en esta Comisión sea satisfactoria para todos.

En el Comité de Redacción de esta Comisión están países como Estados Unidos, Reino Unido y Suiza, que han expresado las posiciones de quienes tienen alguna reserva al texto actual.

H. WETZEL (Germany, Federal Republic of) (Original language German): I should like to refer to the proposal made by the delegate of Colombia to the effect that the Drafting Group of this Commission should also take up this draft resolution. I fear that I am not able to agree with him. The Drafting Group has the task of taking up matters which have actually been presented and to group them together in a report. The Drafting Committee cannot discuss matters which have not been mentioned here in the Commission. My purpose in proposing that a contact group be set up was to try to avoid a discussion in this Commission which might last until midnight when over a hundred Member States start to discuss details of wording. That is why I have not made any substantive proposal here in this Commission so far, and therefore I am not able to support what was said by the delegate of Yugoslavia in his second statement to the effect that the drafting group would take into consideration what had been said so far and try to arrive at a consensus. In the contact group it should be possible to introduce matters which have not been mentioned here at the Commission. Therefore, my proposal to set up a contact group, which has been supported by other delegations, should still be valid. I repeat this proposal and propose that we, the Commission, should appoint the members to the contact group.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): With your permission, Mr. Chairman, I will try to be even more specific. I would suggest that, provided you and the body of the Committee agree, the small group should be composed of the six members that originally submitted this resolution plus representatives of Finland, which spoke on behalf of the Nordic countries, the United States and the United Kingdom. I think that is a reasonable and even more than fair reflection of the views expressed here in the body.

As I said before, I am almost positive that we would at least be able to arrive at an agreed text on most of the things. It is not the intention of the six countries to negotiate the substantive points of the resolution. We still feel that the resolution was supported by most of the countries - unanimously, almost - but we feel that some improvement would then encourage some countries that are still hesitating to join in a full consensus.

I have suggested the composition of the small group, which could then meet either immediately after this session or perhaps tomorrow morning to try and present to you a text which would be agreeable to all.

CHAIRMAN: I do not want to begin a second round of debate because that will not bring us to the end we had hoped for. I am a little puzzled now. There have been a number of delegates who have indicated that they have not received instructions from their home offices. Now I understand that it could well be debated immediately in a small working group. I am in your hands, distinguished delegates. On the other side, from the 58 countries that spoke this afternoon a very clear position emerged. With regard to those countries who cannot pronounce their positions today on the resolution because they have not received instructions from their headquarters, that fact would simply be stated today. Maybe their instructions will be here tomorrow, and that could allow them to waive the reservations that they had today. But we cannot ignore the opinions that were, after all, expressed by some 45 countries who have spoken out clearly in favour of the resolution.

To the proposal of the Yugoslav delegate, I would only say that it would be impossible to do three things at once. The first is the drafting committee that should have been meeting half an hour ago; the second is the working group on the Mexican resolution; and the third another working group on the resolution we are debating at the moment. The drafting commission still has the last part of the report on the follow-up of WCARRD and that part has to be completed this evening in order that it may be printed and made available tomorrow for the debate in Commission II. That has priority. The next thing we have established is a working group to try to find a compromise to the first compromise which we formulated during the lunch break. So if it is indeed the intention to set up another working group, it could only possibly be after the one working on the Mexico resolution, because we have the same members sitting on it. For instance, the distinguished delegate of Yugoslavia would be on both. Possibly the USA could delegate because they have stronger numbers.

G. IJIGU (Ethiopia): I would like to remind you that the position taken by the distinguished delegate of Cameroon is also our position. What we now support I would be very unhappy to see weakened and then have myself to support another position. So when we send this issue back to some re-drafting group, I hope that it will not be weakened any further.

The second point I want to ask you is, when this re-drafted text comes back, whether it would be possible for us to get it in good time so that we can have a look at it and avoid having to stumble through it on the desk here?

CHAIRMAN: We have been highly impressed throughout this meeting to have the verbatim with only half an hour's delay and to get draft reports within 24 hours, but I think it would not be possible to have it earlier than tomorrow morning, and tomorrow morning we start debating the report of the Commission. I am sorry to say this, but I do not want to create false expectations.

M. SANKARANARAYANAN (India): My delegation is one of the co-sponsors of this resolution. We knew when we sponsored it that it would not have an entirely smooth passage. We are, therefore, in full support of the stand taken by the distinguished delegate from Yugoslavia. In fact, he expressed the viewpoint taken by the member nations who sponsored this resolution.

I ought to mention, for the information of this Commission, that my delegation, and I in particular, was a member of the drafting committee of Commission I, where quite a few of these controversial matters, such as food security and so on, have been debated. On the drafting committee, the distinguished delegate from the United States of America was also a fellow member. The drafting committee of Commission I sat until nearly midnight last Thursday and sat until about 8 o'clock on Friday. We had several points of difference, but were able, without affecting, if I may say so, that substance of what we wanted to say, to arrive at a fair and reasonable degree of agreement; and Commission I this afternoon approved the three reports in quick succession.

It has, therefore, to me personally been a matter of some surprise that Commission II has been deliberating these resolutions at such great length.

Once again, we would strongly support the suggestion made by my distinguished friend from Yugoslavia and urge anew, whatever might be the other considerations and constraints, the desirability of constituting this working group with fair representation on all sides. Possibly this group could meet early tomorrow morning and we are confident that, as we did in Commission I, we would be able to thrash out a very substantial measure of agreement on this matter.

A.E. GUROFF (United States of America): I certainly do not want to re-open the debate. In fact, what I am rising to do is to support the Yugoslav and Indian proposal which has actually been on the table, proposed by a number of us, for probably two hours now. I do not see any difficulty with the chronology in front of us, that we can meet and discuss the other resolution immediately following our adjournment here, if we could get on to that, and the drafting committee can then go about its business. At 8.30 tomorrow morning we can convene the contact group. I would support the line proposed by the Yugoslav delegate, and, for my part, am prepared for the United States to participate tomorrow morning. I think that within an hour, or shortly thereafter, based on some consultations that have been going on, we can have something that can be processed while we are dealing with the adoption of the report in Plenary and brought back into Plenary later in the morning.

However, I must stress that we have difficulty in dealing with this second resolution tonight, in any case. The UK delegate who has been most involved should certainly participate, and he is not available this evening. The United States would have a similar problem in covering all the activities tonight, and I would be surprised if other delegations did not have the same kind of difficulty. I think the impasse is accepting that we can move things back an hour and a half tomorrow without the Conference descending into utter chaos.

T. AHMED (Pakistan): I do not wish to enter into or re-open the debate either, but as one of the co-sponsors of the resolution I entirely agree with the suggestion made by the distinguished delegate of Yugoslavia and endorsed by the delegate from the USA. We seem to have been going in circles for the last two hours. We could have had this contact group established much earlier and would have made progress.

As far as the clash between different groups is concerned, the drafting group and the contact group for the earlier, Mexican resolution can in all probability meet simultaneously because the one or two delegations represented on both these groups are multi-member delegations. I have informally contacted some of them and they are willing to meet simultaneously. Therefore, the drafting group and the contact group on the Mexican resolution can meet immediately afterwards. The contact group on this resolution, as suggested by Yugoslavia and the USA, can meet early tomorrow morning; I would agree with Cameroon and Yugoslavia that the contact group would not perhaps seek to change the substance of the resolution which has been supported by the majority of the members so that there is every prospect that, with a little reformulation and a little modification, and retaining the substance of the resolution, we can arise at a consensus tomorrow. I strongly urge that you adjourn now and let the groups meet.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you for that constructive proposal, which I take. I will make a slight modification to it by suggesting that we suspend proceedings for one hour and the working group on the Mexican draft resolution meet immediately in the Mexico room. I would suggest, in view of the number of people involved in both, that the second working group follow immediately afterwards. That would settle the business for this evening.

H. WETZEL (Germany, Federal Republic of) (original language German): I have always heard with great pleasure today and earlier your words, "I am in your hands." Therefore, if the sponsors of this resolution jointly make a proposal, a proposal which would seem also to meet with the approval of the Commission, that is to say, to meet tomorrow morning, to convene the contact group for tomorrow morning, I ask you to give this proposal a little weight.

CHAIRMAN: Of course, I am in your hands, but you only have two of them and there are others who are in the majority in this case.

M. TRKULYA (Yugoslavia): I am prepared to follow any lead of yours but I am just wondering how many people you will find after an hour's adjournment, so I would strongly suggest that we adjourn now, have a contact group on the Mexican proposal, and another at 8.30 tomorrow. I am, like my Pakistani friend, positive that in an hour's time we would be able to present you with a text which would be very close to consensus, if not being the full consensus of all. I doubt very much that there is a need to continue with an evening session after adjourning for an hour.

CHAIRMAN: I will make another proposal, that the working group on the Mexican draft proposal meet now. Please accept that as a ruling of the chair in order to make a systematic and rational use of our time, which is getting shorter and shorter. We will suspend the meeting now and we will resume the debate on the Mexican resolution at 8 o'clock. I accept the proposal of the Yugoslav and Pakistan delegates that we move the second working group to tomorrow morning. Can you suggest any specific time?

T. AHMED (Pakistan): There was a suggestion from the delegate for Yugoslavia that at a specific time - that is, 8.30 tomorrow morning - the Contact Group can meet, but, as you have been so kind as to give me the floor, may I suggest - as I did earlier - that when the Contact Group on the Mexican Resolution is meeting in the Mexican room, within that hour the Drafting Committee can meet in the Philippines room and deal with that this evening. We have now only the one point to finish, which we may deal with in 45 minutes. As I said earlier, I have established informal contacts, and most of the delegations on the drafting group are willing to meet simultaneously when the Mexican resolution is being discussed, because most of them are member delegations.

CHAIRMAN: I welcome the proposal of the delegate of Pakistan. Again: the meeting of the Working Group would now be disbanded for one hour; the Working Group on the Mexican Resolution would meet; and the Drafting Committee would sit simultaneously on their remaining half of the Report; and tomorrow at 8.30, again in the Mexican room, we would have the sponsors of the Resolution on Resources for Food Production and Agricultural Development; and at 9.30 we would begin the morning session.

A. JUAN MARCOS ISSA (Mexico): Señor Presidente: Usted había citado a una nueva reunion para dentro de una hora para ver exclusivamente la Resolución presentada por México. Considero, junto con otros delegados que me han precedido en el uso de la palabra, que en este caso específico de la Resolución presentada por México, si entiendo bien, la reunion del Grupo de Contacto es para ver si ciertos países que han manifestado ciertas reservas estarían de acuerdo o podríamos llegar a un acuerdo si hay ciertas modificaciones en ciertas palabras.

Yo considero, señor Presidente, que no es necesario que usted cite otra vez a la Asamblea para ver la resolución Mexicana exclusivamente dentro de una hora, porque si no llegamos a un acuerdo en el grupo de Contacto, simple y sencillamente sabremos que esos países pondrán su reserva en la resolución de la Comisión II.

CHAIRMAN: Delegate for Mexico, the result of the Contact Group discussions would have to be another Draft Resolution, and I think it is fair enough to bring back to the Commission as a whole. I do not want delegates tomorrow morning to indicate to me that the meeting has taken place without their presence. Therefore I suggest that the Contact Group which consists of only Libya, the United States, Mexico, the United Kingdom, Yugoslavia, Cameroon, Spain and Canada meet now, and in one hour we will hopefully have the result of the work of that Contact Group presented to the Commission.

LE DIRECTEUR GENERAL: Je crois qu'il est très important, pour faciliter les choses, que le texte de la résolution, tel qu'il sera approuvé par le groupe de contact, ne soit pas envoyé au Comité de rédaction, mais directement à la Commission II comme faisant partie du rapport pour être adopté.

LE PRESIDENT: Je suis d'accord que cela doit être fait ce soir. There are certain prerogatives to the Chairman. I now suggest that we suspend the meeting for one hour and that the Contact Group which I have indicated before should be invited to meet in the Mexican room, and that we meet one hour later.

A.E. GUROFF (United States of America): I think, with all due respect, we would really be unwise to come back here after an hour's debate, keeping everybody here on the assumption - I think that is right - that we can deal with our business neatly and cleanly in an hour. Certainly, we cannot have before this body a retyped version in the various languages, as we are used to dealing with, immediately following our discussion. It seems, that assuming that the Contact Group - and I am hopeful that it meets with success - that if we allow the Secretariat to process the document and present it to us, I think it can be adopted here immediately following our adoption of the Draft Report tomorrow, if we can go through it fairly quickly. I do not see any necessity to keep people standing by this evening.

T. AHMED (Pakistan): With due deference to your desires, Mr. Chairman, I fully support the suggestion made by the delegate of the United States, and the Director-General has very kindly given us the way out. If the Contact Group of the Mexican Resolution reaches a consensus on a certain draft formulation, it does not have to go to the Drafting Group - it can go straight to Commission II tomorrow while Commission II is adopting the Report, so we do not have to meet tonight to go through it again: tomorrow is the usual time for adoption of the Report, and, of course, the difficulties of translation and the other problems of making people wait have to be given due weight.

A. JUAN-MARCOS ISSA (Mexico): Gracias señor Presidente. Simplemente para apoyar la proposición del Director General y el procedimiento que nos ha propuesto.

CHAIRMAN: We have now gathered the views of quite a number of delegates. I take your advice, that we now invite the Contact Group on the Mexican Resolution to sit in the Mexican room. The results will be a Draft Resolution which will go tomorrow straight to the Commission during the approval of the Report, and we will have another meeting of the Second Contact Group tomorrow at 8.30. We will proceed accordingly: that is, the results of that Contact Group on the second Resolution will also be presented directly to Commission II. Is this acceptable to the Chairman of the Drafting Committee and the delegate of Pakistan? - It is.

J.P. WARNIMONT (Belgique): Votre résolution me paraît excellente, toutefois je souhaiterais connaître la composition du second groupe de contact et, le cas échéant, je vous demanderais de bien vouloir y ajouter le nom de ma délégation.

LE PRESIDENT: La composition du second groupe de travail se compose des pays mentionnés sur le document C 81/LIM/31. Il y en a six: L'Inde, le Liban, le Pakistan, la Tunisie, le Soudan, la Yougoslavie, il a été suggéré que la Finlande, les USA, le Royaume-Uni y participeront; la Belgique offre une participation; je vois que la Commission est d'accord, vous êtes donc membre. Je vous remercie beaucoup. One announcement at the end; the Drafting Committee will meet immediately - I see nodded agreement from the Chairman. The Mexican Contact Group will meet in the Mexican room - and I see that the delegate of Mexico would like to give a welcome to the Mexican room.

A. JUAN-MARCOS ISSA (Mexico): Solo para proponer a Perú dentro del Grupo de Contacto en la Comisión I, si usted no tiene inconveniente.

CHAIRMAN: Is this acceptable to the Commission? ... Yes. We will adjourn until tomorrow at 9.30.

The meeting rose at 19.15 hours

La séance est levée à 19 h 15

Se levanta la sesión a las 19.15 horas

## conference

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

## conférence

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

## conferencia

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION

C

C 81/II/PV/20

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Twenty-first Session

Vingt et unième session

21° período de sesiones

COMMISSION II

COMMISSION II

COMMISSION II

TWENTIETH MEETING  
VINGTIÈME SEANCE  
20ª SESION

(24 November 1981)

The Twentieth Meeting was opened at 10.45 hours,  
R. Steiner, Chairman of Commission II, presiding

La vingtième séance est ouverte à 10 h 45 sous la présidence de  
R. Steiner, Président de la Commission II

Se abre la 20ª sesión a las 10.45 horas bajo la presidencia de  
R. Steiner, Presidente de la Comisión II



ADOPTION OF REPORT  
ADOPTION DU RAPPORT  
APROBACION DEL INFORME

T. AHMED (Chairman, Drafting Committee): The Drafting Committee, which comprised nine members, the United States of America, the United Kingdom, Cameroon, Lebanon, Senegal, Bangladesh, New Zealand, Sweden and Cuba, met four times over a period of nearly 12 hours and considered the Draft Report.

Our basic aim during our deliberations was to reflect as accurately as possible the debate which had taken place in Commission II, although, of course there were times when substantive issues were raised. Nevertheless, we tried to restrict ourselves to reflecting the debate accurately. The results of our labour have been circulated to you as REP/1, REP/2 and REP/3.

We attempted most amicably to arrive at a consensus on the Draft Report. There may be certain omissions or slight errors but, to the best of our ability we have tried to reflect what went on in Commission II.

I should like to take this opportunity of expressing appreciation of the co-operation and hard work on the part of all the members of the Drafting Committee, and also of the valuable assistance and help we received from the Secretariat and FAO staff.

That is all I have to say by way of introduction. Perhaps we can now go through the Draft Report.

DRAFT REPORT OF COMMISSION II - PART 3  
PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION II - PARTIE 3  
PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA COMISION II - PARTE 3

CHAIRMAN: As the Group working on the resources resolution is also attended by Mr. West, we will not take up this report in the order in which it has been considered and debated. I suggest we turn to Document C 81/II/REP/3.

PARAGRAPHS 1 to 16  
PARAGRAPHERS 1 à 16  
PARRAFOS 1 a 16

L. VROONEN (Belgique): Je voudrais faire une petite suggestion. Dans la première ligne du paragraphe 8, il est dit: "Reconnaissant le rôle capital que jouent les femmes rurales dans la production agricole et dans la vie rurale...". Je propose que dans le texte français, on supprime le premier adjectif "rurales" dans l'expression "les femmes rurales".

CHAIRMAN: Is this acceptable? I see approval.

Paragraphs 1 to 16, as amended, approved  
Les paragraphes 1 à 16, ainsi amendés, sont approuvés  
Los párrafos 1 a 16, así enmendados, son aprobados

We now go on to the resolution on the World Food Day.

Paragraph 17, including draft resolution, approved  
Le paragraphe 17, y compris le projet de résolution, est approuvé  
El párrafo 17, incluido el proyecto de resolución, es aprobado

Draft Report of Commission II, Part 3, as amended, was adopted  
Le projet de rapport de la Commission II, troisième partie, ainsi amendé, est adopté  
El proyecto de informe de la Comisión II, parte 3, así emendado, es aprobado

DRAFT REPORT OF COMMISSION II - PART 4  
PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION II - QUATRIEME PARTIE  
PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA COMISION II - PARTE 4

PARAGRAPH 1 INCLUDING DRAFT RESOLUTION  
PARAGRAPHE 1 Y COMPRIS LE PROJET DE RESOLUTION  
PARRAFO 1 INCLUIDO EL PROYECTO DE RESOLUTION

CHAIRMAN: The draft report of Commission II - Part 4, deals with the plant genetic resources resolution. I would like to indicate two corrections on page 3 of that resolution. The first line of page 3 should be "without restrictive" not "restricted" and "restrictive practices" with c, not with s.

M.S. ZEHNI (Libya) (original language Arabic): First of all I should like to congratulate you personally and also to congratulate the Director-General, because both of you attended, the Contact Group meeting which means that we were enabled to successfully draft this resolution. You know that the spirit which prevailed in the course of our meeting - and which lasted very late last night, by the way - was a very constructive one indeed. We all expressed understanding for the opinion of each other and thus, Mr. Chairman, we were able to achieve an acceptable text after very many difficulties. That is why, sir, I would suggest that we accept the result of this work by the Contact Group without a debate, particularly as time is now of the essence.

A. JUAN-MARCOS ISSA (Mexico): Yo quisiera también adherirme a las felicitaciones a usted como Presidente de la Comisión II y como persona que encabezó los trabajos del Grupo de contacto celebrado anoche, felicitamos a todos los que participamos en esa reunión por el espíritu de comprensión y en la cual se buscó que prevaleciera, lo que originalmente motivó la propuesta por parte de la delegación mexicana de esta resolución; felicitar al Director General por su personal interés y su presencia en estos interesantes debates y a todos aquellos hermanos latinoamericanos y países en desarrollo que acogieron unánimemente la propuesta y la iniciativa mexicana, por lo demás que no es de México, sino de todos aquellos que hace muchos años estuvieron trabajando en pro de estas ideas.

Por todo esto señor Presidente, también solicitaría, de ser aceptado, que esta propuesta pase sin debate y sin reserva alguna por parte de ningún país.

CHAIRMAN: We have the proposal submitted by the delegates of Libya and Mexico to approve the resolution as contained in C 81/II/REP/4 as a whole.

A.L. MACHADO DE MORAES (Brazil): We would like to express our congratulations to the Mexican delegation for the initiative of having presented the proposal on the establishment of an international bank for plant genetic resources, and we also would like to express our confidence with the studies to be undertaken. We would strongly recommend this implementation for the reason that we strongly support the resolution and also the proposal that acceptance of the resolution be made by all.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you, delegate of Brazil.

Paragraph 1, including draft resolution, approved  
Le paragraphe 1, y compris le projet de résolution, est approuvé  
El párrafo 1, incluido el proyecto de resolución, es aprobado

Draft Report of Commission II, Part 4, was adopted  
Le projet de rapport de la Commission II, 4ème partie, est adopté  
El proyecto de informe de la Comisión II, parte 4, es aprobado

DRAFT REPORT OF COMMISSION II - PART.2  
PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION II - PARTIE 2  
PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA COMISION II - PARTE 2

PARAGRAPHS 1 to 20  
PARAGRAPHES 1 à 20  
PARRAFOS 1 a 20

R. GARCELL (Cuba): Quizás sea sólo un problema gramatical. En el párrafo 4 pienso que la preposición “de” sobra en el texto en español. Debe decir: “al tratar ambas partes del Examen”. Creo que así lo recomendamos en el Comité de Redacción.

CHAIRMAN: I think that must be purely a Spanish text because in the English text I do not find “developed proposal” at all. I take it that the amendment proposed by Cuba has been accepted.

L. VROONEN (Belgique): A la troisième ligne du paragraphe 10: “complete par des matières organiques”, je propose que nous donnions la raison de ce “complete” que nous avons discute pendant les jours qui ont precede, et dire “complete par des matières organiques moins exigeantes en energies fossiles” parce que c’était, en fait, la raison qui nous avait poussés à completer par des matières organiques. Done: “complete par des matières organiques moins exigeantes en energies fossiles” ou “en energies de commerce” peu importe. Ensuite, les parentheses (notamment par le biais...) peut-etre peut-on simplement mettre une virgule et laisser tomber les parentheses.

CHAIRMAN: The proposed amendment by the Belgian delegate is accepted, I take it.

M. ARAFAH (Jordan) (original language Arabic): The Arabic text of paragraph 13, regarding the role of credit, has to be amended in accordance with the original text.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you, that will- be taken into account in the Arabic text.

Paragraphs 1 to 20, as amended, approved  
Les paragraphes 1 à 20, ainsi amendés, sont approuvés  
Los párrafos 1 a 20, así enmendados, son aprobados

Paragraphs 21 to 40  
Paragraphes 21 à 40  
Párrafos 21 a 40

In paragraph 22, there is a change proposed by the Secretariat.

D. WRIGHT (Secretary, Commission II): The change proposed by the Secretariat is not really a change but a correction. On the first line after the word "Conférence" there should be a comma inserted and then the following phrase: "the Conférence, on the basis of provisional figures for 1980", and then on the end of the third line in English and at the beginning of the fourth line we should delete "on the basis of provisional figures,".

CHAIRMAN: Can we take it that paragraph 22 with these changes in the text has been approved? That is the case, approved.

Ms. C. McASKIE (Canada): With your indulgence I would like to propose the addition of one sentence to paragraph 24. The sentence could come either at the end or before the last sentence to the end and would read as follows: "Some members noted however that the selection of executing agency was the prerogative of the client country."

CHAIRMAN: You have now heard the proposed amendment by the delegate of Canada.

J. de MEREDIEU (Assistant Director-General, Development Department): May I respectfully draw the attention of the delegate from Canada to the fact that the rule, if I am not mistaken, reads that it is the administrator of the UNDP which designates the executing agency in consultation with the recipient government.

Ms. C. McASKIE (Canada): We are here dealing, I believe, with the Report of the Conférence in terms of a report of statements made by delegations. Several delegations, including the observer representative of the UNDP, did make this statement and the statements are to be found in PV10 and P.V.11.

W. A. F. GRABISCH (Germany, Fed. Rep. of) (original language German): It seems to me that this small proposed amendment should not cause too much difficulty. It is just a matter of reflecting what was said in the meeting of the Commission and I therefore think that this proposal should be acceptable.

T. AHMED (Chairman, Drafting Committee): The fact is that this particular concern which the delegates of Canada and Germany are discussing now was expressed during the discussion in the Drafting Committee and to accommodate that, the last but one sentence was changed. I would like to draw the attention of the delegate of Canada to the last but one sentence where it says: "Full support was therefore expressed for the action taken by the Director-General to help correct this situation, through consultation with the governments of recipient countries, which played a middle role in shaping their country programmes..." That part of the sentence was specifically inserted to accommodate this point of view but the general consensus was that it is a two-way dialogue between the recipient country and the UNDP. So the second part of the sentence brings out the balance between the two and I personally think that that would meet the Canadian delegate's concern. But if the Canadian delegate has very strong views about inserting one separate sentence which we think has already been accommodated in the text, we would perhaps have no objection but we would draw her attention to this particular sentence.

D. BETI (Suisse): Je remercie le Président du Comité de rédaction des explications qu'il a données. Il me semble néanmoins que la proposition faite par la délégation canadienne rend beaucoup mieux compte de l'état de choses tel qu'il existe, dans certains cas, et tel qu'il devrait être dans la réalité de tous les jours, dans les relations entre le PNUD, la FAO et les pays récipiendaires.

Ma délégation serait heureuse si la Commission pouvait accepter l'amendement qui précise bien les choses et qui ne modifie pas essentiellement les termes du paragraphe 24.

A.G. GNGONGI NAMANGA (Cameroon): I would not like to drag this out, since I was a member of the Drafting Committee, but as the Chairman of the Drafting Committee has clearly explained, the Drafting Committee had some argument on this last but one sentence. This was because an expression saying that the developing countries or the beneficiary countries have the final choice on the executing agency is putting it very simplistically. It is not really a reflection of the facts of life. Seeing that that was what was discussed in the Drafting Committee, this does not actually reflect the conflicting forces or the powers of decision. I mean, to a large extent the UNDP Resident Representatives actually have a lot more to say than shows on the surface.

So if we want to say that that is how it should be, maybe the sentence should be changed to say that: "Some countries noted that the selection of the executing agency should be the prerogative of the developing countries". I think that will be acceptable. But to say that it is the prerogative of the developing countries does not actually reflect the facts of life.

D. BETI (Suisse) (langue originale allemand): C'est bien sûr à la délégation canadienne qui a proposé un amendement qu'il appartient de prendre une décision sur ce point, mais en ce qui nous concerne, la modification proposée par la délégation camerounaise nous donnerait satisfaction.

Ms. C. McASKIE (Canada): I think the remarks of my colleague from the Cameroon are most relevant and I am very willing to take his comments into account and accept his amendment. I would add, however, that we are dealing here with situations in a very large number of countries and experiences differ from country to country. There is no one example which is true everywhere; in some countries, in my own personal experience it is the prerogative of the client country to choose the executing agency. I am not speaking on the basis of hearsay but on personal experience.

I am very happy, however, to accept the new wording that would read, "that the selection of executing agency should be the prerogative of the client country".

CHAIRMAN: Thank you, delegate of Canada. The proposal as amended by Cameroon would read now, "some members noted however that the selection of executing agency should be the prerogative of the client country". Maybe "recipient country". Right, "recipient country". I think that has been settled. Can we take it that paragraph 24 has been approved? I take it.

W.A.F. GRABISCH (Germany, Federal Republic of) (Original language German): My delegation too would like to congratulate the Chairman of the Drafting Committee and the members very much. You see how quickly we are moving, and I think that is the best proof of this.

Now to paragraph 34. My delegation would like to make a slight amendment at the beginning of the third sentence which begins with, "The Conference noted that there was scope". We think that this is a little weak if we compare this with what developing and developed countries said about this here, so we suggest that we amend it as follows: we amend the word "noted" to "stressed" and the sentence would now begin, "The Conference stressed that there was scope for further improvement". I hope that this will not create any particular difficulties. Thank you.

T. AHMED (Chairman, Drafting Committee): I appreciate the words with which the delegate of Germany started. We would have no difficulty with this proposed amendment, but I would suggest that instead of "stressed" we may use the word "emphasized", which would meet your concern.

CHAIRMAN: The word "emphasized" has been proposed substituting "noted". I take it you noted it and approved it.

Paragraphs 21 to 40, as amended, approved

Les paragraphes 21 à 40, ainsi amendés, sont approuvés

Los párrafos 21 a 40, así enmendados, son aprobados

Paragraphs 41 to 43 approved

Les paragraphes 41 à 43 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 41 a 43 son aprobados

PARAGRAPHS 44 to 46

PARAGRAPHERS 44 à 46

PARRAFOS 44 a 46

MAI LUONG (Viet Nam): Les paragraphes 44, 45, 46 et 47 ont relaté assez fidèlement les travaux et débats de notre Commission II sur le point 14 de l'Ordre du jour. Nous voudrions cependant vous faire remarquer que ces paragraphes ne reflètent pas l'esprit de certains débats menés à cette Commission. Des délégations, aujnombre desquelles on compte la nôtre ont manifesté leur souci de voir l'aide alimentaire ne pas être employée comme une arme. Il faut éviter, autant que possible, l'ingérence de la politique dans les activités du PAM. Ceci, pour préserver le caractère humanitaire de l'Organisation et les 'critères jusqu'ici appliqués au cours des sessions du CPA pour l'approbation de l'aide alimentaire. Ces points de vue ont d'ailleurs été exprimés même en séance plénière par plusieurs délégations au cours du débat général.

Notre délégation, à la suite d'un fait anormal au cours de la douzième Session, a exprimé le voeu que soient réexaminées les modalités d'approbation par consensus, selon lequel une minorité doit imposer la politique à une majorité, en bloquant ainsi les travaux.

Notre délégation prie le Comité de rédaction d'insérer dans ce rapport l'esprit de ce que j'ai dit au début de mon intervention. Nous avons déjà préparé un amendement dont, avec la permission du Président, je pourrais donner lecture.

Voici ce texte: "Plusieurs délégations ont souligné le fait que l'aide alimentaire ne doit pas être utilisée comme une arme et qu'il faut appliquer strictement les critères déjà convenus pour une aide alimentaire, sans ingérence de la politique dans les activités du PAM et les travaux du CPA, C'est un fait anormal dans l'histoire du PAM que, pour la première fois, un projet de développement a été ajourné, réajourné pendant deux ans de suite; une délégation a relevé le côté absurde et injuste du problème et a demandé de revoir le mode d'approbation par consensus par lequel, par deux fois, une minorité peut abuser pour imposer sa politique à une majorité et bloquer les travaux".

LE PRESIDENT: Monsieur le délégué du Viet Nam, vous serait-il possible de mettre le texte de votre amendement à la disposition du secrétariat?

R. GARCELL (Cuba): Nos sentimos comprometidos con el trabajo del Comité de Redacción y consideramos que se hizo un trabajo arduo bajo la magnífica presidencia del distinguido delegado de Pakistán, que condujo hábilmente y en la forma más amplia el desarrollo de nuestros debates. De los cientos de oradores que han intervenido, a veces ocurren omisiones, y parece ser que estamos en presencia de una de ellas. Yo recuerdo perfectamente la declaración de Viet Nam, que expresaba la necesidad de que no se use la ayuda alimentaria como un arma. Pero además recuerdo que no sólo fue la distinguidísima delegación de Viet Nam, una mujer del pueblo de Viet Nam, quien la hizo sino que también otras delegaciones hicimos referencia a este aspecto, y realmente procede de alguna forma incluir algún párrafo en este sentido.

LE PRESIDENT: Monsieur le délégué du Viet Nam, l'amendement que vous avez présenté maintenant et la déclaration prononcée par Mme le délégué de votre pays lors du débat sur le Programme alimentaire mondial sont fidèlement reproduits dans le procès verbal. Mais, si j'ai bien compris votre suggestion, vous désirez incorporer votre amendement maintenant dans le rapport, (Continue en anglais):... Distinguished delegates, you have heard the suggestion of the delegate of Vietnam.

W.A.F. GRABISCH (Germany, Fed. Rep. of): (Original language German): This seems to be a rather lengthy suggestion that we have heard read out and we wonder whether the balance of the whole excerpt would somewhat unbalance the remainder of the text. We think that part of what has been stated in substance is to be discussed in the WFP itself, for example the criteria which have been referred to. Our Delegation would like to hear what the Chairman of the Drafting Committee has to say about this suggestion, and I do not know whether in this case it would be a good thing to hear from the representative of the WFP, but I am sure that there are other opinions in the plenary on the matter.

T. AHMED (Chairman, Drafting Committee): I appreciate the confidence of the distinguished Delegate of Germany. The fact is that, while drafting the Report, we attempted to reflect the general trend of the debate in Commission II. Very rarely did we make reference to one delegate's pleas of observations or statements during Commission II because the consensus was that the verbatim report carried all the discussion absolutely correctly and that the Report should be the gist of the general trends of the discussion that had taken place.

This issue was not raised during the Drafting Committee's deliberations but other matters to which the distinguished delegate of Vietnam referred, like strictly observing the criteria, etc., are already contained in these paragraphs on WFP. The issue of food aid not being used as a weapon was not brought up and it was not discussed in the Drafting Group.

It is up to Commission II now to consider whether or not they want this to be included in the Report. However, I do agree with the distinguished delegate from Germany that, if you want to reflect this, it will have to be reflected briefly in one or two sentences and not in a lengthy paragraph which would unbalance the Report.

I respectfully suggest, Mr. Chairman, that you invite the opinions of the members of Commission II on the formulation it should take or whether or not it should be included. As far as we are concerned, we tried to reflect the debate as it took place, and we have presented the Report.

CHAIRMAN: Indeed, the Report would have to reflect faithfully the views held by the overwhelming majority, and, in my opinion, that is the case.

Sra. L. ELIZONDO C. (Nicaragua): Nuestra delegación considera oportuna y apoyaría la moción de que se incluya un párrafo breve donde se haga referencia a que los alimentos no deben de ser usados como un arma política.

F. D'ALMEIDA (Benin): Je voudrais intervenir dans le sens de la déclaration de la déléguée du Nicaragua. Je pense que l'on peut ajouter ce membre de phrase parce qu'effectivement beaucoup de délégations avaient fait état de l'utilisation de l'aide alimentaire comme une arme.

J.M. SCOLAR (United Kingdom): Might I suggest a sentence on the lines: "Some delegations indicated their view that food aid should not be used for political ends".

CHAIRMAN: You have heard the suggestion proposed by the delegate of the United Kingdom.

M. KRIESBERG (United States of America): That is indeed a useful suggestion by our colleague, the distinguished delegate from the United Kingdom, because that has been the burden and the real concern of several delegations. Those views have been expressed and those views have been touched upon in Commission I as well. We have no objection to that kind of a statement being made at this point in Commission II. We think, though, that that is the basic issue and that is the extent of a balanced report.

CHAIRMAN: We have here a concrete proposal of a text that could be a compromise: "Some delegations indicated their view that food aid should not be used for political ends". Could this be a formula that might be acceptable?

I. MAAZOU (Niger): Nous aimerions également appuyer la proposition du représentant du Viet Nam, parce que nous estimons que le PAM doit être un organisme strictement humanitaire. Nous proposons donc un amendement.

Cependant nous voudrions une légère modification à l'amendement propose par le Viet Nam. Dans la dernière phrase de cet amendement, au lieu de dire: "Pour imposer la politique à une majorité..." nous dirions: "Pour imposer une politique".

T. AHMED (Chairman, Drafting Committee): It is obvious that this question was raised in Commission II, and most of the members have agreed that this question that food aid should not be used for politics should be included in the Report. I would personally be happy with the formulation offered by the delegate of the UK and would suggest that it be inserted in paragraph 46 on page 11 in the sixth line after the sentence beginning, "Some members suggested that while maintaining its established priorities..." etc. Then you could add the sentence, "Some delegations indicated their view that food aid should not be used for political ends", because that is the general trend of the debate in this paragraph 44. That sentence would, in a brief manner, reflect the viewpoint of a number of delegations who expressed their concern on this issue.

MAI LUONG (Viet Nam): Si j'ai bonne mémoire, je crois qu'il faudrait mettre "plusieurs délégations" et non pas "certaines délégations".

CHAIRMAN: I take it that the wording that might be acceptable is now: "Several delegations indicated their view that food aid should not be used for political ends." Looking around, I take it that that is an acceptable formula. Thus, it will be inserted as suggested by the Chairman of the Drafting Committee.

Paragraphs 44 to 46, as amended, approved

Les paragraphes 44 à 46, ainsi amendés, sont approuvés

Los párrafos 44 a 46, así enmendados, son aprobados

PARAGRAPH 47 INCLUDING DRAFT RESOLUTION

PARAGRAPHE 47 Y COMPRIS LE PROJET DE RESOLUTION

PARRAFO 47 INCLUIDO EL PROYECTO DE RESOLUCION

L. VROONEN (Belgique): A la fin du paragraphe 47 il y a, je pense, une petite omission qui pourrait être réparée avec la permission du Président du Comité de rédaction. Il a indiqué tout à l'heure que l'on ne peut pas tout mettre, bien sûr, dans le rapport. Cependant, lors des travaux de la Commission, ma délégation avait introduit un point qui n'est pas reflété, et puisque dans le texte français je vois qu'il y a un peu de place qui reste en blanc en bas de la page, cette petite omission pourrait peut-être trouver sa place dans cet espace blanc.

Je propose donc un point que la Commission avait soulevé lors de ses travaux, et je le formule de cette manière.

"Une délégation s'est toutefois inquiétée du nombre croissant d'opérations d'urgence, notamment en faveur des réfugiés, qui diminuent les ressources pour les projets PAM, alors que d'autres organisations internationales ont un mandat précis concernant les réfugiés. Cette délégation demande des critères plus stricts pour l'acceptation des opérations d'urgence".



LE PRESIDENT: Je vous remercie, Monsieur le délégué de la Belgique, mais je dois dire que le Comité de rédaction a eu le devoir de faire un résumé sincère et fidèle de ce qui a été débattu. Le procès verbal a exactement reproduit les positions de chacun des délégués présents dans cette enceinte. Mais je pense qu'il ne serait pas rationnel d'inclure toutes les positions prises par un seul délégué dans le rapport. Si nous le faisons, le rapport deviendrait énorme et je suis sûr que ce précédent inviterait un grand nombre de délégués à faire la même chose. Je demande donc au délégué de la Belgique de bien vouloir reconsidérer sa proposition.

L. VROONEN (Belgique): Je n'insisterai pas Monsieur le Président. Simplement je l'ai signalé.

LE PRESIDENT: Je vous remercie pour votre compréhension. Je pense que ce pas apporte une contribution très importante au débat à venir. Continue en anglais: We are on the draft resolution, Target for the WFP Pledges for the period 1983-84. I would like to remind delegates that the subject of pledges for the World Food Programme as well as the resolution has been amply debated. To the best of my recollection--and the Chairman of the Drafting Committee will perhaps confirm this--no amendments have been suggested to the text of that draft resolution. I would like to propose, therefore, that Commission II approve the Resolution as contained in document C 81/II/REP/2 on page 13. Or would the Commission prefer to go through the preambular and operative paragraphs? Can I take it that you would agree to approve the resolution as a whole? I see a lot of nodding going on.

Paragraph 47, including draft resolution, approved

Le paragraphe 47, y compris le projet de résolution, est approuvé

El párrafo 47, incluido el proyecto de resolución, es aprobado

PARAGRAPHS 48 to 59

PARAGRAPHERS 48 à 59

PARRAFOS 48 a 59

C. R. BENJAMIN (United States of America): Just a small point on paragraph 54, actually a point of grammar, I think, but it changes the sense of this first sentence sufficiently for us to think that we ought to take out the comma in the third line after "meaningful progress".

CHAIRMAN: Could you indicate exactly where this is?

C. R. BENJAMIN (United States of America): In paragraph 54, the third line, after the words "meaningful progress" there is a comma which changes the sense.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much for that suggestion. It is a valid one and has been accepted. I take it that with this amendment we approve paragraph 54.

There is a correction to be indicated now by Mr. Wright on paragraph 58. In the third line it should not read "...the role of UNDP Resident Co-ordinators" but "...the role of UN Resident Co-ordinators".

Ms. C. McASKIE (Canada): I should like to propose an amendment to paragraph 58 in the second sentence, "Some countries emphasized the role of UN Resident Co-ordinators". I should like to change the words "Some countries" to "The Conference" because, to my knowledge, no government spoke against this. The normal procedure used throughout the Report has been that, where there was no negative statement made, there was a general feeling that it was the agreement of the Group as a whole.

T. AHMED (Chairman, Drafting Committee): I personally see no difficulty with the amendment proposed by the Canadian delegation unless Mr. de Meredieu has some comment to offer.

J. de MEREDIEU (Sous-directeur général, Département du développement): Bien entendu, c'est à notre commission qu'il appartient de décider, mais enfin, dans un rapport qui cherche à doser les nuances qui ont été exprimées au cours du débat, et où précisément beaucoup a été dit au sujet des fonctions relatives des coordonnateurs résidents et des représentants de la FAO, il me semble que la formulation proposée, en attribuant à l'ensemble de cette assemblée ce qui n'a, en fait, été exprimé que par un certain nombre de membres, risquerait peut-être de déséquilibrer le sens de l'ensemble du paragraphe, mais, bien entendu, c'est à votre commission qu'il appartient de décider.

Ms. S.M. MAIER (Netherlands): I should like to support the suggestion of the Canadian delegate. It is my opinion too that no country said anything against the role of the UN Resident Co-ordinators.

G. IJIGU (Ethiopia): With regard to the proposed amendment by Canada, I cannot lend my support to that statement because our own position has been that we see a balance between the UNDP Resident Co-ordinators and the other organs. So the statement cannot be "The Conference". "Some countries" should remain.

Ms. C. McASKIE (Canada): I fully appreciate the comments of the delegate from Ethiopia and in respect of the relations between the various agencies in the field he is absolutely right, there is a balance in the relationship. My comment in no way attempts to denigrate or reduce the role of the FAO representative in the field, which the Conference has accepted as being a unique role with direct access to governments and direct access to its own Headquarters. This is enshrined in the General Assembly resolutions. The UN Resident Co-ordinators, however, does have a specific role, and it is a role that has been endorsed by all of us here in the General Assembly resolutions. There is nothing, therefore, that could detract from our discussions or destroy the balance between the agencies of the various members of the UN family by merely acknowledging that the FAO Conference endorsed what is in effect a decision that has already been taken by all of us concerning the over-all balanced picture. I am not in any way trying to suggest by my comment that the Conference gave a role to the UN Resident Co-ordinators that they do not already have.

D. BETI (Suisse): Il faut dire qu'une conférence comme celle de la FAO est une chose très compliquée, et qu'il faut probablement la faire plusieurs fois avant d'en comprendre tous les mécanismes. Moi, j'en suis à ma deuxième Conférence de la FAO, et je crois avoir compris un certain nombre de ses mécanismes, notamment justement que quand il n'y a pas de voix discordantes dans la discussion de la commission, on peut admettre que la commission a approuvé une proposition, une remarque, ou en tout cas elle n'a pas contredit cette remarque faite par une ou plusieurs délégations. Sur ce point de l'ordre du jour, ma délégation n'as pas cru devoir intervenir dans la discussion, estimant que ce qu'elle aurait pu dire avait déjà été dit par d'autres délégations, et que certains points auxquels elle tenait n'avaient pas été contredits. Ceci pour gagner du temps à la commission; ceci aussi parce que si l'on commence, dans cette conférence, à devoir prendre la parole sur chaque sujet pour qu'il soit bien clair que si l'on se tait on consent ou on ne consent pas, pour que justement à ce moment-là on n'arrive pas à un état de choses où toutes les délégations se prononcent systématiquement sur tous les points. Dans ce sens il me semblait avoir compris que ce qui est exprimé dans la phrase qui est en discussion maintenant ici était effectivement approuvé, ou en tout cas pas contredit par les délégations ici présentes, notamment par la mienne qui ne s'est pas prononcée. Je trouve par conséquent qu'il serait souhaitable et heureux que nous puissions admettre ce texte et, par conséquent, approuver la proposition faite par la délégation du Canada.

A.A. KHALIL (Sudan) (original language Arabic): I do not want to speak at length on this matter, but I fully agree with what was stated by the representative of Ethiopia about this paragraph, and we insist that this paragraph should be retained as such, namely; "Some countries emphasized the role of the Resident Co-ordinators" and so on, but without any amendment.

W.A. F. GRABISCH (Germany, Fed. Rep. of) (original language German): Perhaps it might be useful or helpful if those who have doubts about the representative of Canada's proposal, which was supported by the Netherlands, could have their attention drawn to paragraph 59 - that those who hesitated could have

their attention drawn to paragraph 59. It says there that the relations between the Resident Co-ordinators did “not affect relations between Governments and individual organizations of the United Nations system”, so it is stated quite clearly there what is meant, and therefore I think that the proposal of Canada, as supported by the Netherlands, should be adopted.

J. GAZZO (Perú): Ya en una intervención anterior expuse los inconvenientes que sufrió el Perú al no tener por casi seis años representante de la FAO y solamente tener representante de las Naciones Unidas. En la mayoría de los países en vías de desarrollo tenemos como gran prioridad el sector agropecuario; al cubrir la FAO específicamente este sector y no la amplitud de los sectores que cubren las Naciones Unidas, es muy conveniente y muy necesario el que exista un representante de la FAO en nuestros países. Nosotros hemos vivido los inconvenientes de la ausencia de este representante y muchas veces el representante de las Naciones Unidas, por mucha buena voluntad que tuviera, no tenía los conocimientos suficientes en la especialidad del sector agropecuario y los mensajes que queríamos que llegaran al Director General no llegaban en el lenguaje especial del sector agropecuario que se requería. Es un gran inconveniente que se tengan que tomar algunas decisiones de emergencia a través de una intermediación. Nosotros pensamos que la existencia de un representante de la FAO en nuestros países es ya una descentralización de la Organización, lo que sí es necesario es que ese representante lleve unido todas las prerrogativas y la delegación de autoridad por parte del Director General para que sea un hombre ágil que tome decisiones, no solo en los programas ordinarios, sino en las soluciones de emergencia y evitar esta intermediación a través de cartas, a través de correo, que demoran mucho tiempo y que en mi país han demostrado una gran ineficacia.

Por consiguiente, Perú apoya firmemente, y cree que ésa es la opinión de la mayoría de los países en vías de desarrollo, la conveniencia de que exista en nuestros países un representante de la FAO.

CHAIRMAN: Let us come back now to the point of departure. There were two words, either “The Conference” or “some delegates”. Let us not re-open the debate. I have now a number of speakers and I plead with them to speak to the point.

T. AHMED (Chairman, Drafting Committee): I am trying to help the Commission in their deliberations. The Canadian delegate would have by now realized that it was not “the Conference”; it was “some delegates”, and I have been looking through my papers that we were using during the drafting group in this form, that “some countries emphasized the role” and it was not the Conference, and now that there is the bleak prospect of re-opening the debate on this issue, it is obvious that it is not the Conference; it is some members. So I would suggest and ask the distinguished delegate from Canada to leave the paragraph as it is because that more truly reflects the opinion of Commission II than saying it was the Conference.

J. PILANE (Botswana): I think that the Chairman of the Drafting Committee has answered my question. I was going to ask for his leadership on this aspect. I think I have nothing to say.

Ms. C. McASKIE (Canada): I think we are starting to get off on the wrong track here, and I certainly did not wish, as I hoped I had made clear in my earlier intervention, I certainly had not wished to denigrate in any way whatsoever the unique role of the FAO representative in the field, his relations with governments and his relations with Headquarters. This is not the point we are discussing. I would like to refer to the very helpful remarks of the delegate from the Federal Republic of Germany in pointing out to us the contents of the following paragraph, and with this in mind I would like to make a counter-suggestion that instead of saying “The Conference emphasized the role of the UN Resident Coordinators”, that we say, “The Conference endorsed the role of the UN Resident Coordinator in the field as defined in General Assembly Resolution 34/213”. Now as we have the quotation in paragraph 59 from this very resolution, then I see no difficulties in our, merely making a statement which is something we have said in several other forms.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): I really hate to be formal but our business here is to reflect our debate as faithfully as we possibly can, so I think Mr. Chairmen if we want to involve the Conference here then the Conference could only note. I do not think there is any point in endorsing something that was approved by the General Assembly. It seems to be redundant, so I am trying to offer a way out to say, "It also noted the role", and if we want to use the terms "emphasized", then it should be only some or several countries. If you want "Conference", then "The Conference certainly noted the role of UNDP Resident Representatives". That is all. I repeat, I really do not see any point in endorsing their role.

J.O. ALABI (Nigeria): After the explanation by the Chairman of the Drafting Committee I do not think I have much to say. I really prefer that you leave the text as it is, or if you want to put "it is noted" as Yugoslavia suggested, I am all right.

NGA MA MAPELA (Zaire): Notre délégation appuie la position de ceux des délégués qui ont souhaité voir maintenu le texte dans son état actuel. Nous croyons que dire: "certains pays ont souligné....." cela reflète le débat. En fait, chacun n'est pas satisfait. Si nous voulons rouvrir le débat, nous voulons dans ce paragraphe qu'on dise aussi que le rôle de coordination doit être joué par le gouvernement de chaque pays. Car, ce sont des choses qui ont été dites ici, lors des débats, mais le temps étant compté, nous ne pouvons pas trop discuter, c'est pourquoi nous demandons que le texte soit maintenu en l'état.

G. CAMELARIS (Cyprus): Perhaps I could provide a middle solution to solve the problem. We can probably omit both the word "Conference" and the words "Some countries". After the full stop of the first sentence the rest of the paragraph would read: "The role of UNDP Resident Coordinators in the field was emphasized.", and then it would go on according to the text.

B. E. PHIRI (Zambia): First of all I would like to comment on the proposal made just now by Cyprus and say that regretfully we cannot accept their amendment right now. We think that the paragraph as it stands reflects what took place in the Commission. It was not the full Conference that emphasized this role; some countries of course mentioned it, so we think that to say "Some countries emphasized" is a correct reflection of what happened. But if the insistence is on replacing "Some countries" by "The Conference", we would go along with what the delegate of Yugoslavia has just said, "The Conference noted this role". But we would say again that we do not accept the proposal made just now by Cyprus.

A.H. EL SARKI (Egypt) (Original language Arabic): My delegation supports the idea that the text should be left as it because I think "Some countries" represents the debate which actually took place better.

CHAIRMAN: I take it that the compromise that was suggested by the delegate of Yugoslavia and supported by a few of the delegates could meet in the middle. He suggested, "The Conference noted the role of". Is this an acceptable formula?

Ms C. McASKIE (Canada): First of all I would like to thank my Cyprus colleague for his very helpful suggestion which I have to confess I rather liked. But at the same time I also very much appreciate the suggestion from the delegate of Yugoslavia who has been noted in this Commission for his very successful mediation at difficult moments. I believe therefore, from some of the comments that have been made, that his suggestion would have a wider acceptability in Commission II and the delegation of Canada would be prepared to accept this wording. We would still however dispute the fact that we go back to the original wording because there were no countries who spoke against it during the debate.

D. AMBOULOU (Congo): La rédaction du texte qui nous est présenté nous satisfait totalement, et nous aimerions à cette occasion appuyer l'intervention de la délégation du Zaïre. Cette intervention reflète tout à fait l'esprit du débat tel qu'il s'est déroulé ici. Beaucoup de pays ont effectivement dit au cours du débat qu'ils souhaiteraient (et, il en est déjà ainsi) que la coordination des activités soit faite chez eux, par le gouvernement en place. Si l'on souhaite revenir sur ce point, nous demanderions qu'on ajoute cet amendement parce que cela a été dit dans le débat.

K. CHOUERI (Liban) (Langue originale arabe): Nous avons examiné en profondeur ce document et ce paragraphe. Il n'y a pas eu d'observations faites par les membres du Comité de rédaction; nous devons conserver le texte tel qu'il est, conformément à ce qu'a dit le Président du Comité de rédaction.

B.E. PHIRI (Zambia): In our intervention on this item we mentioned that we did not want to go back to the situation which had prevailed in the past when a Senior Agricultural Adviser used to work through the Resident Representative of the UNDP. We actually made this statement and therefore for Canada to say that no country spoke against this is not quite correct because we mentioned it. In fact we were just trying to be accommodating when we accepted the Yugoslav formula, "The Conference noted". We could in fact insist that "Some countries emphasized" because we certainly did not want this to come into it. So we are just trying to go along with those who are on the other side of the pendulum. But certainly we could insist on going back to this because some of us do not want to get to the previous situation which we did not like before and which we spoke about in the Commission.

J. MOLDE (Denmark): Our delegation took part in the deliberations concerning the relationship between the UNDP and FAO and the role of the UN Coordinators. We did emphasize the role of the UN Coordinators and it was our understanding actually that nobody spoke against it.

In this respect we had the same understanding as Canada and Germany and also in our opinion the original Canadian proposal would present a fair balance considering the beginning of paragraph 59. But in a spirit of compromise we could go along with the Yugoslav proposal as the Canadian delegation can also now accept it.

S. AIDARA (Sénégal): Je ne vais pas allonger le débat. Vous le savez, Monsieur le Président, j'ai participé personnellement au Comité de rédaction. Je voudrais tout simplement confirmer ce qu'a dit le délégué du Liban, à propos du paragraphe 58 qui a fait l'objet, devant le Comité de rédaction, d'un très large débat et d'un échange de vues très positif. Un certain nombre de propositions ont été faites, notamment par la Yougoslavie et elles constituent à nos yeux une solution de compromis, d'autant plus que ce compromis semble être accepté par l'autre partie, en l'occurrence les délégations qui pensent comme la délégation du Canada.

Il me semble donc qu'on pourrait adopter cette solution de compromis pour avancer dans nos travaux. On pourrait donc remplacer les termes "certains pays ont souligné....." par "la conférence a noté ...." cela reflèterait les vues des uns et des autres, exprimées au cours du débat.

M. BEL HADJ AMOR (Tunisie): Lorsqu'un projet de rapport est présenté à une Commission, on sait par expérience qu'il a toujours fait l'objet auparavant d'un très long débat. Et je suis certain que si le Comité de rédaction nous a proposé l'expression "certains pays ont souligné .....", cela signifie qu'il existe déjà un consensus au sein du Comité de rédaction. Très franchement, ma délégation préfère cette expression. Cependant, je ne veux pas du tout rouvrir le débat, et si la majorité entend appuyer le compromis présenté par la Yougoslavie, je suivrai cette voie mais, très franchement, avec réticence.

J. TCHICAYA (Congo): Le représentant de la Tunisie m'a devancé. En effet, le Comité de rédaction nous a fait part des longues discussions qui ont eu lieu au cours de ce paragraphe 58. Nous savons que ce paragraphe constitue déjà un compromis au niveau du Comité de rédaction, je ne vois vraiment pas pourquoi nous serions amenés à en changer le libellé. Lorsqu'on dit "la conférence a noté ....." cela signifie que tout le monde a accepté, et par conséquent, on peut employer le mot "conférence". Dans la mesure où on dit "certains pays ....." alors que d'autres pays ont avancé des idées qui ne sont pas celles retenues ici, je crois qu'il convient de laisser "certains pays ....." En tout cas, le libellé tel qu'il nous est présenté satisfait entièrement notre délégation, et nous souhaitons qu'il soit maintenu.

G. IJIGU (Ethiopia): I just wanted to be clear on the compromise that was suggested by the last speakers before the delegate of the Congo. If the compromise is to change the word "noted" for "emphasized" and then retain everything else, I do not see very much change in what we are debating now. Therefore unless there is a substantial change to show "The Conference", meaning all of us, I just wanted to emphasize that our position is that we feel very strongly about this and I would remind you of it.

D. BETI (Suisse): Nous sommes probablement arrivés au point où il faudrait peut-être relire attentivement le verbatim pour savoir ce que nous avons tous dit exactement. Nous n'en avons pas le temps. Comme j'ai déjà eu l'occasion de le dire, nous n'avons pas participé directement et expressément à ce débat, mais nous y avons participé activement en écoutant ce qui a été dit et nous nous basons sur ce que nous avons entendu. Or nous ne nous rappelons à aucun moment avoir entendu quelque contradiction que ce soit à l'égard de ce qui est dit dans la phrase telle qu'elle serait amendée par la proposition du Canada.

Si nous voulons commencer à nous disputer sur ce point, je serais prêt - et j'en reviens aux remarques du Président du Comité de rédaction - à présenter rapidement un certain nombre de ces expressions où on retient que la Conférence a noté, que la Conférence a souligné, que la Conférence a pris note, et à vous prouver qu'il y avait eu au moins une voix discordante dans l'assemblée, et que par conséquent on ne pouvait pas parler de la Conférence mais plutôt de plusieurs membres ou d'une grande partie des membres.

Si on pouvait accepter la proposition du Canada, amendée par la très bonne proposition du délégué de la Yougoslavie, cela rendrait effectivement ce qui a été dit ou ce qui a été admis tacitement dans cette discussion.

Je voudrais ajouter un mot à l'adresse notamment du délégué du Zaïre pour le rassurer. Nous discutons maintenant sur un paragraphe, mais il y a d'autres choses qui sont dites dans d'autres paragraphes. Nous sommes tout à fait d'accord avec ce que l'on dit sur la coordination, que la coordination des activités de développement doit revenir aux gouvernements des pays concernés ou gouvernements récipiendaires. Nous acceptons cela aussi pour la coopération bilatérale. Or, je me permets de renvoyer le délégué du Zaïre, et si je ne m'abuse le délégué du Congo, au paragraphe 56 où il est question de cette coordination, notamment à la première phrase: "...cette tâche (de coordination) doit continuer d'incomber essentiellement aux gouvernements eux-mêmes".

G. CAMELARIS (Cyprus): We have been discussing this issue quite extensively, and we must proceed, so since indeed, the paragraph as it is meets what has been said during the Commission, during the debate, and it seems the majority approach as it is in the report, the Cyprus delegation has no difficulty, in order to help the Commission, in accepting the paragraph as it is in the report.

T. AHMED (Chairman, Drafting Committee): As was pointed out by my friends on the Drafting Committee, particularly Lebanon and Senegal, we had a fairly long debate on this paragraph, and we thought that the formulation that we have presented reflects the true nature of the debate. But as the issue has been reopened here the Yugoslavia proposal seems to be a compromise formula which is perhaps acceptable to both sides' point of view, and would reflect then the debate, I would, Mr. Chairman, recommend that we accept the proposal made by Yugoslavia and say that the Conference "noted" and we eliminate the word "emphasize". That would perhaps meet all the doubts and concerns, and we can go forward.

NGA MA MAPELA (Zaïre): J'ai bien écouté le délégué de la Suisse et je le remercie de ses remarques. Il y a effectivement l'idée de coordination par les gouvernements des pays eux-mêmes et la coordination par le coordinateur résident. Cela exprime une même chose alors qu'au paragraphe 56, déjà adopté, il est dit: "On a reconnu que... la coordination est nécessaire...". Dans ce paragraphe 56, on devrait incorporer la proposition de la Yougoslavie.

CHAIRMAN: We have a formula in front of us that seems to be acceptable to most of the delegates. Could I ask the delegate of Yugoslavia to read it out again?

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): Well, Chairman, it was my feeling that our debate would be perhaps best reflected in the report if we say in the second sentence "it also noted the role of UNDP Resident Coordinators" and so on.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you, delegate of Yugoslavia. That is the proposed amendment. I take it that that has been approved by the Commission.

Paragraphs 48 to 59, as amended, approved

Les paragraphes 48 à 59, ainsi amendés, sont approuvés

Los párrafos 48 a 59, así enmendados, son aprobados

Paragraphs 60 to 63, approved

Les paragraphes 60 à 63 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 60 a 63 son aprobados

Draft Report of Commission II, Part 2, as amended, was adopted

Le projet de rapport de la Commission II, deuxième partie, ainsi amendé, est adopté

El proyecto de informe de la Comisión II, parte 2, así enmendado, es aprobado

DRAFT REPORT OF COMMISSION II - PART I

PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION II - PARTIE I

PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA COMISION II - PARTE I

PARAGRAPHS 1 to 109 INCLUDING DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

PARAGRAPHES 1 à 109 Y COMPRIS DES PROJETS DE RESOLUTIONS

PARRAFOS 1 a 109 INCLUIDOS LOS PROYECTOS DE RESOLUCION

L. VROONEN (Belgique): Je n'ai peut-être pas bien compris le texte et je désirerais une information.

Dans la deuxième ligne du paragraphe 4 on lit: "On a également suggéré que l'on pourrait mieux intégrer l'examen du Programme ordinaire et le Programme de travail et budget et/ou les objectifs à moyen terme." A l'avant dernière ligne, on dit au contraire: "Le Comité du programme et le Comité financier devraient être priés par le Conseil d'examiner si le document sur les objectifs à moyen terme devraient ou non être incorporés dans le Programme de travail et budget de 1984-85."

Il me semble que dans la première partie on est d'accord pour une intégration, alors que dans la deuxième partie on paraît se demander si cette intégration est possible. Le Président du Comité de rédaction pourrait peut-être m'éclairer.

T. AHMED (Chairman, Drafting Committee): May I draw the attention of the distinguished delegate of Belgium to the fact the second sentence refers to, "Some members" proposal that it should be done, and the last sentence says that this should be examined, the proposal should be examined by the Finance and the Programme Committee.

LE PRESIDENT: Est-ce que cette explication est acceptable par le délégué de la Belgique?... Continue en anglais. Paragraph 4 is approved.

L. VROONEN (Belgique): Veuillez m'excuser, Monsieur le Président. Je crois que tout le monde a faim et que vous-mêmes désirez aller rapidement. Toutefois, au paragraphe 11, je pense qu'un petit élément pourrait être ajouté, parce que plusieurs délégations en avaient parlé. A la troisième ligne, il est dit: "A cet égard, quelques membres ont notamment cité les bureaux régionaux, les services de soutien, les services de consultants et les publications."

Je pense que plusieurs délégations avaient également fait mention du nombre important de conférences et avaient suggéré qu'au niveau des conférences il y ait également des recherches pour voir si elles étaient toutes nécessaires et si des réductions ne pouvaient pas être faites dans ce domaine. Je pense donc qu'au même titre des publications on pourrait citer un grand nombre de conférences.

CHAIRMAN: Hence one may add the word "meeting". Is this acceptable? I think it is. So paragraph 11 approved with this amendment.

D. BETI (Suisse): J'ai lu attentivement le paragraphe 13. J'ai fouillé dans ma mémoire et je n'ai pas réussi à trouver trace de quelque menace que ce soit. Je ne sais évidemment pas ce qui a pu éventuellement se passer dans les couloirs de la Conférence, ou tout au moins pas tout, mais là encore je n'ai rien observé. Je me demande si la phrase qui commence par: "Quelques membres ont fortement déploré l'attitude, qualifiée par eux de menaçante, adoptée par deux délégations" devrait vraiment figurer dans ce paragraphe. Je pense qu'il serait préférable qu'elle n'y figure pas et je me demande si la Commission serait disposée à l'en extraire.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): Well, Chairman, I feel more or less the same. I do not think it is good to reflect this particular phrase in paragraph 13, so I am quite prepared to go along with what the delegate of Switzerland proposed. I think it should be deleted.

R. GARCELL (Cuba): Creo que es necesario que todos los integrantes de la Comisión conozcan que éste fue un párrafo ampliamente debatido, conjuntamente con el párrafo número 11. Quizás nos llevaron estos dos párrafos tanto tiempo como el resto del proceso de discusión del Comité de Redacción; y realmente quedó evidenciado de que sí hubo manifestaciones que conducen a mencionar la palabra amenaza. Pusimos ejemplos de que se habían planteado hasta posibilidades de deliberaciones de pasillo para cambiar el presupuesto de la FAO en favor de eliminar ayudas bilaterales. Quizás, y creo recordar que así se manejó, se utilizó esta forma en el Comité de Redacción, pudiera haber otras palabras, en inglés quizás pudiera ser blackmail. Nuestra delegación como miembro del Comité de Redacción que discutió profundamente este párrafo, creemos firmemente que debe mantenerse tal cual está, porque realmente fue expresado y fue después reconocido contrariamente por otras delegaciones.

T. AHMED (Chairman, Drafting Committee): As has been very ably described by my Cuban colleague who was on the Drafting Committee, paragraphs 10, 11 and 13 took the Drafting Committee nearly two evenings, which is more than 6 hours, to go through word by word, sentence by sentence and phrase by phrase. Our attempt was that, these paragraphs being the crucial paragraphs, they should reflect the true debate. Both sides of the argument have been reflected in these paragraphs 10, 11 and 13 and there has been an attempt by the Drafting Group to achieve an acceptable balance.

As far as the question raised by the distinguished delegate from Switzerland is concerned, on a personal level I am also unhappy at the use of this sentence, but I will not allow my personal prejudice to judge what actually transpired during the debate. I may, as a person, be unhappy with the sentence, but that would not allow me to delete the sentence because that is what actually happened during the debate and the paragraph reflects the debate.

We spent more than 6 hours debating these paragraphs and the Drafting Group, which had members from all regions and all shades of opinion, after thoroughly discussing it, approved it. Therefore, we think these paragraphs should remain as they are.

CHAIRMAN: I think that is a very strong point.



D. BETI (Suisse): Comme l'a dit le délégué de la Belgique, nous avons tous faim et je ne veux pas prolonger cette discussion. Mais puisque j'ai pensé que l'on pourrait changer quelque chose dans ce texte, je dois bien dire ce que j'en pense maintenant.

Je remercie le Président du Comité de rédaction ainsi que le délégué de Cuba pour les explications qu'ils nous ont données. Je comprends un peu mieux le sens de cette phrase. Il me semble cependant qu'il serait quand même souhaitable de ne pas exagérer les termes dans ce rapport. Je ne pense pas que ma délégation fasse partie des deux délégations qui ont adopté cette attitude menaçante, je l'espère pour le moins, mais je dois admettre que dans nos déclarations nous avons exprimé, pour le moins, des idées, des possibilités semblables à celles qui sont exprimées dans le début de ce paragraphe et qui font partie de notre politique qu'il fallait exprimer de cette façon-là. Je me demande par conséquent si on pourrait être d'accord d'arrêter la phrase après le mot "menaçante" et de dire simplement que quelques membres ont fortement déploré cette attitude, qualifiée par eux de "menaçante".

S. AIDARA (Sénégal): Je voudrais faire écho à la déclaration du Président du comité de rédaction, reprenant les termes de la délégation cubaine qui a participé aux travaux du comité de rédaction. Je répète que les paragraphes 11, 12 et 13 nous ont pris la majeure partie du temps qui nous était imparti et ont fait l'objet de négociations très ardues. Je ne voudrais pas rappeler ici le background de toutes les discussions, consultations et échanges de vues qui ont eu lieu au cours du comité de rédaction qui, finalement, a pensé pouvoir refléter les buts exprimés par les uns et les autres en adoptant le paragraphe 13 au niveau du comité de rédaction où, je le rappelle, toutes les tendances étaient représentées. Je voudrais donc en appeler à la sagesse de la délégation de la Suisse pour qu'on laisse le texte tel quel, parce que, au niveau du comité de rédaction comme à celui de notre commission, il me semble que le sentiment est que ce paragraphe reflète effectivement les débats qui ont eu lieu au cours de la commission, et qui se sont poursuivis au niveau du comité de rédaction. Je voudrais donc en appeler à sa sagesse pour qu'on nous permette de laisser le texte tel quel afin d'avancer.

LE PRESIDENT: Est-ce que l'adresse à la sagesse du délégué du Sénégal va avoir des résultats?

K. CHOUERI (Liban) (langue originale arabe): Après ce qu'ont dit Monsieur le Président du comité de rédaction et le délégué du Sénégal, je répète que ces paragraphes ont pris beaucoup de temps du comité de rédaction. Certains membres du comité de rédaction ont demandé à pouvoir contacter de nouveau leurs collègues, ce qui leur a été permis. Après quoi ce paragraphe a été adopté par consensus, après un équilibre délicat. C'est pourquoi nous vous prions de bien vouloir accepter le maintien de ce paragraphe tel qu'il est, et je lance aussi un appel à mon ami le délégué de la Suisse pour qu'il donne son accord à l'adoption de ce paragraphe tel qu'il est.

D. BETI (Suisse): Il est très difficile de résister quand quelqu'un en appelle à votre sagesse, d'autant plus difficile que cet appel vient de la part de notre ami sénégalais et je connais par expérience personnelle un tout petit peu au moins la sagesse africaine, et l'importance que les Africains attachent justement à la sagesse. Je veux bien donc donner suite à cet appel, quand même avec certain regret, mais j'y donne suite, et j'espère que cela nous permettra de nous rapprocher le plus rapidement possible du repas que nous attendons tous ici présents.

LE PRESIDENT: Je remercie le délégué de la Suisse. Le regret sera fidèlement noté au procès-verbal.

We have hence approved paragraph 13.

L. VROONEN (Belgique): Veuillez m'excuser Monsieur le Président, lorsque nous avons discuté tout à l'heure du C 81/II/REP/2, vous aviez accepté d'ajouter un mot dans un petit alinéa similaire. Je vous demande donc également pour celui-ci de faire une petite modification dans le paragraphe 23 en notant davantage le fait que l'on recourt aux matières organiques et à la fixation de l'azote pour une question d'économie d'énergies fossiles. J'ai préparé un texte un amendé, mais enfin l'idée est celle-là, si vous voulez je lis le texte amendé tel que je l'vais préparé?

LE PRESIDENT: Vous pouvez le lire.

L. VROONEN (Belgique): Elle a approuvé les activités visant à assurer une utilisation plus efficace des engrais minéraux, par l'usage accru de fertilisations moins exigeantes en énergies fossiles comme les matières organiques, les composts et la fixation biologique de l'azote.

E.M. WEST (Assistant Director-General, Office of Programme, Budget and Evaluation): I am afraid I was not able to follow that fully, but I had the impression that the word "increased" disappeared from the new text. Was that intended, or did I miss that?

L. VROONEN (Belgique): Je n'ai pas fait disparaître le mot "accrue", je l'ai inversé; mais je viens de donner mon texte.

E.M. WEST (Assistant Director-General, Office of Programme, Budget and Evaluation): I realize that the word "increased" was applied to nutrients which are less dependent on fossil energy, but the sentence begins with the reference to "increased and more effective use of fertilizers, " and I am wondering whether the intention is to say that the use of ordinary chemical fertilizers should not be increased, because that would change the meaning considerably.

L. VROONEN (Belgique): Je ne voulais pas changer le sens, comme on l'avait fait dans le REP/2 tout à l'heure, je voulais simplement montrer que si on mettait l'accent sur l'utilisation de matières organiques et de fixation d'azote c'était pour une question d'économie d'énergies fossiles.

J. de MEREDIEU (Sous-directeur général, Département du développement): Il y a deux idées dans cette proposition: l'une est que les pays en développement ont, en tout état de cause, besoin d'une utilisation accrue des engrais, quels qu'ils soient, organiques, chimiques, et l'autre est de faire le plus d'économies possibles des engrais chimiques qui ont une forte composante énergétique. Dans le nouveau texte proposé par le délégué de la Belgique, l'idée disparaît dans "visant à assurer une utilisation plus efficace des engrais minéraux"; le concept de l'utilisation accrue des engrais en général disparaît. Je voudrais peut-être me permettre de suggérer quelque chose comme: "Elle a approuvé les activités visant à assurer une utilisation accrue et plus efficace des engrais. Elle a particulièrement mis l'accent sur l'importance des..." on peut peut-être dire "des techniques visant à développer l'utilisation des matières organiques et les méthodes de fixation de l'azote, etc.". Autrement dit de mettre ces deux propositions en deux phrases différentes.

L. VROONEN (Belgique): Je pense qu'il faut surtout mettre le lien en expliquant que cette augmentation accrue, sur laquelle je suis tout à fait d'accord d'ailleurs, doit toutefois être nuancée par une réduction du cote énergétique. Dans le texte que j'ai fait parvenir au Secrétariat, peut-être faudrait-il effectivement remettre le mot "accrue" à la place où il était; pour le reste je pense que le lien tel que je l'avais indiqué était mieux marqué que dans votre proposition.

J. de MEREDIEU (Sous-directeur général, Département du développement): Je proposerai le texte suivant: "Elle a approuvé les activités visant à assurer une utilisation accrue et plus efficace des engrais, Elle a particulièrement souligné l'importance des actions visant à développer l'usage de méthodes de fertilisation moins exigeantes en énergies fossiles, comme les matières organiques, les composts, et la fixation biologique de l'azote." La deuxième partie est reprise directement du texte proposé par la Belgique.

LE PRESIDENT: Merci M. de Meredieu. Est-ce que cette proposition sera acceptable pour le délégué de la Belgique?

L. VROONEN (Belgique): Oui, Monsieur le Président.

LE PRESIDENT: Merci le délégué de la Belgique. Je pense que c'est aussi acceptable, et acceptable par la Commission.

L. VROONEN (Belgique): Peut-être une toute petite modification, le début de la seconde pourrait être: "Suite à la Conférence sur les énergies de Nairobi,..." pour bien montrer que cette idée est tout de même quelque chose qui découle de la Conférence sur les énergies de Nairobi.

LE PRESIDENT: M. le délégué de la Belgique, est-ce que cela a été précisé lors du débat?

L. VROONEN (Belgique): Je pense que dans les débats on a parlé d'économies d'énergie, et si on en a parlé, c'était à cause de cette Conférence...

LE PRESIDENT: Je cherche à vous convaincre de redresser ce point. Peut-être avpns-nous conclu avec la formule proposée par M. de Meredieu.

We move on now to paragraphs 24 to 26. Any comments? Paragraphs 24 to 26 are approved.

That brings us to the end of the morning's debate. I am deliberately stopping short here at paragraph 26 because I understand that with paragraphs 27 and 28 we will get a statement by the Mexican delegate.

J.L.F. BUIST (United Kingdom): I would like to point out that in the English interpretation I heard a reference to "fertilization methods" and I am afraid that, to my mind, raised a whole lot of exciting and interesting possibilities. Perhaps the Secretariat could be careful when translating this into English.

CHAIRMAN: We will leave you with this excitement over lunch.

The paragraphs 1 to 109, including draft resolutions, not concluded

Les paragraphes 1 à 109, y compris les projets de résolution, sont en suspens

Los párrafos 1 a 109, incluidos los proyectos de resolución, quedan pendientes

The meeting rose at 13.15 hours

La séance est levée à 13 h 15

Se levanta la sesión a las 13.15 horas

## conference

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

## conférence

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

## conferencia

ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION

C

C 81/II/PV/21

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Twenty-first Session

Vingt et unième session

21° período de sesiones

COMMISSION II

COMMISSION II

COMMISSION II

TWENTY-FIRST MEETING  
VINGT ET UNIEME SEANCE  
21<sup>a</sup> SESION

(24 November 1981)

The Twenty-first Meeting was opened at 15.00 hours,  
R. Steiner, Chairman of Commission II, presiding

La vingt et unième séance est ouverte à 15 h 00 sous la présidence de  
R. Steiner, Président de la Commission II

Se abre la 13<sup>a</sup> sesión a las 15.00 horas bajo la presidencia de  
R. Steiner, Presidente de Comisión II

ADOPTION OF REPORT (continued)  
ADOPTION DU RAPPORT (suite)  
APROBACION DEL INFORME (continuación)

DRAFT REPORT OF COMMISSION II - PART I (continued)  
PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION II - PARTIE I (suite)  
PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA COMISION II - PARTE I (continuación)

CHAIRMAN: I would like to open the 21st and last meeting of Commission II. This morning we approved paragraph 26 of document C 81/II/REP/1. Now we go on with paragraph 27.

PARAGRAPH 27 INCLUDING DRAFT RESOLUTION  
PARAGRAPHE 27 Y COMPRIS LE PROJET DE RESOLUTION  
PARRAFO 27 INCLUIDO EL PROYECTO DE RESOLUCION

F. MARTINEZ GOMEZ (México): Lamentamos que el modo en que queda reflejado el debate que tuvo lugar desde la presentación del Proyecto de Resolución hasta su adopción, que se realizó esta mañana, no queda reflejada en el párrafo 27 del documento C 81/II/REP/1.

Por tal motivo, Sr. Presidente, y con su autorización, nuestra delegación ha preparado un párrafo de enmienda que estimamos que refleja mejor lo acontecido durante los debates.

La enmienda sería como sigue: ‘Se presentó por parte de la delegación de México un Proyecto de Resolución para la creación de un banco internacional de Recursos Fitogenéticos de interés agrícola, bajo los auspicios de la FAO.

“La propuesta fue unánimemente apoyada por todos los países latinoamericanos; también los países de otras regiones apoyaron fuertemente los propósitos que encierra esta propuesta.

“Todos los países coincidieron en destacar la importancia de establecer medidas que aseguren el libre intercambio de estos recursos, en virtud de que los recursos fitogenéticos son elementos indispensables para el mejoramiento genético.

“Los países en desarrollo destacaron la necesidad de establecer un banco internacional de recursos fitogenéticos bajo los auspicios de la FAO como una medida que garantizaría el libre intercambio de estos recursos.

“La Conferencia - o en su caso, la Comisión - adoptó la propuesta de resolución presentada por México en los términos señalados en la propia resolución.”

En la resolución se pide al Director General que examine y prepare los elementos de un proyecto de convenio internacional que incluya disposiciones jurídicas encaminadas a asegurar que los recursos fitogenéticos mundiales de interés agrícola sean conservados y utilizados en beneficio de todos los seres humanos, de la presente generación y futuras, sin prácticas restrictivas, sea cual fuere la fuente de tales prácticas. También se pide al Director General, en este contexto, que prepare un estudio sobre el establecimiento de dicho Banco. Ambos estudios, se consideró, están interrelacionados. A este respecto, los países destacaron que el acuerdo internacional tendrá en cuenta el estudio sobre el establecimiento de dicho Banco.

CHAIRMAN: I thank the distinguished delegate of Mexico for his elaborate statement on that subject, but by virtue of the time limits imposed upon us, we have to proceed rather differently than we would have proceeded normally. We had the Resolution debate yesterday and we went yesterday evening in a long evening session and I think this morning we happily were winding up, that was the core, that was the heart of the matter, as Graham Greene would have said, and the Resolution has been adopted. We have had the Resolution as the second item that morning for approval and now we are trying to get the frame around in the report. It should not be too difficult, I would hope, and it should also be possible, if I can address myself to the Chairman of the drafting Committee, in a concise manner that would be acceptable to the drafting Committee. With such a plea, I would hope, that we can come briefly

and quickly to a text that would be an embracing introduction to the Resolution which we have already approved this morning.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): Mr. Chairman, as you perfectly well know, I spent a number of hours on this very important issue and since the Resolution has already been approved this morning, I am wondering whether we need such a long introduction to it and even a text which is along similar lines, using here and there even similar words or the same words to describe the content of the Resolution. I appeal to my Mexican friend to agree to shorten the introduction to the Resolution to the maximum possible extent because I think that the Resolution itself is self-evident and I cannot see any need to explain again what was intended and what was contained in the Resolution. I am more or less satisfied with the present paragraph 27. We could have: "Acting on the initiative of the Mexican delegation, the Conference approved the following Resolution" and then just the Resolution as already approved.

A.E. GUROFF (United States of America): I am concerned not only about the length, but some of the text proposed sounds to us on first reading to be opening up a number of contentious questions which we certainly hoped we had put to rest with our discussions in the Contact Group last night in the adoption of the Resolution. I strongly advise that we take up Yugoslavian suggestion. We find paragraph 27 acceptable as it stands and we have no problem with handing particular credit to Mexico for having led us down this road, but going along that can keep us here a long time and may pull apart the consensus we have arrived at.

Miss C. McASKIE (Canada): I would like to add my voice to that of the delegate of the United States in supporting the proposal made by the delegation of Yugoslavia, and to add one point: it is my understanding that it is not the practice in the Report to actually name delegations by name.

Mile M. MUSSO (France): Je voulais moi aussi soutenir le délégué de la Yougoslavie, je pense comme lui que nous avons suffisamment débattu sur ce point et que nous pouvons conserver le texte en l'état, cela vaudrait mieux.

T. AHMED (Chairman Drafting Committee): I am sure that most of the delegates attending Commission II are deeply appreciative of the Mexican initiative in bringing up this Resolution. But if, as proposed by the delegate of Mexico, we have this lengthy introduction we shall then have to incorporate both sides of the argument and that would become much longer. So I would suggest to the Mexican delegate that as suggested by the delegate of Yugoslavia, the original paragraph is incorporated in paragraph 27 with the addition that on the initiative of Mexico the Resolution was adopted and that this would be adequate and would meet all the requirements. Failing that, we would be more or less opening up what one might call a Pandora's Box again and we would get into a very lengthy and substantive debate on the formulation of this paragraph.

CHAIRMAN: I strongly appeal to the Mexican delegate to consider what has now been said by various delegates. I think the proposal of Mexico was well taken care of in the Resolution. That is now a well-matured resolution and I think it would be perfectly correct, if in addition to all the statements that have been made, including those by the delegate of Mexico that can be found in the verbatim record, we come to a concise paragraph related to the Resolution; and here we have in paragraph 27 a pattern that possibly could be slightly modified. But we should try to stick to it to a great extent. I make that appeal to the delegate of Mexico.

F. MARTINEZ GOMEZ (Mexico): Desde luego, la intención nuestra no es en ninguna forma reabrir este debate. Somos conscientes del trabajo que se ha realizado por parte de todas las delegaciones para llegar al consenso con la adopción de esta propuesta. Por tal motivo seguimos su sugerencia y en todo caso con mucho gusto facilitaremos esta información al Presidente del Comité de Redacción para que la considere y sin ningún compromiso la analice e incluya aquellas partes que crea que no generen o produzcan ningún debate al respecto.

CHAIRMAN: I thank the delegate of Mexico for the huge amount of confidence placed in the Secretariat which is fully justified. On the other hand, we have to move on. We cannot leave work open to the Secretariat at its discretion. I think all the delegates would like to know what the wording of paragraph 27 is going to be. I would like to ask delegates now whether they would like to make additional brief amendments to paragraph 27 or whether we should stick to the text as we have it today, fully respecting the statement made by the delegate of Mexico that we find in the verbatim record.

S. AIDARA (Sénégal): Je crois que la proposition de la Yougoslavie nous permettrait certainement d'avancer, il suffirait simplement de tenir compte des points qui n'ont pas fait en tout cas l'objet de controverse et de présenter des amendements mineurs au paragraphe 27; je crois que cela ne nécessite pas un travail de fond, le secrétariat pourrait d'ores et déjà se pencher sur quelques modifications mineures du paragraphe 27 et nous, nous continuerions pendant ce temps. Mais étant donné que le fond du paragraphe 27 est accepté normalement, ces amendements ne devraient pas non plus poser de problèmes.

CHAIRMAN: What we have taken from the delegate of Yugoslavia was a sentence to follow the present paragraph 27. It reads:

“On the initiative of the Mexican delegation the Conference adopted the following resolution” and then the text of the Resolution will follow; but I see that the naming of one individual country may again be rejected by certain delegates.

I see nobody objecting to that proposal. Can I take it that we can amend that paragraph in this sense? I take it that that has been accepted and paragraph 27, as amended, has been approved.

Paragraph 27, including draft resolution, as amended, approved

Le paragraphe 27, y compris le projet de résolution, ainsi amendé, est approuvé

El párrafo 27, incluido el proyecto de resolución, así enmendado, es aprobado

PARAGRAPHS 28 to 96

PARAGRAPHEs 28 à 96

PARRAFOS 28 a 96

F. d'ALMEIDA (Bénin): Je pense que le paragraphe 28 est assez équivoque et je voudrais apporter les amendements suivants à partir de la seconde phrase; ce paragraphe pourrait se lire ainsi: “La Conférence a noté avec satisfaction l'assistance croissante de la FAO pour accroître la productivité des céréales...”. Le changement commence ici: “Elle a souligné la nécessité de porter une attention particulière à l'amélioration des plantes à racines et à tubercules dans les pays où ces plantes constituent la base de l'alimentation.”

CHAIRMAN: There is the proposal of the delegate of Benin. Is that proposed amendment carried? I give the floor to the delegate of Senegal.

S. AIDARA (Sénégal): Une question tout simplement: je n'ai pas d'objection majeure à l'amendement du Bénin. Je voudrais simplement savoir si le reste de la phrase initiale saute. Puisque nous avons l'amendement du Bénin, le reste de la phrase ne devrait donc plus figurer dans ce texte initial. Est-ce bien cela?

F. D'ALMEIDA (Bénin): La partie “une mécanisation appropriée” ne sauterait pas si on pouvait ajouter quelque part une suggestion concernant la culture attelée.

LE PRESIDENT: Merci au délégué du Bénin. Est-ce une clarification pour le délégué du Sénégal?

S. AIDARA (Sénégal): Oui merci. Je sais que le texte du paragraphe 28 avait fait déjà l'objet d'un certain nombre de commentaires au niveau du Comité de rédaction. J'avoue que personnellement, je ne vois pas d'inconvénients à inclure l'amendement du Bénin. Mais je ne voudrais pas que cet amendement puisse poser des problèmes à d'autres délégations qui avaient insisté sur la nécessité de maintenir la phrase sur les racines et tubercules qui sont des cultures vivrières de première importance pour les petits paysans et pour d'autres entreprises agricoles et habitants des zones rurales". Il y a des délégués qui ont tenu à ce que ce membre de phrase figure dans le texte. Si ces délégations n'insistent pas, tant mieux; on pourrait ainsi adopter l'amendement du Bénin. Si tel n'est pas le cas nous risquons de voir encore le débat ouvert à nouveau. C'est la crainte que j'ai. Voilà pourquoi je voudrais attirer votre attention sur ce point particulier.

W.A.F. GRABISCH (Germany, Federal Republic of) (original language German): On this point perhaps it would be useful if the Secretary could read out once again the paragraph as it now stands with the Benin amendment.

D. WRIGHT (Secretary Commission II): The first sentence remains unchanged. The second sentence as it stands would be deleted and replaced by the following: "It stressed the need to give specific attention to improving roots and tubers in those countries where these plants were food staples." The last sentence would also remain unchanged.

J.L.F. BUIST (United Kingdom): As a matter of fact our Senegalese colleague and friend has already asked the question which I was going to ask and made the same comment and it was not in fact my delegation or the countries that I represent which wanted to see this passage in. But I believe all of us were convinced in the Drafting Group that the reflection in the text as it stood before the extra words, and I think they made up extra words, suggested by Benin were proposed did cover a pretty wide spectrum of views within the group but perhaps it is for the Chairman of the Group rather than myself to pursue this point.

A.G. NGONGI NAMANGA (Cameroon): This paragraph represents some exchange of views which took place during the Drafting Committee. As you know root and tuber crops have a lot more other potentials behind them. They are crops which you can hardly identify except in many countries for which they constitute the basic food crops but they are important in many ways and I think the phrasing as it is left covers, makes it wider and is of greater acceptance to a lot of other countries where these crops are not exactly what you can call very important basic food crops.

T. AHMED (Chairman, Drafting Committee): As was mentioned by my other colleagues of the Drafting Committee this paragraph was discussed at length and if I recall properly the sentence as it stands now was actually a result of suggestions to expand the sentence because it originally only covered small farmers and then on the suggestion of members of the Drafting Committee we added other farm enterprises and people in the rural areas. The sentence as it stands now covers a much wider spectrum than the one suggested by Benin and the concern of Benin is also included within the sentence when it says "placed on roots and tubers which were major food crops". If we only refer to staple food then we are restricting them to those countries where they are only staple food whereas the sentence now gives a much wider range and perhaps would more reflect the debate as it took place more truly than the Benin amendment, so that I would request Benin to reconsider the amendment.



F. d'ALMEIDA (Bénin): Je ne voudrais pas allonger le débat, mais lorsqu'on dit que quelque chose est la base de l'alimentation, c'est "d'une première importance", donc je ne pense pas que j'enlève au par. 28 le fait que les tubercules soient considérées comme de première importance, mais si cela doit poser des problèmes, je préfère retirer ce que j'ai proposé parce que je pense effectivement que dire "de première importance" ne veut pas dire que c'est pour l'alimentation; j'introduis une nouvelle notion en parlant de l'alimentation de base par rapport à la notion de première importance, mais si cela doit poser des problèmes, je retirerai ce que j'ai dit.

Le PRESIDENT: Je pense, comme le Comité de rédaction, que la formule que nous avons devant nous est suffisamment large pour traduire ce que vous venez d'exprimer et venez de préciser. Je suis content que vous ayez bien voulu subordonner vos considérations de façon rationnelle dans cette Commission.

R. GARCELL (Cuba): Agradecemos al distinguido delegado de Benin aceptar el texto que ampliamente había sido discutido en el Comité de Redacción.

Sin embargo, señor Presidente, nos ha preocupado que los intérpretes hayan informado que hay otras oraciones adicionales en los textos inglés y francés. Supongo que sobra o que se trate de un error de tipografía o acaso que sea una interpretación de los señores intérpretes.

CHAIRMAN: The Cuban delegate is right. The last sentence in the Spanish text is missing, the sentence that reads in English: "Appropriate mechanization was considered..." I hope he can accept that this will be included in the Spanish text.

D. AMBOULOU (Congo): Le Congo est justement un de ces pays où les racines et tubercules constituent justement des plantes qui sont la base de l'alimentation. Mais la proposition du Bénin nous satisfait dans une large mesure. Mais étant donné qu'elle a prêté à des discussions, nous suivons le texte du Bénin qui a déposé l'amendement, mais nous aimerions savoir ce qu'entend, dans le paragraphe du rapport, le Comité de rédaction par "d'autres entreprises agricoles". On aimerait avoir un peu plus de clarification sur ces termes.

T. AHMED (Chairman, Drafting Committee): As I was mentioning earlier, the original sentence was much shorter and these words were added subsequently to give it a broader perspective. Originally it only said "small farmers" but it was the opinion of delegates that that does not cover the importance of food crops and there are other small farming enterprises which could mean cooperatives and other such things which would be interested in this sort of thing. That is how the word was intended.

L. ELIZONDO (Nicaragua): Quisiera hacer un señalamiento en lo que respecta a la traducción en el texto de español en la primera línea. Dice textualmente "la Conferencia se congratuló del incremento de la asistencia prestada por la FAO". A mí me parece que "congratuló" no es la palabra más adecuada; pues, cambiando impresiones con los compañeros que tienen sus textos en inglés y en francés, pensamos que sería más conveniente que esta frase se leyera en español así: "la Conferencia acogió con satisfacción el incremento de la asistencia prestada..."

CHAIRMAN: Thank you delegate of Nicaragua. Can we do away with this amendment immediately? Can the Spanish speaking community in the meeting room agree and the whole Commission of course? I take it that is the case.

Mile M. MUSSO (France): Personnellement, je trouvais l'amendement du Bénin tout à fait satisfaisant parce que je pensais qu'au moins en français il rendait la phrase un peu plus claire et meilleure. A mon avis, il n'y aurait pas de problèmes à joindre l'amendement du Bénin tout en gardant la phrase du paragraphe 28; on pourrait effectivement dire: "Elle a souligné la nécessité de porter une attention particulière sur les plantes à racines et à tubercules dans les pays où ces plantes constituent

la base de l'alimentation et qui sont en outre des cultures vivrières de première importance pour les petits paysans". On pourrait garder la fin de la phrase, ce qui, je pense, couvrirait les avis des deux parties.

D'autre part, je voulais dire une petite chose sur la première phrase qui n'est pas très bonne en français. J'avoue que "l'assistance croissante de la FAO pour accroître la productivité des céréales", cela me paraît un peu bizarre. J'aurais préféré "l'assistance croissante de la FAO aux pays en développement en vue de l'accroissement de la productivité des céréales". Mais la FAO qui accroît directement la productivité, en français du moins, c'est un peu étonnant.

L. VROONEN (Belgique): Personnellement, également, je soutiens la proposition du Bénin parce qu'il me semble que le texte en français est tout de même assez difficile à comprendre. On parle d'abord de petits paysans, puis d'autres entreprises. Cela veut dire que les premières entreprises sont les petits paysans et ensuite on parle d'habitants des zones rurales et les petits paysans ne sont-ils pas les habitants des zones rurales? Vraiment, je pense que la suggestion faite par le Bénin est tout de même beaucoup plus claire, en français en tous les cas.

CHAIRMAN: Would the delegate of Benin be happier if to the text now in front of us were added the words "especially in developing countries where roots and tubers are major staple commodities" or "major food crops", then the sentence to continue?

F. d'AMEIDA (Bénin): Je pense que la déléguée de la France a bien exprimé les deux tendances. Je pense qu'il faut d'abord mettre la première proposition que j'ai faite et la compléter par la partie où l'on dit: "cultures vivrières de première importance à travers les petits paysans et autres." Je pense que c'est plus logique comme construction de phrase.

CHAIRMAN: I would like to suggest that Mr. Wright should read the text and I hope it meets with your approval.

D. WRIGHT (Secretary, Commission II): At the beginning of the second sentence, the proposal of the delegate of Benin would be:

"It stressed the need to give special attention to improving roots and tubers in those countries where these plants were food staples and also where they were major food crops for small farmers.

L. VROONEN (Belgique): Permettez-moi de vous dire que cela ne va pas du tout. Pourquoi considérer les petits paysans comme appartenant à une catégorie, puis les habitants de zones rurales à une autre catégorie. Ces habitants des zones rurales, qui sont-ce? Ce sont de petits paysans. On ne peut pas répéter, ou alors on s'en tient aux petits paysans et j'admets les entreprises agricoles. Mais on ne peut pas dire les petits paysans et les habitants ruraux.

T. AHMED (Chairman, Drafting Committee): May I invite the delegate from Belgium to the rural areas in Pakistan, where he will find that besides small farmers there are landless labourers and other people living who have nothing to do with the land directly. There are lots of categories of people living in rural areas who are not necessarily farmers, and this is true of Latin America, Asia, Africa - everywhere - and that is why it was stressed; other people living in the rural areas who were not necessarily farmers.

F. D'ALMEIDA (Bénin): Le délégué de la France a fait une rectification à la première ligne du paragraphe 28. En a-t-on tenu compte?

LE PRESIDENT: J'ai été informé. Nous l'avons.

F. D'ALMEIDA (Béni): Je voudrais qu'on relise entièrement le paragraphe 28 pour le Comité de rédaction, aussi bien concernant la première phrase que les autres.

K. KILLINGS WORTH (Secrétaire adjoint, Commission II): PARAGRAPHE 28: La Conférence a noté avec satisfaction l'assistance croissante de la FAO aux pays en développement en vue de l'accroissement de la productivité des céréales. Elle a souligné la nécessité de porter une attention particulière à l'amélioration des plantes à racines et à tubercules dans les pays où ces plantes constituent la base de l'alimentation et qui sont en outre des cultures vivrières de première importance. Excusez-moi... "et dans les pays où elles sont en outre des cultures vivrières", et puis on reprendrait "de première importance pour les petits paysans et pour d'autres entreprises agricoles et habitants des zones rurales."

CHAIRMAN: We are now on paragraph 29. I take it that the paragraph is approved?

Paragraph 30: I see no amendments are offered and I take it that the paragraph is approved?

Mr. West will now give a number of indications on the draft Resolution on resources for food production and agricultural development, which is now available in the working languages.

E. M. WEST (Assistant Director-General, Office of Programme, Budget and Evaluation): The draft Resolution as it emerged from the working group is in fact ready for circulation. It is C 81/II/REP/5. I just want to say that, when you receive it, will you please delete certain words from operative paragraph 4 which have inadvertently not been deleted from the draft which went for processing. The words are those which, in the English text, read: "to the levels originally envisaged." This is a pure drafting amendment; it has no substantive quantity. When you have the text we will repeat this when you come to consider it. I just wanted to mention this amendment so that people did not get worried when they found these words still there.

CHAIRMAN: I have been informed that the text will now be distributed.

We have completed the approval of the report with regard to Programme 2.1.2 - Crops.

I have now a suggestion. Could we proceed to the approval of the report in terms of headings? The next heading is "Livestock". Could we take the whole section on livestock, paragraphs 31 to 34 inclusive, and offer them for approval? I see a number of positive reactions and I take it that it is the desire of the Commission that we proceed in this manner.

Open for approval are the paragraphs under the heading "Programme 2.1.3 - Livestock". Are there any comments, suggestions or amendments proposed? That is not the case, so we have approved paragraphs 31 to 34.

We come now to "Programme 2.1.4 - Research Support", paragraphs 35 to 38. Are there any comments or amendments? I see there are none, so we have approved paragraphs 35 to 38.

Now "Programme 2.1.5 - Rural Development", paragraphs 39 to 45.

R. GARCELL (Cuba): Nos referimos al contenido de la mitad del párrafo 43 del documento C 81/II/REP/1.

Debería hacerse todo lo posible para que se estableciera un sistema de comunicación en una doble dirección.

Nuestra idea es que se diga “los pequeños agricultores y otros tipos de empresas agrícolas se beneficiarán plenamente de los adelantos tecnológicos.”

Es decir, sustituir “las organizaciones de productores” por “otros tipos de empresas agrícolas”, que fue el sentir de los pronunciamientos en el Comité de Redacción.

CHAIRMAN: I think that would be consistent with wording we have used before. This amendment has been suggested by the delegate of Cuba.

D. WRIGHT (Secretary, Commission II): The Cuban amendment would be as follows: In paragraph 43, in the middle of the third line, delete the words “producers’ organizations” and substitute “other types of agricultural enterprises”.

P. OLMOS MORALES (Uruguay): Esta delegación considera conveniente y atendible la enmienda que propone el distinguido delegado de Cuba en el sentido de que se agregue “otro tipo de empresas agrícolas”; pero estimamos que tales palabras no tienen por qué excluir el concepto “las organizaciones de productores”.

A nosotros nos parece importante que no se omita la referencia a “las organizaciones de productores”, sin perjuicio de que se incluya también el concepto propuesto por la distinguida delegación de Cuba de “otro tipo de empresas agrícolas”.

R. GARCELL (Cuba): Quizá no haya entendido perfectamente la propuesta del distinguido delegado de Uruguay. Si lo que desea es que se mantengan los dos conceptos - las organizaciones de productores y otro tipo de empresas agrícolas, -, no tenemos ningún inconveniente en aceptarlo.

P. OLMOS MORALES (Uruguay): Efectivamente nos parece oportuno mantener los dos conceptos: las organizaciones de productores y otro tipo de empresas agrícolas.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you - that tabulated amendment has now been accepted. May I take it that there are no further amendments proposed to Programme 2.1.5 - Rural Development, from paragraph 39 to paragraph 45?

AMIDJONO MARTOSUWIRYO (Indonesia): I would like to refer to the second line of paragraph 44. I have a problem with the phrase “people’s organizations”: it might be more correct if we were to insert “rural organizations”.

CHAIRMAN: That is the proposal by the Delegate for Indonesia - is this acceptable? I take it that the suggestion was to insert “rural organizations”. I see that there appears to be agreement to that and acceptance of that proposal - thank you.

Are there any further amendments proposed to paragraphs 39 to 45? If this is not the case, paras 39 to 45 have been approved.

We now come to Programme 2.1.6 - Nutrition, paragraphs 46 to 50.

H. CARANDANG (Philippines): I have tried to compare the Draft Report in paragraphs 46 to 50 with Document C 81/3, and I find that there are very substantial omissions in the Programme. Nevertheless, going through the discussions on this point, I find that the delegates have in substance supported the programmes as indicated in Document C 81/3. For example, I read in the Verbatim Report that in general they say, on nutrition, that there is support for the Programme, which is felt to be adequately shaped and better geared to FAO field activities. We have heard the delegations supporting, more or less, these Programmes; no one has contradicted this, and I am now wondering why, in the Draft Report, substantial items - as for instance in paragraph 5 of Document 2.1.6.1 concerning the formulation of appropriate strategies for the framework of food self-sufficiency, or in paragraph 8, which indicates assistance to countries in the formulation of national nutrition strategies, and so forth - are omitted from this Draft Report. I cannot understand this, since the delegations supported C 81/3. I wish that the substantial items could be reintroduced.

T. AHMED (Chairman, Drafting Committee): The Delegate for the Philippines has expressed a very valid concern, but the documents introduced for debate to the Commission are subsequently replaced by the work which actually transpires in the debate, and that comes into the Report. It is not necessary that the whole document be reproduced in the Report of the Group. Some of the issues about which the Delegate for the Philippines has expressed concern have been reflected, although not in the same language as mentioned by the Delegate for the Philippines - for example, in paragraph 50, "The Conference supported assistance in the development of national food control systems and improved food handling". That is a general sentence which covers most of his concern.

H. CARANDANG (Philippines): If the Chairman of the Drafting Committee is referring to what happened in the Committee, I think that they supported the Programme in C 81/3. If he is going to tell me that food control systems and improved food handling is the same as the formulation of national nutrition strategies - it is something like "formulation of appropriate strategies within the framework of self-sufficiency" - I regret that I cannot agree with him. Therefore, I still insist that the substantive Programmes which have been approved by the Committee should be reintroduced in paragraphs 46 to 50.

CHAIRMAN: Could the Delegate for the Philippines make a concrete proposal of a basis?

H. CARANDANG (Philippines): I cannot make a concrete proposal, but I would suggest that the gist of paragraphs 5 to 10 on page 104 of the Programme of Work and Budget be summarily taken to replace paragraphs 46 to 50.

M.E. WEST (Assistant Director-General, Office of Programme, Budget and Evaluation): Reference has been made to paragraphs 5 to 10 of Programme 2.1.6 on page 104 of the Programme of Work and Budget. That is nearly half a page of print, and I would be at a loss to boil that down to a sentence or two to be put into the Report, except on the lines of a reference to the proposals for food and nutrition assessment in Sub-Programme 2.1.6.1. If that is acceptable to the Conference, it would be one simple sentence: "In this connexion, a number of delegates stressed" - or "referred to" - "the proposals under Sub-Programme 2.1.6.1".

CHAIRMAN: Is that proposal acceptable to the Delegate for the Philippines?

H. CARANDANG (Philippines): I would agree to something like "The Conference agreed to the proposals in Sub-Programme 2.1.6.1", and you do not have to copy everything here - although probably we might indicate that there is general agreement with this proposal here, because I see that there is a great discrepancy between what is in the Draft Report and what is in the proposals in C 81/3. Going over the Verbatim Report, I did not see anyone disagreeing with the proposals: on the contrary I see everyone agreeing with the proposals.

CHAIRMAN: The proposal now is that paragraph 46 should read: "The Conference agreed to the proposals in Sub-Programme 2.1.6.1 as contained in the Programme of Work and Budget", and then the sentence continues "and that increased emphasis should be given..." Would that be acceptable to the Delegate from the Philippines?

H. CARANDANG (Philippines): Yes - provided it refers to the whole Plan of Action on nutrition - that means, Sub-Programmes 2.1.6.1, 2.1.6.2, and 2.1.6.3.

CHAIRMAN: We shall read out the text now.

D. WRIGHT (Secretary, Committee II): The text will now read at the very beginning of paragraph 46 "the Conference agreed with the proposals in this programme and that increased emphasis should be given...", and so on, as in the present text, to the first three words of line, in paragraph 46 would be deleted, and would be substituted by "the Conference agrees with the proposals in this programme and that increased emphasis should be given..."

CHAIRMAN: Does this meet with the acceptance of the delegate of the Philippines? I think it has taken into account your concern.

H. CARANDANG (Philippines): It is not clear to me what programme it is referring to.

T. AHMED (Chairman, Drafting Committee): I would like to draw the attention of the distinguished delegate from the Philippines to the fact that in this draft report the format is that Programmes are mentioned, for example, Rural Development Programme 215, and after that sub-programmes are not mentioned. It is a general report which supports the programme and gives the most thrust of the Programme instead of setting down separate programmes. If you start doing that you will have another document which will be a duplicating document 31/C/3. The idea is basically to see if the main thrust of the programme has been spoken of and it has been included in the report or not. If you start going into sub-programmes you will have a very lengthy report of Commission II. I would again invite the Philippines delegate to support paragraph 46 which says that "the Conference agreed increased emphasis should be given to the introduction of etc. etc.". It is just a generalised way of supporting the programme. If you specify the sub-programme in this, then you will have to specify sub-programmes in all other programmes.

H. CARANDANG (Philippines): I cannot agree with what has just been said by the Chairman of the Drafting Committee when he says that "the Conference agreed increased emphasis should be given to the introduction of nutrition consideration" as equivalent to support for the programme, because support for the programme includes more elements, that is nutrition considerations. I would still go if the sentence began "the Conference agreed with the proposals in the programme". I would say instead is 2.1.6 nutrition and then the whole thing goes as indicated in this draft report. Although I am still unhappy with the choice of emphasis and I don't see why there are several emphases on other points which I don't understand how it came to be there.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you delegate of the Philippines. You may not be very happy, and the Chairman of the Drafting Committee is not very happy. But let us take a compromise and take approval of paragraph 46. Can I take this? Thank you... we move to paragraph 47. The delegate of Benin.

F. d'ALMEIDA (Benin): Je pense aussi qu'au cours de la Commission on a parlé aussi d'un problème de stratégie alimentaire et dans le rapport nous tenons beaucoup à ce qu'on parle de ce que nous avons dit en demandant que la FAO participe et aide à mettre en place les stratégies alimentaires, dans les pays en voie de développement. En dehors de ces considérations générales, sur le texte français j'ai des propositions à faire parce que je pense que lorsqu'en français on dit "faire une large place aux considérations nutritionnelles" simplement, ce n'est pas assez, il faut mettre "les considérations alimentaires et nutritionnelles dans les plans de développement" parce que cela n'a pas du tout le même sens quand on met "nutritionnelles"; en français il faudrait mettre "alimentaires et nutritionnelles" et on dirait "par la FAO ainsi que dans les plans et projets de développement agricole au niveau national".

Donc il y a deux choses que je relève: il faut déjà qu'on mette l'accent sur le problème de stratégie alimentaire tel qu'il est actuellement car c'est l'un des besoins actuellement de la politique mondiale et cela ne ressort pas dans le rapport; ensuite, il y a des corrections de français dans le texte du rapport.

LE PRESIDENT: J'ai donc constaté que vous ne voulez pas proposer une formulation précise.

F. d'ALMEIDA (Bénin): Je pense que ce serait trop long et qu'on voudrait pouvoir faire confiance au secrétariat pour ressortir ce chapitre-là parce que la stratégie alimentaire, on en a débattu pendant longtemps, et nous avons dit que nous serions heureux que la FAO participe à cette stratégie au niveau de nos pays et cela ne ressort pas dans le rapport. Donc je pense qu'il faut en parler.

N. ISLAM (Assistant Director-General, Economic and Social Policy Department): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wonder whether paragraph 55 under programme 2.1.8 cannot be slightly adjusted to take into account the considerations of the distinguished delegate of Benin. I would refer it to you Mr. Chairman. The third line of paragraph 55 which refers to the adequate agricultural policy. We could modify it by saying "adequate food and agricultural strategies and policies", or "strategies and policies".

LE PRESIDENT: Est-ce que c'est acceptable pour le délégué du Bénin?

F. d'ALMEIDA (Bénin): Je pense qu'à ce niveau cela peut être acceptable, puisqu'il s'agit de la politique agricole alimentaire on peut l'accepter également à ce niveau; mais il y a deux corrections au niveau des différents paragraphes en français dans le par. de la nutrition.

CHAIRMAN: Can I invite possible amendments to paragraphs 46 to 50? If this is not the case, we take it that paragraphs 46 to 50 have been approved. We move on to programme 2.1.7 Food and Agricultural Information and Analysis, comprising paragraphs 51 to 54. I see no amendments being offered and I take it that we approve the four paragraphs 51 to 54.

Programme 2.1.8 - Food and Agricultural Policy. Starting from paragraph 55 and ending with paragraph 59. We have had the benefit of the amendment as suggested and annexed by Professor Islam and accepted by the Commission in paragraph 55. I see no amendments being proposed and I take it that we approve paragraphs 55 to 59.

Major Programme - Fisheries. Paragraphs 60 to 66. Everybody seems to be satisfied. Silence confirms it. We approve paragraphs 60 to 66.

Major Programme - Forestry. The delegate of India has the floor.

RAMADHAR (India): I have only one small amendment to suggest which is at the end of paragraph 68 "thus contributing to the conservation of the environment" and then I want to suggest the addition of five words: "and maintenance of ecological balance".

CHAIRMAN: An amendment to paragraph 68 by the delegate of India: I think that is accepted by the Commission. Are there any further amendments to Forestry? That is not the case. I take it that paragraphs 67 to 71 have been approved.

World Food Aid: paragraphs 72 and 73. This morning we approved the Draft Resolution as contained in REP/3. Are there any amendments proposed to paragraphs 72 and 73?

P. VANDOR (Hungary): My only problem is that my country is neither a rich country nor a poor country but World Food Day received a good attention. I would like to rephrase this paragraph to say "the majority of nations or of member nations" - which gives an opportunity to include all member nations".

M.E. WEST (Assistant Director-General, Office of Programme, Budget and Evaluation): Does the delegate of Hungary feel the need to refer to a majority here. Could we not say "concentrated the attention of all groups of nations?"

CHAIRMAN: Thank you for that proposal Mr. West. I notice that meets with the acceptance of the delegate of Hungary and I take it also of the Commission. Can we take it that paragraphs 72 and 73 have been approved? I see this is the case.

We move on to Investment paragraphs 74, 75 and 76. I take it that everyone is in favour of Investment although the level of Investment may not be adequate. Can we take it that these paragraphs have been approved?

Field Programme Planning and Liaison: paragraphs 77 to 80. No amendments are being suggested. I take it that means the approval of paragraphs 77, 78, 79 and 80.

Decentralization: paragraphs 81 to 85. I see that these five paragraphs are being accepted and I take it they are approved.

L. VROONEN (Belgique): Je propose simplement une petite addition pour faire le lien dans le paragraphe 86 avec le suivi de la CMRADR. Donc à la troisième ligne nous pourrions dire "de leurs démarches et par la nécessité capitale, dans l'optique du suivi de la CMRADR...", et ensuite le texte.

LE PRESIDENT: C'est uniquement une référence à la Conférence mondiale.

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Señor Presidente: los intérpretes al castellano no estuvieron en condiciones de indicarnos cuál es el número ni el lugar donde se va a colocar, aunque entendemos que se trata del párrafo 86. ¿Podría explicársenos?

CHAIRMAN: I will ask Mr. West to indicate the exact place of the amendment.

D. WRIGHT (Secretary Commission II): Referring to the English text, the insertion would come in paragraph 86 towards the end of the third line after "overwhelming importance". The new words would be "in the light of the follow-up to WCCARD" following the words "overwhelming importance".

CHAIRMAN: It is not yet clear in the Spanish text, so they say. Peut-être serait-il plus facile que M. de Mèredieu indique cela en français.



J. de MEREDIEU (sous-directeur général, Département du développement): En français, ajouter à la troisième ligne, après les mots “et par la nécessité capitale”, ajouter “dans l’optique du suivi de la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural, d’associer les populations des pays tant en voie de développement que développés, etc.” La modification est exactement la même en anglais.

CHAIRMAN: Apparently we have found the place in the Spanish text where this insertion is appropriate. We could point this out to the delegate of Colombia, Is this acceptable?

F. d’ ALMEIDA (Bénin): A la dernière phrase, je voudrais qu’ on puisse dire ceci: “Les activités de la CMCF/AD ont donc été pleinement appréciées et il convient de les intensifier”; car cette rectification a été demandée ne serait-ce que dans l’ intervention de Mme Ghandi.

LE PRESIDENT: Merci au délégué du Bénin. Il y a donc un amendement à la fin du paragraphe 86. (Continué en français).

It would read: “activities under FFHC/AD were therefore fully supported and should be intensified.” Can I take it that this amendment is being approved by the Commission? I think that is the case. Paragraph 86 is now approved as amended.

Technical Cooperation Programme: paragraphs 87 to 93. I see no proposals for amendment so we can take it that paragraphs 87 to 93 have been approved by the Commission.

Support and Common Services: paragraphs 94, 95 and 96. No amendments are being proposed. Hence we can approve those paragraphs.

Paragraphs 28 to 96, as amended, approved

Les paragraphes 28 à 96, ainsi amendés, “sont approuvés

Los párrafos 28 a 96, así enmendados, son aprobados

PARAGRAPH 97 INCLUDING DRAFT RESOLUTION

PARAGRAPHE 97 Y COMPRIS LE PROJET DE RESOLUTION

PARRAFO 97 INCLUIDO EL PROYECTO DE RESOLUCION

Appropriations Resolution: paragraph 97; approved. Mr. West, I hope you do not object?

M.E. WEST (Assistant Director-General, Officer of Programme, Budget and Evaluation): I just want to say that the text of the Resolution will be circulated to the Plenary before the vote, making such adjustment as is necessary. The closing rate today was 1 196.

CHAIRMAN: Hence paragraph 97 is approved.

Paragraph 97, including draft resolution, approved

Le paragraphe 97, y compris le projet de résolution, est approuvé

El párrafo 97, incluido el proyecto de resolución, es aprobado

Paragraphs 98 to 106 approved

Les paragraphes 98 à 106 sont approuvés

Los párrafos 98 a 106 son aprobados

PARAGRAPHS 107 TO 109, INCLUDING DRAFT RESOLUTION  
LES PARAGRAPHES 107 A 109, Y COMPRIS LE PROJET DE RESOLUTION  
LOS PARRAFOS 107 A 109, INCLUIDO EL PROYECTO DE RESOLUCION

The resolution on the World Soil Charter has already been amended in the debate on that subject and I suggest, with the approval of the Commission, of course, that we may approve the Draft Resolution as a whole rather than going through the preamble and the operative paragraphs. Is that procedure accepted by the Commission? I take it that this is the case. Are any amendments proposed to the Resolutions on the World Soil Charter? This is not the case. I take it that the wording of the Draft Resolution on the World Soil Charter has been approved by Commission II.

That brings us to the end of the approval of document C 81/II/REP.1 containing the Agenda items 9 and 10.

Paragraphs 107 to 109, including draft resolution, approved  
Les paragraphes 107 à 109, y compris le projet de résolution, sont approuvés  
Los párrafos 107 a 109, incluido el proyecto de resolución, son aprobados

Draft Report of Commission II, Part 1, as amended, was adopted  
Projet de rapport de la Commission II, partie 1, ainsi amendé est adopté  
El proyecto de informe de la Comisión II, parte 1, así enmendado, es aprobado

DRAFT REPORT OF COMMISSION II - PART 5  
PROJET DE RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION II - PARTIE 5  
PROYECTO DE INFORME DE LA COMISION II - PARTE 5

PARAGRAPH 1, INCLUDING RESOLUTION  
LE PARAGRAPHE 1, Y COMPRIS LA RESOLUTION  
EL PARRAFO 1, INCLUIDA LA RESOLUCION

LE PRESIDENT: Je voudrais demander au délégué de la France s'il a quelque chose à préciser sur le projet de résolution qui se trouve dans le document C 81/II/REP/5. M. de Mèredieu va répéter les corrections qui devraient être prises en considération lors du débat.

J. de MEREDIEU (Sous-directeur général, Département du Développement): La première correction est celle que M. West a déjà mentionnée au début de vos débats qui consiste à supprimer, aux sixième et septième lignes du texte français du paragraphe 4 du dispositif, les mots: "de manière à atteindre le niveau initialement envisagé". Cette même correction se trouve à la cinquième ligne du texte anglais.

D'autre part, à l'avant-dernier considérant, à la deuxième ligne - et je crois que la faute est la même dans les deux langues - il convient, bien entendu, de lire: "les organisations multilatérales de financement, dont le Programme des Nations Unies pour le développement" et non pas "le Fonds des Nations Unies pour le développement". La même erreur existe dans le texte anglais et peut-être dans le texte espagnol, mais je n'ai pas vérifié.

CHAIRMAN: Could I invite the distinguished delegate of Yugoslavia to give us the view, the gist of what he found was the outcome of the Committee that kindly helped to prepare the terrain and make it easier for the Commission here now.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): I am really very grateful first of all to you for having given me the privilege to chair the Committee Group, and the final result of our work is in the document that you quote which appeared a while ago. I want to be very brief indeed to say on behalf of the group that we worked in a very constructive atmosphere with an obvious attempt on the part of all to arrive at a consensus text that could be made with the full consensus of the Conference. I think that our collective wisdom proved to be the correct one and with a couple of clarifications and a number of

small changes mostly of a trivial nature were able to present you with a text that we hope strongly will meet with full approval. I want to assure you and through you the whole Commission that we studied very carefully the whole text, that we clarified a number of points and that no single word escaped our scrutiny. In particular, the operative part of the resolution remains which I hope is now fully acceptable to all because we had in mind, and we seriously considered all interventions and all views that were expressed yesterday afternoon. The last word is a sort of appeal to all to refrain from making further, especially substantive, changes because it would be then I think difficult to reopen the whole debate and I am not thinking only in the time frame but I am also afraid that if we reopen the debate on the substance it would then be very difficult for this very large body to arrive at a full consensus.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much delegate of Yugoslavia and I would also like to thank the members of that Working Group and particularly Mr. West and Mr. de Mérédiu for their assistance. I would suggest we move through the resolution, paragraph by paragraph and I start with the first preamble of the paragraph of the resolution entitled "Resources for food production and agricultural development". I see no flags up. The delegate of Yugoslavia has the floor.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): It is quite natural that I am not going to propose any amendment. Can I suggest that we take the resolution for consideration as a whole, not go paragraph by paragraph because I hope it would be agreeable as a whole.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much for that proposal. We take the resolution as a whole.

G. IJIGU (Ethiopia): I am not trying to cause any debates but before we do adopt the whole thing as a package, in the preamble there is one insertion which I think ought to be made. The fourth paragraph where it says: "noting further the priority assigned to food and agriculture" and so on, it lists the Heads of State like at the Ottawa Melbourne and Cancún meetings. I should think that the Lagos meeting should also be included there because the Lagos plan was adopted at an extraordinary session of the Heads of State in Lagos in April 1980. I just wanted to remind the Chair of that.

CHAIRMAN: The proposal by the delegate of Ethiopia would imply that we had, in order to be in the time sequence, Lagos first.

G. IJIGU (Ethiopia): That is correct.

CHAIRMAN: If the delegates agree I would like to finish one proposed amendment off before going to the next. Can we take it that the proposal by the Ethiopian delegate is being carried by the Commission? If that is the case, we amend preambular paragraph 4 accordingly.

R. GARCELL (Cuba): Estamos de acuerdo en ir a una aprobación de conjunto de la resolución.

En ese mismo párrafo a que ha hecho referencia el distinguido delegado de Etiopía, pensamos que en el texto español debe eliminarse "los", que está delante de "jefes", y dejar solo "jefes de estado".

En vez de decirse "los jefes de estado", decir "jefes de estado", porque no estuvieron todos los jefes de estado. En Cancún no estuvieron todos los que debieron estar.

CHAIRMAN: I think the amendment seems to be clear and would be carried.

J. DE MEREDIEU (Sous-directeur général, Département du Développement): Ceci s'appliquerait également au français, au lieu de dire "deux" Chefs d'Etat, dire "des" Chefs d'Etat. Il n'y a pas de changement en anglais.

CHAIRMAN: We have to take this into account in the Spanish and French texts. The English text is right.

M. BEL HADJ AMOR (Tunisie): Il s'agit du dispositif No. 6. La traduction de la dernière phrase dans le texte français ne correspond pas tout à fait à la phrase du texte anglais. Je crois qu'il faudrait rectifier cela car il existe une nuance et que cette nuance a soulevé des discussions ce matin.

CHAIRMAN: I understand that the English wording is all right. With the French wording the necessary adjustments will be made.

M. BEL HADJ AMOR (Tunisie): Oui, j'accepte ce texte.

Mile M. MUSSO (France): Pourrais-je demander au Secrétariat de bien vouloir répéter la modification que l'on doit apporter? Je ne vois pas très bien...

J. DE MEREDIEU (Sous-directeur général, Département du Développement): Je précise que la modification proposée consiste à remplacer les mots "une appréciation aussi exacte que possible" par "son meilleur jugement". Je vois que le délégué de la Tunisie n'est pas d'accord. C'était donc une autre modification que la Tunisie avait à l'esprit... Le délégué de la Tunisie a la parole.

M. BEL HADJ AMOR (Tunisie): En ce qui concerne "appréciation aussi exacte que possible", j'estime que le texte français est meilleur que le texte anglais. En ce qui concerne la correction en anglais "taking into account the views of all Member Nations on their needs and constraints".

En français on nous dit "tenant compte des points de vue et des besoins de tous les Etats Membres et des contraintes qui pèsent sur eux", alors qu'en réalité ce serait "tenant compte des points de vue concernant les besoins de tous les Etats Membres et des contraintes qui pèsent sur eux".

M. J. DE MEREDIEU (Sous-directeur général, Département du Développement): Je pense que le délégué de la Tunisie sera d'accord pour que nous disions "tenant compte des points de vue de tous les Etats Membres sur leurs besoins et sur les contraintes qui pèsent sur eux".

PRESIDENT: Est-ce acceptable de la part du délégué de la Tunisie?

M. BEL HADJ AMOR (Tunisie): Oui, je suis d'accord. Merci.

CHAIRMAN: That shows the marvellous work the Ad Hoc Group has done this morning.

Y. KUROKOCHI (Japan): I feel that there is one difficulty in understanding operative paragraph 4, the last line - this relates only to the English text. The fourth word from the beginning, "as well... for WFP and IFAD". Would it not be better to put "as" after "well" so that the sentence may be understandable?

CHAIRMAN: Yes, that seems to be fine.

I take it that as no further comments are being made or amendments proposed, the draft Resolution as we have it now meets with the approval of the Commission? I take it that is the case, and the draft Resolution on Resources for Food Production and Agricultural Development is approved with the amendments proposed by a number of delegates: Ethiopia, Cuba, Tunisia and Japan.

Well, it may surprise you, but that brings us to the end of the work of the Commission.

W.A.F. GRABISH (Germany, Federal Republic of) (Original language - German): Of course we do not wish to detain the Commission; nevertheless, since my delegation did not object to the consensus on the draft Resolution, operative paragraph 4, we would like to make the following statement.

We understand the wording of this paragraph concerning the UNDP according to the meaning of Resolution 80/30 of the UNDP Governing Board of 26 June 1980, more specifically paragraph 1 (a), which reads: "For the purposes of forward planning and assumed overall average annual growth of voluntary contributions and other programme resources of at least 14 percent on a cumulative basis from the target level established for 1977-81, calculated in accordance with the corresponding figures given in the Note by the Administrator (DP/496 and Corr. 1, Table 2) subject to the review referred to in paragraph 7 below, each nation thereby determining its own contributions."

CHAIRMAN: I take it that will be recorded in the verbatim record.

J.L.F. BUIST (United Kingdom): As we adopt this important Resolution, I, too, should like to make a brief statement, on paragraph 4. We wish to recall that decisions to replenish the resources of each separate institution are juridical matters for the governing bodies of those institutions, to recall the nature of the targets mentioned in this paragraph and, on behalf of the member states of the European Economic Community, to re-state the Community's view that responsibility in relation to those targets is shared by all Members of the United Nations, including countries which are not Members of this Organization.

I ask for these points to be included, accordingly, as an interpretative footnote to the text.

A.E. GUROFF (United States of America): I would simply like to have the United States associated with the footnote suggested by the United Kingdom.

CHAIRMAN: Do the delegates of the United Kingdom and the United States insist on a footnote, or would they be satisfied that their statements will appear in the verbatim record?

A.E. GUROFF (United States of America): Our preference would be very strongly to have it as a footnote. We feel that if the point is worth making it should go where this Resolution goes. The verbatim record is useful as a basis but it is not really referred to when we are talking about implementing the Resolution.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): My intervention is purely procedural. I think in such cases, though I stand to be corrected of course, this should not be part of the Resolution itself but there should be added a next paragraph to the report explaining the interpretative note. I think that is the only correct procedural way of dealing with such notes. It should not be, definitely, part of the Resolution, only an official reservation.

CHAIRMAN: Let me make one thing clear that follows from the date of the approval of the report. We have in C 81/II/REP/1 dealt with agenda items 9 and 10. These items end with paragraph 109. Then follows the Resolution on the World Soil Charter.

Paragraph 110 would be just an introductory sentence: "The Conference adopted the following Resolution:<sup>1</sup>", then follows the Resources Resolution as we approved it just now.

Then we could add in the report as paragraph 111 the comments just made by the delegates of the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

J.L.F. BUIST (United Kingdom): As usual, we rely on the wisdom of our friends from Yugoslavia and on your own wisdom, Mr. Chairman. We are content with that solution here.

CHAIRMAN: Could we have the precise wording, please: Maybe you could pass it to the Secretariat but perhaps read it out again, please.

J.L.F. BUIST (United Kingdom): "As we adopt this important Resolution, I, too, should like to make a brief statement on paragraph 4. We wish to recall that decisions to replenish the resources of each separate institution are, of course, juridically matters for the governing bodies of those institutions, to recall the nature of the targets mentioned in this paragraph and, on behalf of the Member States of the European Economic Community, to restate the Community's view that responsibility in relation to these targets is shared by all Members of the United Nations, including countries which are not Members of this Organization."

E.M. WEST (Assistant Director-General, Office of Programme, Budget and Evaluation): We cannot begin the paragraph by saying, "As we adopt this important Resolution, I, too, should like to make a brief statement..." I think the Chairman is asking how this paragraph would be worded. The substance is clear, but how will it begin?

J.L.F. BUIST (United Kingdom): "On the adoption of this Resolution, several delegates recalled" - the question is whether or not it is the form to mention them. If so, of course, they will be spelled out and there will have to be a different recollection of which those delegations were when we come to the passage about the Community. Otherwise, I shall continue without mentioning names at the moment. The Secretariat will insert them if that is the right procedure. "... several delegates recalled, in relation to paragraph 4, that decisions to implement the resources of each multilateral funding institution were matters for the governing bodies of those institutions; to recall the nature of the targets mentioned in that paragraph;" - here we have a slight problem, because I then wish to express the views of the Community and all Member States of the Community, but let us continue - "... and restated their view that responsibility in relation to these targets was shared by all Members of the United Nations, including countries not Members of the Organization".

M.E. WEST (Assistant Director-General, Office of Programme, Budget and Evaluation): I do not see any need to mention that they are members of the Community, especially as the United States of America wishes to associate itself with it. The verbatim record will show that the statement was made on behalf of the European Economic Community.

M. BEL HADJ AMOR (Tunisie): Je suis désolé de prendre la parole à cette heure tardive, mais je voudrais poser une question. La Commission a eu des difficultés à adopter le premier projet de résolution, même par consensus. On a suggéré - je ne veux pas préciser qui - de constituer un groupe de contact. Or, à mon avis, un groupe de contact est destiné à arrondir les angles et surtout à trouver un terrain d'entente.

J'avais l'impression ce matin, après quatre heures de débat, que ce groupe de contact était effectivement arrivé à un consensus. Or, j'ai l'impression que l'on repart à zéro.

Je suis tout à fait d'accord sur le fait qu'on doit respecter les opinions de tous les délégués. Vous devrez convenir avec moi, M. le Président, et je doute fort que M. Trkulja puisse s'opposer à cette opinion, à savoir que le par. que vous allez maintenant faire figurer dans le rapport enlève toute son importance et toute sa substance à cette résolution. Pourquoi avoir fait un groupe de contact alors que l'on va remettre toute la résolution sur le tapis et repartir à zéro? Il faut tout de même un minimum de sérieux. On a fait un groupe de contact, on a discuté cette résolution à cinq ou six personnes concernées par ce texte; on a essayé de trouver un consensus, et j'ai l'impression qu'il n'y en a aucun car le projet de paragraphe qui va figurer dans le rapport s'oppose catégoriquement à la résolution. Il faut quand même être un peu plus conséquent avec soi-même. D'ailleurs l'idée de groupe de travail émane de ces pays mêmes qui maintenant contestent ce libellé d'une manière directe ou indirecte. Il vous appartient M. le Président de le déterminer. Je vous dis franchement que je ne suis pas très chaud pour inclure ce paragraphe dans le rapport, après avoir passé toute une matinée à discuter ce projet de résolution. J'ai pris la parole parce que la Tunisie est l'un de ses co-auteurs.

RAMADHAR (India): My problem is very similar to that of the delegate for Tunisia, because, like him, I spent four hours this morning in the Contact Group, and as we left that Contact Group there was no indication given that after we had agreed on this Resolution in the Contact Group there would be a number of footnotes or interpretative statements. Now we are confronted with all these interpretative statements. Therefore I agree with the Delegate for Tunisia that, looking at it now on the whole, the work of the Contact Group now seems to be futile. In the Contact Group we made many concessions in order to reach a consensus, and the text which emerged out of that Contact Group was an agreed text. Now we find that there are so many interpretative statements that we have serious difficulties with the whole procedure.

A.G. NGONGI NAMANGA (Cameroon): I hesitate to go into a lengthy discussion on this matter, because I do think that we have before us something which may keep us here until tomorrow morning. As you will recall, I did say yesterday evening that the idea of creating the Contact Group was a good one, but we did not give the Contact Group a mandate to make any substantial changes. Therefore, if there were real changes needed to this Resolution, we would have to debate it at length, because I do not think that all the countries which share the views contained in this Resolution are happy with the exact definitions - some delegations may have gone even further than that, but I shall not go into that.

First of all, we supported the creation of the Contact Group, and it is my understanding that the Contact Group reached an agreement which was acceptable to all parties. We have now had time to read this Resolution, and we are satisfied that the Resolution has not been changed in substance. There have been some improvements made to accommodate the opinions of some members who may find themselves unable to support the Resolution today. I do not think that was sufficient accommodation, since yesterday it was actually very plain that the Resolution had a lot of support. To come now, at this time, to have this lengthy footnote or footnotes, saying that these decisions have to depend on the governing bodies or other bodies - I do not think anyone will contest that - I do not. But if so, we can also spell out what it is, and what other groups want to see in the International Food Reserve - we can spell out a lot of these things if that is the intention of the delegates for the

United Kingdom or the EEC or the USA ---- then I shall be willing to consult with the rest of my own Group and we will come out with our own footnotes. I feel that if this is going to be withdrawn or some further paragraphs inserted -- otherwise we shall be here all night.

A.E. GUROFF (United States of America): I would like to recall where we have come from in this discussion. This Resolution was first discussed yesterday morning. A number of delegations indicated at that point considerable discomfort with the lack of time to review it, the lack of guidance from capitals, the inability to really come to terms with some of the issues - but despite that a number of us also participated in a lengthy discussion this morning, trying, I think with good will, to come

together to a resolution. I think all of us are in fact endorsing this Resolution, but somehow we are now being led to believe that we have shown bad faith by this exercise. I think it is important to recall that there was considerable discomfort with the whole exercise from the beginning, but we did push through and try to cooperate. I am not at all pleased to hear these kinds of indications now -it makes us even more uncomfortable with the exercise.

A. RODRIGUES PIRES (Cap-Vert): Ma délégation veut se joindre à celles de la Tunisie, de l'Inde et du Cameroun, et fait appel à la compréhension de nos partenaires et amis. Il ne faut pas s'éterniser sur cette question. Le groupe de contact a fait son travail et il ne s'agit pas toujours de renvoyer au lendemain les problèmes de la faim.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): I wanted to speak immediately, to explain what happened in the Contact Group, and now I must start with a personal note, that I very rarely disagree with my friends from Tunisia, India, Cameroon and Cape Verde, but now I have to say that I do not share their views.

First of all, to be fair, I have to say that the point was raised in the Contact Group - that is, the second point in the interpretative note - by the United Kingdom on behalf of the EEC, and I myself suggested to them to enter into an interpretative note, simply stating the fact that some members of UN are not at the same time members of FAO. I think it is a very innocent statement. If they wish, I do not see very much reason for it, but if they want to insert an interpretative note to this effect, I do not see anything strange or unacceptable.

Secondly, with regard to the interpretative note relating to paragraph 4, they wanted just to make sure that what we said on the UNDP resources, especially on the target agreed in UNDP, should correspond exactly with the decision of the UNDP Governing Council. I do not see any grounds for not agreeing with them, to make sure that we are referring to the same thing. It was very difficult indeed to find a simple language which reflects a fairly complicated fact, but the substance is absolutely the same: as far as I am able to see, there is no disagreement in substance whatsoever.

What I have some difficulty in understanding is the first part of the United Kingdom intervention, which brings up an idea which is not itself contestable but is still a little strange to my mind: why the problem of replenishment in each case is a matter for Governing Bodies or Boards of such organizations to deal with. Though this is technically speaking true, I do not see why such a statement is necessary as an interpretative note.

What is important here is that the Resolution has been approved, the consensus is fully approved, and interpretative notes, if they are not dealing with the substance - as I feel they are not - would only go on to explain the position of a country and not alter the substance.

Believe me, I would be the first to very seriously contest any interventions which were intended to alter the substance. As I am personally aware that they are not going to do that, I can go along with the second part of the intervention by the United Kingdom and the whole of the intervention by Germany. But, as I have indicated, I have some difficulty in understanding why the first part of the United Kingdom's intervention is really important, to be interpreted formally in our Report.

S. AIDARA (Sénégal): Je dois avouer très franchement que je ne comprends pas la nouvelle procédure que l'on a tendance à vouloir introduire dans nos travaux. Nous avons créé un groupe de contact; ce groupe de contact a eu la possibilité de se réunir et de nous soumettre un projet de résolution, projet de résolution qui a fait l'objet d'un large débat. Il reflète les diverses opinions exprimées, et il aboutit également à un consensus, consensus qui a toujours caractérisé nos débats.

Nous avons le temps, nous sommes là pour cela. A mon avis, il faudrait reprendre le débat à zéro, en donnant la possibilité à tout le monde de s'exprimer, mais il ne me semble pas que ce soit là une procédure à adopter. Nous avons donné mandat à un groupe de contact qui nous a fourni le résultat de son travail, et à mon avis, la Commission devrait s'en tenir là, devrait s'en tenir au fruit des consultations qui ont eu lieu au niveau du groupe de contact.

Voilà pourquoi ma délégation est d'avis qu'il faut s'en tenir strictement au projet de résolution tel qu'il nous a été présenté après les consultations qui ont eu lieu au niveau du groupe de contact. Je n'ai pas besoin de reprendre ici les propos des délégués de la Tunisie, de l'Inde et du Cameroun que ma délégation partage entièrement. Je voudrais tout simplement demander fermement au niveau de la



Commission que l'on examine avec beaucoup plus de sagesse ce projet de résolution, sinon nous risquons de rester ici jusque tard dans la soirée et peut-être de reprendre nos travaux demain. De toute façon ma délégation est prête. Nous sommes là, nous sommes d'avis que s'il faut reprendre le travail, il faut le reprendre, mais ma délégation reste également ouverte à tout esprit de dialogue constructif et nous ne ménagerons aucun effort pour que ce projet de résolution, qui reflète les débats qui ont eu lieu, soit adopté par consensus.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): Again procedurally, Mr. Chairman, in the light of the debate here, though I still want to reiterate what I said, I am almost positive that just to solve the problems, because I do not think we are dealing with substance here, I am almost positive that perhaps the UK and US would consider their interpretative notes appear only in the bottom of the report, because as they themselves emphasize the intention was not to alter the substance to any degree. So I think it would be a way out - I am trying to appeal to them and suggest to you, Mr. Chairman, for your consideration that kind of procedural approach.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you, delegate of Yugoslavia. I very strongly feel along that line, that we should really try to get those remarks and those positions that the delegates may have towards the Resolution into the verbatim notes. But I would like to address myself to the delegate of Yugoslavia, as he was mentioning an interpretative note by the Federal Republic of Germany. I am not aware of any, at least one made here in the Commission, so the remark that he made yesterday afternoon was just for the record.

K. CHOUERI (Liban) (Langue originale arabe): J'aurais voulu parler plus tôt parce qu'en fait, j'avais demandé la parole il y a déjà un assez long moment. Mais je voudrais appuyer les déclarations des délégués de la Tunisie, de l'Inde, du Cameroun et du Sénégal. M. le Président, permettez-moi de poser la question suivante: quelle est la situation? En fait, nous avons résolu le problème dans le cadre du groupe de contact et le délégué du Royaume-Uni a accepté le projet de résolution dans sa version adoptée par ce groupe. Mais en fait que s'est-il passé au cours des réunions de ce groupe de contact? En réalité nous avons fait des concessions et nous avons, à la suite de ces concessions, accepté ce projet de résolution. Ensuite de quoi nous avons présenté ce projet de résolution qui a été adopté dans le cadre de cette Commission et, par conséquent, nous sommes désolés de voir ces prises de position s'exprimer à cette dernière phase de nos discussions.

Mlle Z. PAPADOPOULOU (Grèce): Nous prenons la parole pour dire que nous avons adopté, comme toutes les délégations, cette résolution et nous avons l'impression qu'un additif quel qu'il soit changerait d'une certaine manière la résolution et nous n'avons pas les éléments nécessaires pour dire dans une note en bas de page si cela convient ou pas. Nous avons l'impression qu'il faudrait en revoir la forme et, personnellement, j'ai suivi la traduction en français de la déclaration du délégué du Royaume-Uni. Cette traduction était excellente, mais malheureusement, il y avait des interférences en anglais. Si cela pouvait être mis par écrit et envoyé aux délégations, ce serait une bonne manière de procéder.

J.L.F. BUIST (United Kingdom): Thank you, Chairman. I am grateful to have the chance to try and dispel some of the clouds that seem to have suddenly gathered around this. Let us first be clear, and I want to assure all delegations of this, that we have unanimously, I think, and I think that word should go into the introduction before the Resolution, we have unanimously adopted this important Resolution without reservation, without reservation and without alteration to the substance. That, I think, is perfectly plain.

Secondly, since there is still misunderstanding on this point, we are not now discussing a footnote to the text. What we are discussing is the paragraph which completes our own report, which completes the report of what happened during, or after, the Resolution was adopted. Now, in that case, we are solely recording as we go along what we are now saying and doing in this meeting, and I think given those two points, I think that the Yugoslav delegate, who gave me with long experience some guidance on how to approach this problem which we did not want to complicate the text of the Resolution itself, has, indeed, the right, and I would like to say that since I believe that it will help this meeting to reach an accommodation on what should purely be the record of this discussion now, I would be happy

to take up his suggestion on the way in which this would be worded, that is to say, not to mention the fact that decisions for each regional bank or whatever are matters for the governing bodies. I am quite content to drop that. And then we will confirm the statement of what was said, which is in no way a reservation, I do repeat this, it is in no way a reservation, solely to the two points which the Yugoslav delegate mentioned. In other words it would say "some delegations", and again only "some delegations" "record the nature of the targets mentioned in paragraph 4, and some" because it has to be a different group, "repeated their view" etc. In that way I really think that all of the difficulties which some people seem to find in this now would be dealt with. I do appeal to you for at least the confirmation that we have unanimously adopted the Resolution without any reservations.

Miss C. McASKIE (Canada): The delegate of the United Kingdom has in fact answered the question which I was about to pose to you, as I too was a little confused as to the way in which the discussion was going and had, in fact, understood that the question of the footnote was no longer on the table before us. As it is clear now that we are merely discussing a paragraph in the report I would merely just like to add the voice of my delegation in support of the addition of this paragraph to the report of Commission II.

M. BEL HADJ AMOR (Tunisie): Mon intention est de dissiper tout malentendu car on a employé l'expression, à un certain moment, de "mauvaise foi". Je tiens à préciser que dans les interventions qui ont eu lieu cet après-midi en faveur de cette résolution, nous refusons toute adjonction de paragraphes, il n'a jamais été question de taxer qui que ce soit de mauvaise foi et je n'accepte pas du tout l'emploi de cette expression.

Je donne encore plus d'éclaircissements sur ma proposition. Je dis qu'il y a eu un groupe de contact. Or, on aurait pu ce matin - et si le temps n'était pas assez long - on aurait pu continuer cet après-midi à discuter ce texte et voir toutes les nuances; même s'il y avait adjonction de paragraphe, on aurait pu le discuter dans ce petit groupe de contact, d'autant plus, et je tiens à le préciser, que les délégués qui veulent ajouter un paragraphe, ce matin, avaient la partie belle étant donné que ceux qui avaient proposé cette résolution sur les six pays, seulement deux étaient représentés, alors que ceux qui voulaient discuter les nuances et les détails étaient vraiment en force. Il n'y avait même pas un équilibre et il y avait ainsi toutes les chances que l'on arrive à un compromis sans attendre la discussion du groupe de contact et j'insiste sur ce point. On aurait ainsi évité toutes les remarques sur les paragraphes à ajouter ou à enlever.

Voilà ce qui va se passer et je parle par expérience. On va indiscutablement ajouter un paragraphe et demain, lorsqu'on verra le libellé écrit, d'autres délégués diront: "cela ne me plaît pas, moi aussi je veux ajouter un paragraphe"; ainsi toute la résolution va être noyée par des adjonctions de paragraphes, car je m'attends à ce que d'autres pays veuillent aussi ajouter des paragraphes car chacun peut interpréter une résolution comme il l'entend. Evitons ces notes consécutives à des interprétations, ces notes explicatives, car cela ne servira à rien. Le délégué du Royaume-Uni a dit qu'il ne faisait aucune réserve pour l'adoption de cette résolution. Alors, qu'on l'adopte comme il l'a déclaré lui-même et qu'on n'en parle plus.

Je tiens à préciser que je néai jamais taxé qui que ce soit de mauvaise foi. Je respecte toutes les opinions et il est tout à fait normal que, lorsqu'un délégué vient en réunion, il exprime son point de vue.

A. G. NGONGI NAMANCA (Cameroon): I do think we are finally arriving at some form of a solution because maybe it was the lateness of the hour which made us all believe, or at least I believe, that we were going to put this as a footnote. We are glad to hear that it is not supposed to be a footnote, so that takes away part of our problems. We are also happy to see that the distinguished delegate of the UK, - it being a compromise - has taken away the first part of this proposal which was found to be, well, not to be very conducive to enter in the report referring to governing bodies and the rest. I think that is more or less understood. And that is acceptable to some delegations. In that manner I do not think that anybody is willing to question the good faith of the members who participated in the working group. My delegation will not find much of a problem to have this as one paragraph in the report saying that some delegations - I do not have the exact formulation of the UK, but as long as the governing bodies are not mentioned, from the second item say to recall the nature of these targets set in this paragraph and restated their views that responsibility of these targets rested with all members of the UN, some of whom are not members of this Organization. I think that is perfectly right, so, except that I misunderstood him, on the basis of what I have understood my delegation is willing to go along.

E.M. WEST (Assistant Director-General, Office of Programme, Budget and Evaluation): I was hoping to make this point before the delegate of Cameroon spoke as to what the delegate of the United Kingdom said. He stressed that this was not a reservation or a footnote, that he had no objection to saying that the Conference unanimously adopted the Resolution. In that case, in order to avoid the misapprehension and misunderstanding which may still be present in the minds of a number of delegations which may prolong the debate, I would suggest to you in the circumstances described by the delegate of the United Kingdom, that it would be more correct and logical to place the paragraph not after the adoption of the Resolution, but before it, and to begin the report of all with the title, as you have done in other cases. The title would be: Resources for Food Production and Agricultural Development, which is the title of the Resolution, and then you would say:

“The Conference discussed a Resolution concerning resources for food production and agricultural development. While supporting the Resolution some delegations recalled the nature of the targets mentioned in paragraph 4;” (I am using the words proposed by the United Kingdom)” and some restated their view that responsibility in relation to those targets was shared by all members of the UN including countries which were not members of this Organization.

“The Conference unanimously adopted the following Resolution.....”

I think that will avoid any misunderstanding.

A. RODRIGUEZ PIRES (Cap-Vert): Je m’excuse de reprendre encore la parole, mais je veux parler exactement dans le même sens, avec les mêmes mots prononcés par le délégué de la Tunisie et ajouter quelque chose. Ce que nous souhaitons en effet, c’est de mettre tous ces points dans le verbatim et jamais dans le rapport ou la résolution.

S. AIDARA (Sénégal): Je prend la parole uniquement pour marquer l’accord de ma délégation à la proposition faite par le Secrétariat, c’est-à-dire par M. West, à la lumière des débats qui ont eu lieu.

A.E. GUROFF (United States of America): Just to say that with the exception of one word, the United States supports Mr. West’s formulation, but at the risk of bringing a small cloud back in here, I really think that the use of the word “unanimously” would be a departure from our usual procedure and would suggest that we had a show of hands, a vote, or what have you, and I would ask that we simply use “adopted” and let people understand that for what it is without the word “unanimously.”

CHAIRMAN: Before I give the floor to the delegate of the United Kingdom and then to the delegate of Senegal, I should like to appeal again to the delegates of the United Kingdom and the United States to accept that their points be recorded faithfully in the verbatim record and the resolution stays as it is. I think we are going to have an endless debate now and have, after all, a very unpleasant taste left after a very constructive morning in the group.

S. AIDARA (Sénégal): Je suis désolé de devoir reprendre la parole. J’ai beaucoup de respect pour le délégué des USA, mais je crois que l’expression “la Conférence a adopté à l’unanimité” fait bien partie de notre procédure car on pourrait bien adopter une résolution à l’unanimité; le Secrétariat pourrait être consulté et nous dire ce qu’il en est; mais je suis persuadé que cette formule fait, bien partie des procédures de la FAO. Je pense qu’on pourrait adopter à l’unanimité la résolution.

J.L.F. BUIST (United Kingdom): I listen to the views of everyone in these meetings and do my best to meet them and I am grateful to those who have recognized the weight of our own suggestions and the limits of what we are trying to do here. It seems to me personally that Mr. West’s suggestion has the demerit of attempting to reflect a discussion which took place yesterday before the adoption of the Resolution, and the Secretariat have always been very careful to remind us, as you yourself have, Mr. Chairman, that what we are doing here is to reflect the discussion in its proper order as it took place. So I personally, if faced with the suggestion that Mr. West has made, would prefer to put

that aside and to rely on the verbatim records. For myself, I believe that if there is no other way of solving the problem, this is what we will have to do, but if we take this solution then we will, of course, have with us also the extracts from the verbatim record ourselves and draw them to the attention of other people as required.

I offer this concession, so far as I am concerned (but my colleagues may still have problem over this), because I would like to reach a constructive and quick solution to this problem and not keep delegates here all afternoon. Our point has been made. It is in the verbatim record and I think a simple introduction without the phrase which Mr. West has proposed would be best.

E.M. WEST (Assistant Director-General, Office of Programme, Budget and Evaluation): I would like to make it absolutely clear that my intervention was intended only to avoid a long and controversial debate on the resolutions which have been adopted unanimously or by consensus, whichever you want to call it, or adopted, which would have occurred if the United Kingdom and others had insisted on including a paragraph. Naturally, if those concerned are ready to have their remarks recorded in the verbatim record, as was the Federal Republic of Germany, about this statement, then I withdraw completely my suggestion because it was only a pis-aller. It was not intended as something better than a verbatim record. On the contrary, if the Secretariat was asked to comment it would say that it is better to include the remarks in the verbatim record. The record will in fact show the whole of this debate including what the delegate of the United Kingdom has just said and what I have said, so that will explain to all concerned why these remarks are in the verbatim record and not anything else.

M. TRKULJA (Yugoslavia): I have nothing to say except that I am very glad that the delegation of the United Kingdom has again demonstrated what I was sure of, that its intervention was not intended to water down the Resolution or to take away any small part of the consensus already reached. So I am very happy and I think it is the very best result. The views will be recorded in the verbatim record. I have nothing else to add except that we should stop the debate, which now seems to be totally unnecessary.

G. IJIGU (Ethiopia): If the idea of footnotes has been changed to one of settling for the verbatim record, I have nothing more to say other than to express thanks for the concession.

CHAIRMAN: I take it that all the remarks made and suggested by the delegates of the United Kingdom and the United States of America will appear in the verbatim record and that the resolution as we have it will go into the report as paragraph 110.

A.E. GUROFF (United States of America): Two things: one is that I just wanted to clarify for the record that our interest was to associate ourselves with the point being made by the United Kingdom delegation wherever that might appear, or if the decision is to put it in the verbatim record, that is acceptable. The other is to clarify for the record that with the withdrawal of Mr. West's proposal, the withdrawal of the word "unanimously" has also been accomplished. Can we have clarification on that?

CHAIRMAN: I thank the delegate of the United States. Also that remark will be in the verbatim record.

E.M. WEST (Assistant Director General, Office of Programme, Budget and Evaluation): It will not only appear in the verbatim record, but as I understand it, the decision now is to adopt REP/5 exactly as it is printed and as you previously approved it as printed before this discussion started - except, of course, for those amendments which were agreed.

CHAIRMAN: I think that brings us to the end of the debate, not only on the Resolution but on the Resources for Food Production and Agricultural Development, and to the end of the approval of the Report of Commission II.

Paragraph 1 incl. draft resolution, as amended, approved  
Le paragraphe 1, y compris le projet de résolution, ainsi amendé, est approuvé  
El párrafo 1, incluido el proyecto de resolución, así enmendado, es aprobado

Draft Report of Commission II, Part 5, was adopted  
Projet de Rapport de la Commission II, partie 5, est adopté  
El proyecto de informe de la Comisión II, parte 5, es aprobado

G. BULA HOYOS (Colombia): Complace mucho a esta delegación, Sr. Presidente, que haya quedado resuelta esta cuestión, porque ello nos permite hacer ahora nuestra declaración, que será menos controvertida y más agradable.

La delegación de Colombia desea expresar a usted, Sr. Presidente, nuestro más profundo y sincero reconocimiento por la forma tan inteligente como ha presidido esta Comisión. Usted ha logrado combinar la firmeza y la flexibilidad, en virtud de las cuales ha permitido, aún en momentos difíciles, la libre expresión de todos los miembros de esta Comisión.

La excelente labor realizada por nuestro dinámico y competente Presidente del Comité de Redacción y sus demás compañeros de Comité nos han facilitado grandemente nuestros trabajos, que van ahora a concluir en forma satisfactoria.

Estoy seguro de que estas manifestaciones de Colombia serán compartidas por muchos de los representantes de América Latina y del Caribe, en ausencia del Presidente de nuestro grupo.

Tuvo usted Sr. Presidente, sobre todo, una gran simpatía y una extraordinaria paciencia, por todo lo cual le expresamos nuestro agradecimiento muy sincero.

Como es muy tarde y parece que ningún otro colega quiere hacer uso de la palabra, terminamos pidiendo a los Miembros de la Comisión que le tributen a usted, Sr. Presidente, un aplauso de agradecimiento.

Applause  
Applaudissements  
Aplausos

E.M. WEST (Assistant Director-General, Office of Programme, Budget and Evaluation): I don't want to jump ahead of anybody else but I have to go to another meeting so I wanted to ask for the floor now if I may. I am sure the Director-General is extremely grateful to you and to your colleagues for the way the work of this Commission has been adopted and completed in time. He will no doubt say so himself at the right time in the right place but at my level and on behalf of all my colleagues and the Secretariat we would like to express our heartfelt thanks to you and to members of the Commission for the patience they have shown with the Secretariat and for the work about which we have reason to feel satisfied and so thank you Mr. Chairman and thank everybody.

CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much Mr. West and before closing the work of Commission II, I would like to express thanks for their cooperative efforts over the past twenty-one meetings in Commission II. The word "cooperative" has repeatedly come up, I think very truly and in a very justified manner. As a matter of fact we have to cooperate today in every respect and when I start my thanks I would start with the messengers who have been so helpful, sometimes I presume carrying messages which had better not appear in the verbatim. I would also be very grateful and express my thanks to the ladies and the gentlemen that have helped us to get within half a day the verbatim back which I have never experienced in my conference life. Thank you very much for that and I would like to turn back to the colleagues that have helped us to jump over linguistic hurdles very skilfully operating almost like a champion in hurdle running. I would particularly like to thank Mr. Wright and his very able colleagues for assisting with unspared effort virtually round the clock the work of the Commission. We have to be very grateful to them. I am also very grateful for the very wise guidance provided by Mr. West, Mr. de Mérédiu, Mr. Yriart who always keeps very much in the background and the other Assistant Director-Generals, and Directors of the Divisions. I think they have provided us with a firm and solid platform on which the debate was able to be carried on. I extend my very hearty greetings and thanks to the Chairman of the Drafting Committee and his colleagues, to the Ad Hoc Working Groups that helped us really to move on expeditiously and I am sure we would not have been at the point where we are now at 6 o'clock today had

not the Ad Hoc Working Group, particularly on the resource resolution, done an enormous work to speed up the work of the Commission. And I would thank my colleagues, the Vice-Chairman, for assisting me very ably behind the scenes in clearing and moving important matters of the Commission. And last but not least, I would like to extend my thanks to you. I remember very vividly from the very first beginning by the distinguished delegate of Lesotho and he said: “we will cooperate. The success of the Commission depends on all of us”. He was very right from the very onset and I can only confirm that in a spirit of great understanding it was possible to finish the work of the Commission, sometimes a very difficult job, certainly also for you, and that was possible with your active support and your understanding. With these remarks I would like to conclude the work of this meeting and I would also bring to a formal end the work Commission II.

Applause

Applaudissements

Aplausos

The meeting rose at 18.10 hours

La séance est levée à 18 h 10

Se levanta la sesión a las 18.10 horas.