


UNITED NATIONS

General Assembly
FORTY-FOURTH SESSION
Official Records

SECOND COMMITTEE
44th meeting
held on
Friday, 24 November 1989
at 10 a.m.
New York

SUMMARY RECORD **OF** THE 44th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. GHEZAL (Tunisia)

later: Mr. DOLJINTSEREN (Mongolia)

CONTENTS

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE **ECONOMIC** AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (continued)

AGENDA ITEM 82: DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION (continued)

(b) TRADE AND **DEVELOPMENT** (continued)

(e) ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
(continued)

(f) **ENVIRONMENT** (continued)

AGENDA ITEM 83: PREPARATIONS FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN
1990

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Distr., GENERAL
A/C.2/44/SR.44
29 November 1989

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

89-57414 **2136S** (E)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.40 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (continued)
(A/C.2/44/L.46)

Draft resolution on a second industrial development decade for Africa
(A/C.2/44/L.46)

1. Mr. GATHUNGU (Kenya), introducing the draft resolution on behalf of the African States, said that the African countries and intergovernmental organisations had made extensive efforts to promote the industrial programmes envisaged under the Industrial Development Decade for Africa. Africa's capacity to promote economic growth had, however, been hampered by the economic crisis that had engulfed the continent in the early **1980s**, and a range of unfavourable external economic factors, forcing African Governments to concentrate **on** short-term measures such as those in the United Nations Programme of **Action** for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990 and to adopt painful structural adjustment programmes and policy reforms.

2. Following the independent mid-term evaluation of the industrial programmes adopted under the Decade, recommendations of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry at its 8th meeting in 1986 (resolution 1 (VIII)) and the decision of the Industrial Development Board at its 5th meeting in July 1989 (**IDB.5/DEC.7**), the Economic and Social Council had requested the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session to consider proclaiming the period **1991-2000** the second industrial development decade for Africa (resolution **1989/115**).

3. Heartening progress had been made in **some** areas of African economies, despite the crises afflicting them. Kenya believed that the productive capacity of African countries would be enhanced by **more** support from the international community, thereby benefiting the global economy, and, along with the other African countries, had demonstrated that belief by participating in the 1989 United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities.

AGENDA ITEM 82: DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION (continued)
(A/C.2/44/L.48)

Draft resolution on international co-operation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries (**A/C.2/44/L.48**)

4. Mr. TAI (Malaysia) introduced the draft resolution on behalf of the Group of 77.

(b) TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT (continued) (A/C.2/44/L.49, A/C.2/44/L.50, A/C.2/44/L.51, A/C.2/44/L.52, A/C.2/44/L.53 and A/C.2/44/L.54)

Draft resolutions on economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries (A/C.2/44/L.49), on an international code of conduct on the transfer of technology (A/C.2/44/L.50), commodities (A/C.2/44/L.52), on the report of the Trade and Development Board (A/C.2/44/L.53) and on the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (A/C.2/44/L.54)

5. Mr. TAI (Malaysia) introduced the draft resolutions on behalf of the Group of 77.

Draft resolution on the trade embargo against Nicaragua (A/C.2/44/L.51)

6. Mr. SERRAN CALDERA (Nicaragua), introducing the draft resolution on behalf of the sponsors, said that, despite repeated resolutions of the General Assembly condemning the trade embargo against Nicaragua, the Government of the United States had recently reimposed the embargo for the fourth consecutive year. The text of the draft resolution, which was supported by the resolutions on the Special Plan of Economic Co-operation for Central America (42/204, 42/231 and 43/210) and the Judgment of the International Court of Justice of 27 June 1986, was precise and straightforward

7. The trade embargo was an unjust and arbitrary measure, applied for purely political ends, in violation of the principles of peaceful coexistence established in the Charter of the United Nations and other important international instruments. Furthermore, the embargo violated the Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Navigation concluded between Nicaragua and the United States in 1956.

a. The embargo had had a serious negative impact on the economic development of Nicaragua, and threatened to disrupt the electoral process in that country. Unless it was lifted it would be impossible to promote the economic integration of Central America, to stabilise the economy of Nicaragua and to stimulate economic and social development in the region.

9. The negative attitude of the United States contrasted with the political and diplomatic efforts by the Central American Governments to reach a peaceful solution to the problems and conflicts in their region, and to the spirit of reconciliation and good will which had come to prevail in other conflict areas in the world. Nicaragua had hoped that the new administration in the United States would rectify the mistake of the old, by lifting the embargo, but its failure to do so threatened the preparations for, and conduct of, the elections in Nicaragua in February 1990.

10. The offer made by President Bush in November 1989 to lift the embargo if the opposition won the Nicaraguan election violated the principle of respect for the internal politics of a sovereign nation and was not conducive to the maintenance of the stability necessary for a normal electoral process. It was both ignoble and undignified for the United States to violate the fundamental principles of democracy and interfere in the internal affairs of another State, against which it

(Mr. Serran Caldera, Nicaragua)

had born *waging* a war of **aggression** for eight **years**, by applying a trade **embargo** at the **very time** an **•** loctoral **process** involving international **observers** was under **way**. On behalf of all the **sponsors**, Nicaragua **therefore** called upon the **Committee** to **reaffirm its defence** of **free trade** and just and equitable international **economic relations** by adopting the **resolution**.

(e) **ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES** (continued)
(A/C.2/44/L.56)

Draft resolution on co-operation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (A/C.2/44/L.56)

11. Mrs. NTETA (Botswana), introducing the draft resolution, announced that **Austria**, **Finland**, **Norway** and **Sweden** had joined the other **sponsors**. She recalled the **expanding** role of the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC) in a **wide** variety of areas **and** drew attention to those sections of the draft resolution **appealing** to the international community and the **organizations** of the United **Nations** system for their **support** and **co-operation** and **inviting** the donor community and **other co-operating partners** to participate at a high level in the **forthcoming** SADCC Annual Consultative **Conference** in **Lusaka** in 1990, Noting that co-operation in SADCC **was a laudable** **•** xmples of a region endeavouring to help **itself**, and **therefore** exemplified the **spirit** of technical **co-operation among** **developing countries**, she appealed to the Committee to adopt the resolution.

(f) **ENVIRONMENT** (A/C.2/44/L.55 and A/C.2/44/L.58) (continued)

Draft resolution on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, 1992 (A/C.2/44/L.55)

12. Mr. TAI (Malaysia), introducing the draft resolution **on** behalf of the **Group of 77**, said that, **for** technical **reasons**, the draft **resolution** would have to be extensively amended before its final adoption, by **the** Committee,

Draft resolution on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (A/C.2/44/L.58)

13. Miss POIRET (France), introducing the draft resolution on behalf of the States members of the European Economic **Community**, **said** that the sponsors had demonstrated a high degree of political will in reaching a consensus **on** a subject of such importance. With regard to **substantive** issues, the conference should have as its principle **objective** the reaching of an **agreement on strategies** and **measures to reverse** damage done to the environment with a view to promoting sustained development and reducing the environmental **impact** of the population explosion, external debt, famine and disease.

14. It was therefore to be hoped that regional and global strategies could be considered so that **Governments** could take concrete steps to solve environmental

(Miss Poirot, France)

problems while promoting social and **economic** development, on the **basis** of a **specific timetable**.

15. With *regard* to preparations for the **conference**, the **sponsors** of the draft resolution viewed them flexibly, as could be **seen** from the *draft text*, **beginning** with paragraph 6.

AGENDA ITEM 83: PREPARATIONS FOR THE SPECIAL **SESSION** OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN 1990 (A/44/3, 45, 303, 361, 409 and **Corr.1**, 477, 551, 617 and 689)

16. **Mr. ZEPOS** (Greece), *speaking in his capacity as Chairman of the Preparatory Committee of the Whole* for the special **session of the General Assembly devoted to international economic co-operation**, in particular **to the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries**, said that during the Preparatory **Committee's first session, held from 31 May to 2 June**, it had been decided that he should hold **informal consultations on the session with regional groups and delegations** and *to reflect the outcome of those deliberations* in a preliminary **report** to the General Assembly *at its forty-fourth session*. In June he had **been invited to attend the special ministerial meeting of the Group of 77 at Caracas, Venezuela**, as *an observer*. The Declaration issued by **that meeting** was proof of the **positive and flexible approach** adopted by the **Group towards the negotiations** on the special session. Since that time he had **made a progress report** to the Economic and Social Council at **its second regular session**, which had been marked by a productive debate on the **session**.

17. *The special session was viewed as a major political event* that would stimulate **discussion and action** by Governments and international organisations in *a new political environment* in which development would **resume its place at the head of the international political agenda**. The United Nations **must** play a central part in **the resumption of economic growth and social progress** throughout the world, while taking stock of the transformations that had occurred in the world **economy** in the **1980s**. New ideas must inspire common approaches.

18. Following his consultations with the regional **groups** and individual delegations, he **had drafted an informal paper, currently in circulation among delegations**, to help them reach agreement on the major issues requiring common **action** at the special session. Broad agreement **must** be reached during the current session of **the General Assembly**, and the adoption **by the Committee of a text** outlining the pertinent issues would demonstrate the political will needed to **ensure** the success of the preparatory work and provide a basis for further consultations.

19. **Mr. CHOO** (Malaysia), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77, recalled that at **the special ministerial meeting of the Group of 77 at Caracas** and **at the ninth summit meeting of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries at Belgrade**, the leaders of developing countries had called upon the developed countries to adopt a constructive and integrated approach towards the reactivation of their dialogue with the developing countries. The special **session** should provide an ideal

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(Mr. Choo, Malaysia)

opportunity for reaching agreement *on the nature of the* problems facing the developing countries and *on an approach* to solving them. At the Preparatory Committee's **first substantive** session, the **Group** of 77 had welcomed the preliminary **outline of the comprehensive** report of the **Secretary-General**, in the belief that the **elements** set out in **chapter 2** thereof could be taken into account in preparing for the special session.

20, Economic and Social Council resolution **1989/111** acknowledged the **need** to strengthen multilateralism as the foundation for international **economic** co-operation. That **idea could** be pursued further in the process of preparing for the special session.

21, The informal **paper** to which the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee had just referred **was** currently being **actively** considered by the **Group of 77**, and the Group **expected to** • **xpresso its** views thereon during the course of the **current session**. He wished to point out, however, that the special session **should** not deal with the **reform** and restructuring of the economic and **social sectors** of the United Nations **system**, but should devote itself exclusively to the revitalisation of economic growth and development in the **developing countries**.

22, **Mr. ESCURE** (France), speaking on behalf of the **States** members of the European **Community**, said that they were approaching the **preparation** of the **special session** in an extremely **positive frame of mind**. On **many recent** occasions they had pointed out that the special **session** and the preparation of the **international** development **strategy** for the fourth United Nations development decade **were** complementary **exercises**. In fact, the special session would be meaningful only if all countries resolved to begin the **1990s** by **removing as** quickly as **possible** the impedimenta to **economic** growth and development in certain **parts of the world**. The special session must also serve as a **forum for** discussion and **agreement on** general principles for international economic policies that would **be** valid for many years **to come** and could **be** applied **flexibly** to unforeseeable circumstances.

23, There **were seven** guiding principles which **should** be reflected in the development **strategy**. Firstly, each country must determine its own development strategy and objectives and continue to adjust its production structures to **maximize** profitability, create national savings **for** development **and** strengthen public institutions. Secondly, the problem of excessive population growth and its implications **for** employment, education and health, etc., must also be dealt with by individual States. Thirdly, the developing countries were entitled to external support, so **long as** they managed it **effectively**. Fourthly, national strategies and external assistance would **be even** more effective if they were better adapted to specific local situations and problems. Fifthly, an indispensable element of a favourable international environment was a multilateral and open system of global economic relations which favoured **the movement** of goods, services, capital and technology. Such a system must provide outlets **for** the exports of developing countries and facilitate productive foreign investment in those countries. Sixthly, there could be no sustained development without proper attention to the

(Mr. Escure, France)

environment, Finally, **there** could be no **sustained** development without attention to the human factor,

24. Those principles alone would **not ensure** the **success** of the **special session**, however. All **parties** must **express their** views and **assume their responsibilities** to **make** the *strategy* produced by the **special session** their own. The **session must also serve** as a vehicle **for** co-operation which would promote a **dialogue on key economic problems** facing all **countries**. It was to be hoped that **before the end** of the current session, a general **framework** could be adopted that would **serve as a basis** for the work of the Preparatory Committee as that body drew up a draft agenda for the **session** which reflected the **seven** guiding principles **in terms sufficiently general** to remain valid throughout the **decade** but **sufficiently precise** that their adoption would be politically binding **on all States** and international organizations.

25. Mr. NIKAI (Japan) **said** that the **special session should give due consideration** to the **great transformation** the world had **undergone** during the **1980s**. The **session should address major opportunities and challenges** in an integrated way and in a spirit of **shared responsibility** and co-operation. The **final document of the session must send a clear political message** to the world,

26. His delegation had **been an active participant** in the **preparations** for the **session** and believed that, if productive, the **session** would certainly contribute to the revitalization of dialogue and international relations **at a time when all nations faced** difficult economic and **development problems**. It was gratifying that all **major countries** had participated in the **Preparatory Committee's first session**, and his delegation hoped that the **comprehensive report to be based** on the preliminary outline of the **Secretary-General's** report would take duly into **consideration the discussions** that had taken place,

27. His delegation had been disappointed by the **statement** made by the Group of 77 at the first session in which **it had identified subjects** it did *not wish* to have **discussed** at the **special session**. He did, however, welcome the **Group's** general **commitment** to constructive dialogue, as **manifested** in the **statement issued** by the Group **at its special ministerial meeting** at Caracaa in June. He also welcomed the **readiness** of the non-aligned countries, **demonstrated** at their ninth **summit meeting**, to **resume** the dialogue between developed and developing countries. He **sincerely** hoped that that constructive, **realistic and practical** approach would continue to prevail in all **forums**, including the Second Committee and the Preparatory Committee, for the **new spirit of co-operation** would go **far in making the special session a meaningful one** for all countries.

20. He appreciated the efforts that had been made in informal consultations at the initiative of the Chairman of the **Preparatory Committee** regarding the orientation of the **special session**. A broad understanding among delegations on **that matter** would enhance the work to be *done* prior to the Preparatory Committee's next **session**, in early 1990. The **special session was so important** that thorough consideration must be *given* to its orientation, **for** it should not **become a replay**

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(Mr. Nikai, Japan)

of the Second Committee's general debate or of discussions held in the Economic and Social Council.

29. Mr. **ZAPOTOCKY** (Czechoslovakia), speaking on behalf of the socialist countries of Eastern Europe, said that they had consistently supported the convening **of** the special session and had actively participated in the preparatory process, a process in which they believed the **interests** of all countries must be balanced.

30. The arrangements for the special session were being made **at a time** when the international political atmosphere had improved and profound changes were taking place in the world **economy**. The new global challenges also called for common and comprehensive approaches to international economic problems that took fully into account the realities of an interdependent and multi-faceted world. The special session should therefore set broad policy guidelines for international development co-operation and help create favourable external conditions for the growth and development of all countries, particularly the developing countries. His delegation expected that such features of international economic relations as predictability, confidence, stability, equality, mutual benefit and non-discrimination would be reflected in the final document of the session.

31. The session should reaffirm support for strengthening the role of the United Nations as a unique universal forum capable of combining bilateral, regional and global interests for the benefit of the world economy and the revival of growth in the developing countries. Appropriate attention should be paid to strengthening multilateral, social and economic co-operation in the United Nations for the 1990s and to ensuring **more** effective co-ordination of the activities of the various bodies and institutions of the United Nations **system**.

32. Greater attention should be given to the crucial role of science and technology as a factor for economic development, and to increase access to technological achievements, the social aspects of growth and development, and the development of human resources with a view to the ultimate **aim** of development - people and their prosperity. Due attention should also be given to the relationship between disarmament and development as well as between environment and development.

33. The decisions of the special session should be aimed at achieving balanced development of the world economy, which was possible only through neutrally advantageous co-operation and, in particular, growth and development in the developing countries.

34. The final document should contain recommendations on ways of strengthening multilateral economic co-operation in key spheres, including specific measures to improve macro-economic policy co-ordination on a universal basis. It should seek constructive solutions to world economic problems and help to develop international co-operation in the economic field. The delegations on whose behalf he was speaking were prepared to co-operate constructively in the preparation *of* such a document which should address basic issues of international finance, trade,

(Mr. Zapotocky, Czechoslovakia)

technology, and environment *in* the context of international co-operation for the benefit of all nations.

35. Mr. DJOGHLAF (Algeria) said that the highly original nature of the annex to General Assembly decision 43/460 was such as to guarantee that the special session would be a prominent event for the entire international community, united in the cause of reactivating economic growth wherever it was lacking. His delegation wished to express its gratitude to the delegation of China for the role it had played in the drafting of the annex.

36. In an increasingly interdependent world, to assist others was, in the final analysis, to assist one's own self and therefore one's own descendants. By deciding to convene in 1990 the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to development, the United Nations seemed to have *realised* at last that the sacrifices inherent in the internal structural adjustment of the countries of the South which had characterised the 1980s would be vain in the absence of symmetrical international adjustment and the adaptation of the developed countries' macro-economic policies to the economic growth needs of all.

37. The requirements for equitable development necessarily involved redressing world macro-economic imbalances as well as achieving a just and lasting solution of the external debt crisis, both through debt forgiveness and rescheduling and through the restoration of positive North-South financial flows. They thus entailed the establishment of international economic co-operation freed from concerns alien to economic development through the rehabilitation of multilateral economic co-operation of which the United Nations constituted the backbone.

38. The special session offered a suitable opportunity to strengthen recent achievements made in the field of political dialogue through economic progress in the interest of all, which constituted the best guarantees of international peace and security. The clear nature of the proposals and recommendations contained in the preliminary draft of the Secretary-General's comprehensive report on the status of international co-operation augured well for the success of that endeavour. In that connection, his delegation stressed the need for the 10 elements contained in chapter II of the preliminary draft to be taken duly into consideration.

39. The seventh session of UNCTAD had also made the revitalization of development, growth and international trade its primary objective, but 13 months later, adoption of its final act was still awaiting implementation. While the adoption of specific international measures was vital, their harmonious implementation through respect for the commitments freely entered into was also essential.

40. The 1990 special session would be held 10 years after the General Assembly's eleventh special session, also devoted to international economic co-operation. The failure of that session had certainly contributed to the failure of the Third United Nations Development Decade, and every effort must be made to ensure that history did not repeat itself.

41. Mr. Doljintseren (Mongolia) took the Chair

42. Mr. RYSIŃSKI (Poland) said that the forthcoming special session of the General Assembly should generate new impulses for enhancing international co-operation and should help define a system of values and principles which would guarantee a firm base for stable growth and sustainable development. That would require an appropriately high level of representation at the session, which in turn could help generate the political will for further economic dialogue and more detailed negotiations. Unless the necessary conditions were created for reviving the economies of the developing countries and solving the external debt crisis, the possibility of the session's success would remain limited. In that context, "reliability and predictability", "confidence and security" and "flexibility and balance of interest" should be central concepts,

43. Economic interdependence made it necessary to take account of the balance of all relevant interests in the different dimensions of international relations. A comprehensive dialogue should be held on all combinations of the economic interests of North, South, East and West. The potential of East-West co-operation for easing the transition of the world economy towards a new, more mature stage of development should not be overlooked in the drafting of the agenda for the special session. However, East-West relations could not be treated separately from overall global relations, which were best served when their composite elements worked in unison, East-West relations should not therefore be construed as a threat to North-South co-operation, on the contrary, they were essential for a sustainable North-South dialogue.

44. General Assembly decision 43/460 and the first session of the Preparatory Committee offered a meaningful starting-point for the preparations for the special session. Poland believed that a pragmatic approach must be taken in the session's work to reflect ways of strengthening multilateral co-operation for economic and social development and defining the role of the United Nations in that area. Some crucial and interrelated issues which should be considered at the session included the flow of finance and goods, the role of science and technology, disparities and imbalances in international economic relations, conditions of adjustment, environmental protection, and development of human resources.

45. Mr. MENON (India) said that while North-South interaction in the economic field had been more or less at a standstill for over a decade, the world economy had been undergoing far-reaching changes. The gap between the developed and developing countries continued to widen. With the emergence of new economic Powers, the world had become multipolar and new arrangements for regional and interregional co-operation had either come into being or were developing. The developing countries as a whole derived little benefit from the recent sustained growth in world output. The time had come to take stock of those developments and to assess their implications for the world economy and, in particular, for the growth and development of the developing countries. Such an exercise would also make it possible to strengthen the mechanisms of international economic co-operation and where necessary adapt them to the new realities.

(Mr. Menon, India)

46. **Needless** to say, such **co-operation** was not designed for the **exclusive** benefit of the **developing** world but was aimed, **firstly**, at correcting **imbalances** and, **secondly**, at **harnessing the** potential of the **developing** world for the **benefit** of all countries,
47. **Global peace and security** could not be **sustained** without eliminating inequities **and** disparities. The **rest of the world** could not **consider** itself **immune** to the **consequences** of **upheavals** in the underprivileged regions of the world.
48. At the special **session**, the international community should **engage in** purposeful dialogue in a spirit of mutual **interest and solidarity**, seeking to achieve a **consensus** on the nature of the problems, the **approaches** required to solve them and the modalities to be applied. First of all, it must be recognised that the **revitalization of economic** growth and development in **developing countries** required the **strengthening** of international co-operation. For too long, long-term development **prospects** had been made **subservient** to short-term measures concentrating on adjustment. **Secondly**, such **revitalization** required a **supportive** international economic **environment**: the current **environment** needed to be **reversed**, primarily by redressing the structural imbalances of the global **economy**. Thirdly, **policy co-ordination** needed to be **made** more participatory. **Marginalizing** the developing world might **appear** to be a logical market-oriented phenomenon in the **short term**, but it could seriously impede economic growth in the longer term. A broader-based **system** of policy co-ordination that **reflected** the interest of all **countries** was **therefore** inescapable,
49. **Interrelated** issues, especially trade, money and finance, debt, and technology and **development**, must be addressed **in an** integrated and comprehensive **manner**. The sustained growth of the world economy in the long term could be ensured only if all the constituent **parts** grew in harmony. **Restoration of the growth momentum** required a positive substantial transfer of **resources**, **liberalization of** world trade through the **removal of** protectionist barriers, improvement of market **access**, stable monetary **conditions** and reduction of **real** interest rates. **Poverty** alleviation and raising the standard of living of large **masses of** people would continue to be **priorities for the** developing **countries**, even **those** developing countries which had achieved modest growth rates in the past few **years**, for a **long time** to come.
50. **Mr. PILBEAM** (Australia), speaking also on behalf of **Canada and** New Zealand, **said** that the perilous state of the world's **ecosystem** required decisive action and, possibly, profound **changes** in the economic activity of all countries in **order to** make development sustainable. Without early **major** action, irreparable damage could be done to **resource** bases, and environmental **problems** could **become** increasingly **intractable** and **expensive**, with obvious implications for development. It was therefore essential **that** the special session should address important environmental **issues**, including conservation and management of **resources** as an integral part of sustainable development. Environmentally and economically sustainable development should **become** a central political **concern** in both developed and developing countries.

(Mr. Pilbeam, Australia)

51. The special **session** would give **the** international community a **chance** of coming to a common understanding on the major economic and social priorities *for development for the next decade and to* arrive at a general consensus to meet those **challenges** in a Spirit of co-operation. Developed countries should address problems of **access to their** markets and capital *flows, and developing* countries should **take steps** to improve their policies and institutions in order to **realize** their **full development potential**. The pursuit of sound *economic* policies by both groups, including **measures** to reduce fiscal deficits and restore foreign-exchange relations to sustainable positions, would **provide a framework** for improving investor **confidence and** establishing a firm basis for long-term **growth** and development. **Increased** reliance on market forces, **reduced** barriers to trade and the **operation** of a dynamic private **sector** were **important factors** in that **process**.

52. People **were** the **main resource** for meeting the **challenge of** development, **Human resources development**, through effective education and training, basic health care, the **more active** participation of **women**, broad-based agricultural **and** rural development and the adoption of **effective and fair economic** and political **systems**, would be crucial in determining whether development **continued**.

53. The special **session** provided an Opportunity for the **representatives** of developed and **developing** countries **jointly** to increase world understanding of the elements conducive to sustainable growth and development. The most effective means of communicating that understanding **to the public and** to decision-makers should be borne in **mind**. **A short**, memorable document had obvious presentational advantages and might be **easier** to negotiate than a long and **detailed communiqué**. The declaration to be adopted at **the conclusion of** the session should be realistic and relevant, and provide policy-makers with guidelines for formulating and implementing appropriate economic **strategies**; it could also **serve** as the conceptual **framework for** the international **development** strategy **for** the fourth **United Nations** development decade,

54. Mr. **FEJIC** (Yugoslavia) said that the special session would afford an exceptional Opportunity to revive multilateral **dialogue** and negotiations on urgent international **economic** problems, in particular those which impeded the development of the developing countries and their integration into the mainstream of the world economy. Obviously, its success would depend not only on the general **economic and** political environment, but also on a common understanding of the session's main objectives and the main issues which should be considered. The central objective of the session should **be** to achieve consensus on ways of **revitalizing** economic growth and development and, in particular, removing those obstacles in the international economic environment which prevented the developing countries from taking advantage of their own natural, human and other resources,

55. The **special** session was not a substitute for existing international economic forums. Rather, it provided an opportunity to address global economic issues in an integrated manner and to adopt general policy guidelines and recommendations which would take into account the respective spheres of competence of the relevant United Nations bodies and special agencies.

(Mr. Fejic, Yugoslavia)

56. The political level and short duration **of** the special **session** precluded long **negotiations on** detailed sets **of** concrete policies and measures. **However, it must** clearly identify the major **issues, and** the preliminary outline prepared by the Secretary-General **for** the **first meeting of** the Preparatory Committee was a good point **of** departure **for** that task and a good **basis** for the preparation **of** the comprehensive report to be submitted to the **special session**. **Yugoslavia** fully supported **the view expressed** in the preliminary outline on the need **for** the special **session to** contribute to strengthening the **role of** the United Nations **in the** consideration **of** global economic **issues and** enhancing its capacity **to** initiate concerted action in that field. In order to ensure the success **of** the session, all Member States should dedicate **themselves to** the strengthening of international economic co-operation and demonstrate their willingness to contribute actively to the search **for** a new development consensus,

57. Mr. FJAERTOFT (Norway), speaking on behalf **of** the Nordic countries, said that the final document of the special session should be short, simple and understandable. Its **structure, headings, ideas and language must** appeal to the hearts as well as the minds of ordinary people **everywhere**. It should reflect the international community's **common perception of** the current world economic and social situation, the challenges which that situation posed and the responses required to **meet** them. The **final document** should provide a conceptual outline for the future orientation **of** the economic and social activities **of** the United Nations **system**, and should end with a strong commitment to **increase** and improve international **economic** co-operation.

58. The outcome of the special session should **serve** as the conceptual **basis for** the international development strategy **for** the fourth United Nations development decade. However, the session should **not** prescribe specific policies or measures, since that would be the task **of** the international development strategy.

59. The final document should lay emphasis on three **major areas**. The first area was the **economy**, and the document should **emphasize** how the rapid internationalisation **of** countries' economies had made them interdependent, how interlinked economic issues must be dealt with in an integrated manner, and how the persistent imbalances in the world economy, as well **as** in national economies, must be eliminated, or at least reduced, in order to ensure an international environment conducive to the revitalisation of the developing countries' economies. **In** that context, the Nordic countries **emphasized** the importance **of** achieving the 0.7 per cent target **for** official development assistance. The second area on which the document should **focus was** the relationship between economic activity and the environment, and the recognition that all national and international **policies and** activities must be designed on an environmentally sustainable basis. The third area was human development. The eradication **of** widespread poverty necessitated the improved mobilization of human resources **for development**. Any successful development policy must acknowledge **the** role of women. Long-term economic and social growth and development was possible only when there was a healthy, well-educated population which enjoyed human rights and **was** able to **participate**

A/C.2/44/SR.44

English

Page 14

(Mr. Fiaertoft, Norway)

fully in economic and political processes. The importance of population policies must also be stressed.

The meeting rose at 1. p.m.