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Third Session
Vienna, 24 April - 15 May 1969

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE EIGHTIETH MEETING

Held at the Neue Hofburg, Vienna,
on Thursday, 8 May 1969, at 10.55 a.m.

President: Mr. ORTEZ de ROZAS (Argentina)
Reporteur: Mr. BILLNER (Sweden)

CONTENTS

Agenda
Item

12

Provisional agenda for the
fourth session

Paragraphs

1 - 39

We regret that some of the pages in the microfiche copy of this report may not be up to the proper legibility standards, even though the best possible copy was used for preparing the master fiche. *

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE FOURTH SESSION

1. The PRESIDENT pointed out to members of the Board that it would perhaps be necessary, because of the adoption of certain resolutions, to place some new items on the provisional agenda for the fourth session. It would therefore be better not to take a final decision on the matter for the moment. The Board also had to decide whether it wished to continue the Working Group or not. If it did, it would have to bear in mind General Assembly resolution 2152 (XXI), operative paragraph 14, and resolution 3 (II) adopted at its second session.
2. Mr. BLAISSE (Netherlands) thought that, in spite of certain weaknesses, the Working Group's results had been very useful to the Board, and so it should be retained for the fourth session. It ought to meet before the Board's session; otherwise the smaller delegations might have difficulty in being represented in both bodies. Further, to avoid wasting delegations' time, the interval between the two sessions should not be longer than two or three days.
3. Mr. LOPEZ MUJINO (Cuba), supported by Mr. DIALLO (Guinea), thought that the Working Group had proved its worth and should become a subsidiary organ of the Board open to all States Members. He, too, thought that the Working Group ought not to sit at the same time as the Board and that its whole series of meetings should not last more than four weeks. A week and a half would be entirely given up to its debates, the remaining half of the second week to consideration of its report, and the two last weeks to the Board's work. The Working Group's task should be simplified as much as possible and it should establish rapid and direct contacts with the secretariat; summary records of its discussions should continue to be waived. The Board ought not to reopen discussion on issues already considered by the Working Group unless fundamental points were raised.
4. Mr. AMAN (Pakistan) considered that the Working Group should sit at the same time as the Board and report to it after seven to ten days. That interval would suffice if the secretariat prepared documents for the Working Group more carefully and in the form of summaries. Furthermore, the Group's workload would be lightened if the Board considered co-ordination matters itself. If, lastly, the Working Group included in its report conclusions and recommendations on the regular and the long-term working programmes, the Board's discussions would be much easier.

5. Mr. WANCHOO (India) stated that the Working Group's session had not reduced that of the Board **by** as much as had been expected. The Working Group's duties should therefore be simplified by removing questions of general policy and co-ordination from its agenda and giving them to the Board. He agreed that the Working Group and the board should sit simultaneously, to curtail the duration of their meetings.
6. Mr. SIERRA (Spain) acknowledged the usefulness of the Working Group and the need to continue it; but, like the representative of Cuba, he thought that its procedure should be simplified. He suggested that the length of the Working Group's and the Board's sessions should be limited to three weeks. The Working Group would meet alone during the first week and simultaneously with the Board during the first three days of the second week; for the rest of the time the Board only would meet. He was nevertheless prepared to support any other plan by which the Working Group and the Board should not sit at the same time and their respective sessions should be separated by not more than one or two days.
7. Mr. ABDUL-WAKIL (United Republic of Tanzania) advocated a long interval between the session of the Working Group and that of the Board. Governments would then have sufficient time to study the Working Group's report and any recommendations it might make, and could give their representatives more exact instructions based on thorough knowledge. That procedure would no doubt cost more, but the Board would be able to reach more decisive conclusions.
8. Mr. SRICHAMARA (Thailand) suggested that the composition of the Working Group should be that of the Board. He had no fixed opinion on the length of the session, but was firmly opposed to any partial or total overlap of the meetings of the Group and the Board, because of the small size of delegations from the small countries. The interval between the two sessions should be as short as possible.
9. Mr. TREMBLAY (Canada), supported by Mr. CASILLI (Italy), judged that the operation of the Working Group needed certain improvements. His delegation therefore proposed first and foremost that the Working Group should start work at once, dispensing with all customary formalities such as addresses to the secretariat or Officers; that in considering co-ordination it should concentrate specifically on the activities listed in the programme; and that the problems of co-ordination with the United Nations system should be left to the Board. The wording of item 6 of the Board's provisional agenda relating to the matter, should be made clearer.

10. The Canadian delegation considered, however, that the Working Group's session should precede the Board's by one week; because if the sessions were held simultaneously, many delegations would not be able to send representatives to both bodies; the work programme would not be sufficiently thoroughly studied; and the Working Group's report would not be submitted until the end of the session, which might then have to be extended. His delegation moreover suggested that as far as possible the Officers of the Working Group should be those of the Board. Likewise, the same representatives should if possible take part in the discussions of the two bodies.

11. Mr. BAMGBOSE (Nigeria) considered, like other representatives, that the Working Group should be a permanent organ of the Board and submit to it conclusions and draft recommendations. The Board and the Working Group could each sit for a week and a half, and overlap if necessary.

12. Mr. ARCHIBALD (Trinidad and Tobago) was in favour of continuing the Working Group with its present membership, but thought its discussions should be less formal and rather in the nature of simple exchanges of views. The Working Group had very properly not put forward any recommendations, since the Board decided UNIDO policy. His delegation saw no objection to simultaneous meeting of the Working Group and the Board; otherwise the interval between their sessions should not be longer than a day or two. The whole duration of the sessions should not exceed four weeks. It was regrettable that the Board should have to consider at the end of its work a number of draft resolutions that ought ordinarily to have reached the secretariat eight days before the closure of the session.

13. Mr. ANGER (Sweden) thought that the Working Group could meet separately for one week and then for another week concurrently with the Board, which would continue its work for a third week. The procedure should be made more flexible to save discussions on matters of detail, and delegations should approach the secretariat directly on technical points about which they were concerned.

14. Mr. ZONCO (Upper Volta) thought that to fulfil its proper role the Working Group should include representatives of all the States Members of the Board who were technological specialists in the problems of industrial development.

15. The Working Group ought to formulate draft recommendations which would enable the Board to reach decisions quickly; perhaps it would be useful to set up sub-groups to consider each of the points mentioned in resolution 3 (II).

16. Mr. BRILLANTES (Philippines) thought that all States Members of the Board ought to be represented in the Working Group, at least for both small and large States, with separate officers. The Group's terms of reference should restrict it to reviewing the conclusions on certain problems for the benefit of the Board, to formulate recommendations and to submit draft resolutions; that would considerably lighten the Board's task. The secretariat should follow the example of the ILO and draw up a less abundant but more systematic set of documents. He approved the suggestion made by the representative of Cuba for the timing and duration of the sessions of the Board and the Working Group.

17. Mr. VAVASSEUR (France) would rather that the Board and the Working Group did not sit concurrently, since some States Members would have difficulty in being represented at the meetings of both. It was also desirable, as the representative of Upper Volta had clearly shown, that the members of the Working Group should be specialists in industrial development who could draw up for the Board a precise report on the technical elements of the programme.

18. His delegation noted with interest the suggestions made by the representative of Canada and was ready to approve them, but doubted whether a rule could yet be made by which the Working Group and the Board should have the same officers.

19. Mr. SIMPSON (United States of America) did not think the Board and the Working Group ought to meet at the same time. The Board would doubtless remember that during the second session simultaneous meetings of Committee I and Committee II had raised a number of practical difficulties. With regard to the Working Group's terms of reference, his delegation thought that the Group ought to study the problems of co-ordination in so far as they affected the projects in the UNIDO programme.

20. Mr. LORENZI (Uruguay) felt that the Working Group had proved a successful experiment. He would not be opposed to some changes in the light of experience gained, but on condition, firstly, that the Working Group remained open to participation by all countries represented on the Board, and, secondly, that its work was kept separate from that of the Board. The Working Group should meet ahead of the Board so that it would have enough time to write its report and formulate its recommendations.

21. Mr. PROBST (Switzerland) said that, while preferring the sessions to be successive he would agree that the two bodies might meet simultaneously for a short period. He shared the view expressed by the representative of France on the proposals made by the Canadian delegation, and declared that resolution 3 (II) was thus so flexibly worded that the Board need not adopt another, and that it made provision for a review of "the composition of the Working Group in the light of experience gained."

22. Mr. BITTENCOURT (Brazil) recalled that his delegation had requested that the topic of decentralization be placed on the agenda for the third session. The request had then been supported by other members of the Board, and the representative of Peru had agreed that, if the Board had not time to examine the problem, it should refer to it in its report and give it thorough consideration at its fourth session.

23. Mr. KURTH (Federal Republic of Germany) held that the Working Group should meet before the Board and that the total duration of the sessions should not exceed four weeks. It seemed pointless to change the terms of reference of the Working Group, but they should be interpreted more strictly. The Group should only examine matters of co-ordination in so far as they related directly to the work programme or to the projects themselves; all aspects of co-ordination between organizations should be studied by the Board. He supported the suggestions put forward by the representative of Canada, to facilitate the Working Group's task.


24. The PRESIDENT observed that from the deliberations of the Working Group certain areas of agreement had emerged, namely:

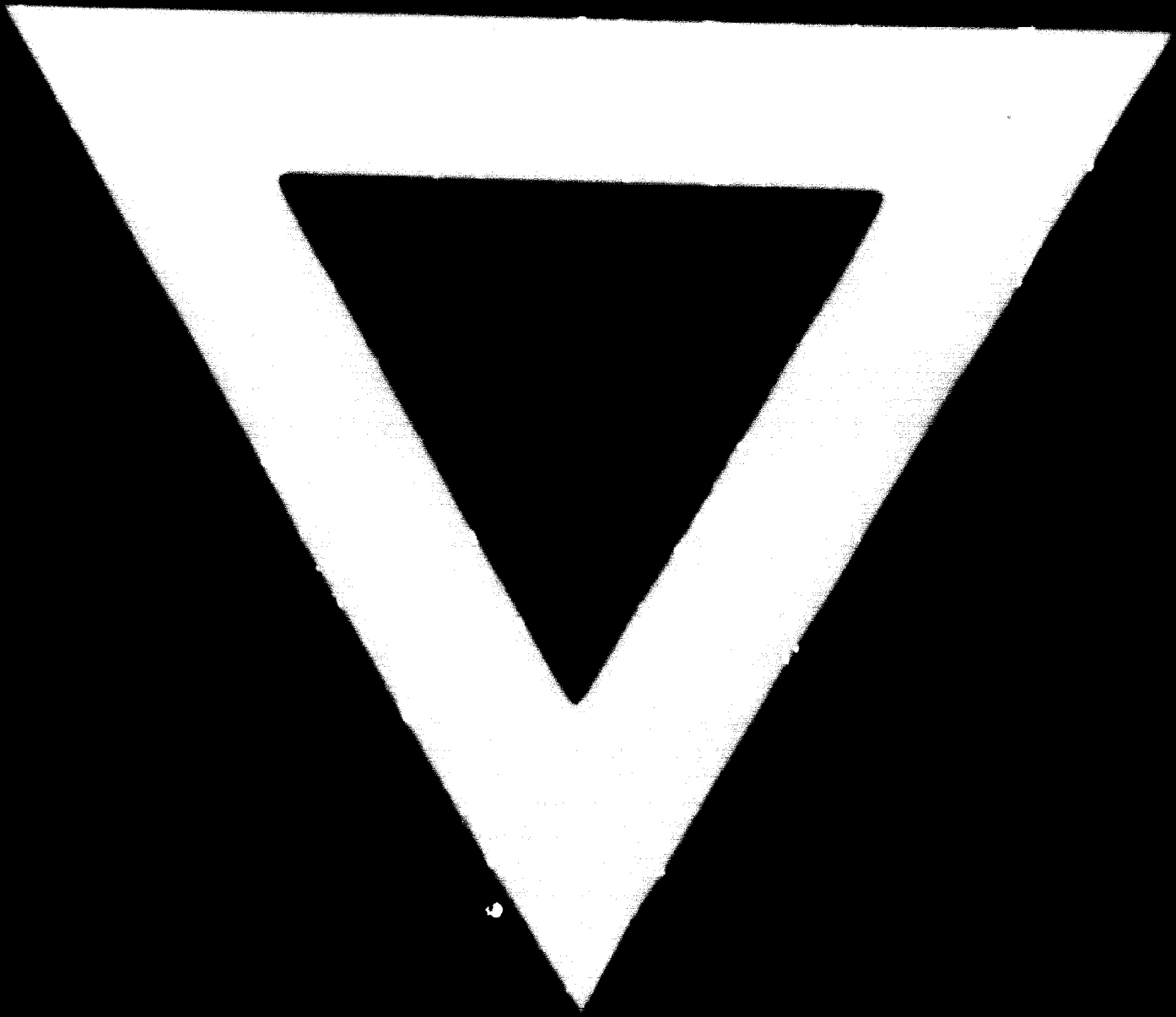
1. The Working Group should be kept as a subsidiary organ of the Board;
2. It should strive after maximum procedural simplicity and dispense with summary records;
3. It should devote itself to a thoroughgoing examination of programmes and of project co-ordination, but inter-organization co-ordination in general should remain in the Board's hands;
4. Participation in the Group should be open to all States - Members of the Board;
5. It should formulate conclusions and recommendations for subsequent consideration by the Board;

6. Its officers should if possible be those of the Board, with the same geographical distribution;
 7. The Board should begin its session two or three days after the end of the Group's session;
 8. The total duration of the sessions of the Working Group and the Board should not exceed four weeks.
25. He proposed that the organization of the work of the Working Group on Programme and Co-ordination and of the Board's fourth session should be determined accordingly. That decision would not be the subject of a draft resolution but would be written into the report on the Board's third session.
26. It was so decided.
27. In reply to comments made by Mr. WIAFE-ANNOR (Ghana), Mr. SIERRA (Spain) and Mr. BRILLANTES (Philippines), the PRESIDENT first of all stated that appointment of the same officers for both the Working Group and the Board would not necessarily raise any major difficulties. Even if the Working Group were to be composed of specialists in accordance with the wishes of the delegations of Upper Volta and France, countries could nominate candidates capable both of considering programmes from a technical point of view and of adopting decisions of a more political nature in the Board.
28. Furthermore, the conclusions and recommendations to be drafted by the Working Group would be based on its own report and might be amended by the Board if it saw fit. Of course, if the Working Group could agree on a draft resolution incorporating its conclusions and recommendations, it would be perfectly entitled to do so.
29. Mr. ROBERTS (Canada) proposed that the text of the agenda item on co-ordination should state more clearly that the Board should consider only relations between organizations and that the co-ordination of programmes and projects would be studied by the Working Group.
30. The PRESIDENT judged that, since that distinction was clearly implied in the decision just adopted by the Board on the organization of the activities of the Working Group and the Board for the fourth session, it would be better not to change the text of that agenda item.
31. It was so decided.

32. The PRESIDENT observed that the representative of Brazil had proposed that a heading "decentralization" should be added to the agenda item Organizational Matters.
33. The proposal of the Brazilian delegation was adopted.
34. Mr. SHATSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) thought that it would be expedient to prepare in advance all the documentary material relating to the agenda item Organizational Matters. It was also essential that problems relating to the organization of the secretariat, geographical distribution and so forth be re-examined at the Board's fourth session.
35. It was so decided.
36. The PRESIDENT observed that some of the draft resolutions which the Board had yet to examine might amend the provisional agenda for the fourth session; he accordingly proposed that all decision on the item should be deferred until the end of the Board's work.
37. The PRESIDENT also proposed that the report should take account of the suggestion made by the representative of Trinidad and Tobago by mentioning that the Board would have to decide at its fourth session whether a time-limit for submission of draft resolutions should be set at least a week before the end of its work.
38. It was so decided.
39. Mr. BITTENCOURT (Brazil) recalled that his delegation had reserved its position on matters relating to the Working Group on Programme and Co-ordination, and hoped that statement would be noted in the Board's report.

The meeting rose at 1.10 p.m.





1 . 8 . 74