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President: Mr. Ali (Vice-President) (Malaysia)
later: Ms. Lucas (President) (Luxembourg)

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In the absence of Ms. Lucas (Luxembourg), Mr. Ali (Malaysia), Vice-President, took the Chair.

Implementation of and follow-up to major conferences and summits *(continued)*

(a) Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development *(continued)* (A/64/76-E/2009/60, A/64/87-E/2009/89, E/2009/L.36, E/2009/L.41)

Draft resolution E/2009/L.36: A strengthened and more effective intergovernmental inclusive process to carry out the financing for development follow-up

Ms. Lucas (Luxembourg) introduced the draft resolution, which she was submitting as President of the Council on the basis of consultations with a broad range of civil society and other stakeholders. The text reaffirmed the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development and contained an array of important substantive recommendations. The draft resolution, whose implementation was vital to financing for development follow-up, had no programme budget implications.

The draft resolution was adopted.

Mr. Sammis (United States of America) stressed the extreme importance of the draft resolution for the Council and the Organization as a whole. Financing for development was the United Nations premier intergovernmental process, which the United States of America had supported since Monterrey. His delegation looked forward to further strengthening follow-up in cooperation with all stakeholders.

The President said he took it that the Council wished to give the floor to the non-governmental organization that had been unable to speak under the agenda item.

It was so decided.

Ms. Adaba (International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)) warmly welcomed the adoption of the draft resolution on behalf of a broad network of trade unions in 157 countries. ITUC had always supported a strengthened and more effective intergovernmental inclusive process to ensure the political will and leadership necessary to carry out follow-up to Monterrey and to turn financing for development into a reality. It particularly welcomed the text's emphasis on the need for: a continuum of events; civil society participation and a multi-stakeholder

process; and prominence to be accorded to the item in the Council's annual substantive session. It was to be hoped that the process would not only "identify obstacles, challenges and emerging issues, and propose concrete recommendations and actions" (para. 4), but also address those challenges and take action. Seminars, panel discussions and briefings would help establish coherence and effective coordination in furtherance of development priorities. Key elements that needed addressing included: the mobilization of financial resources for development; and international cooperation in tax matters, including the upgrading of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters to an intergovernmental mechanism that could handle tax evasion, secrecy jurisdictions and the resources lost to development. Other pressing issues included the identification of innovative sources of financing. ITUC paid tribute to the Council for remaining engaged with civil society and for seeking to create linkages with the International Labour Organization (ILO) Global Jobs Pact, inter alia.

Draft resolution E/2009/L.41: Ad hoc panel on the world financial and economic crisis and its implications for development

The President said that, before inviting the Council to take action on draft resolution E/2009/L.41, he would read out the following draft decision, which had been prepared on the basis of informal consultations and which contained no programme budget implications:

"The Economic and Social Council,

Mindful of paragraph 56 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 63/303,

1. *Requests* the Secretariat to provide detailed reports, by 15 September 2009, on the following subjects:

(a) The promotion and enhancement of a coordinated response of the United Nations development system and the specialized agencies in the follow-up to and implementation of the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development, in order to advance consistency and coherence in support of consensus-building around policies related to the world financial and economic crisis and its impact on development;

(b) The implementation of the agreements between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods Institutions in collaboration with these Institutions, focusing in particular on enhancing collaboration and cooperation between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods Institutions, as well as on the opportunities for contributing to advancing their respective mandates;

(c) The possible establishment of an ad hoc panel of experts on the world economic and financial crisis and its impact on development, including past terms of reference and any relevant factors or experience of previous ad hoc panels of experts; the panel could provide independent technical expertise and analysis, which could contribute to informing international action and political decision-making and to fostering constructive dialogue and exchanges among policymakers, academics, institutions and civil society.

2. *Requests* the President of the Economic and Social Council to conduct, as soon as possible thereafter, open-ended informal consultations, involving relevant institutions, as appropriate;

3. *Decides* to review progress made in the consideration of these issues at its resumed substantive session of 2009, which is to be convened at a date to be decided by the President of the Council, in consultation with Member States, taking into consideration major conferences and events scheduled for the year.”

The draft decision read out by the President was adopted.

The President took it that, in light of the adoption of the oral draft decision, draft decision E/2009/L.41 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

It was so decided.

The President invited the Council to take note of the report of the Secretary-General on the role of the Economic and Social Council in the integrated and coordinated implementation of the outcomes of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits, in the light of relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolution 61/6 (contained in document A/64/87-E/2009/89) and the Summary by the President of the Economic and Social Council of the

special high-level meeting of the Council with the Bretton Woods Institutions, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (A/64/76-E/2009/60).

(b) Review and coordination of the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010
(continued) (E/2009/L.39)

Draft resolution E/2009/L.39: Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010

Mr. Matwang'a (Observer for Kenya) said he wished to make a number of revisions to the text of the draft resolution. In the first line of the fifth preambular paragraph the words “as noted in” should be deleted; in the third to sixth lines the words “that the economic and social progress achieved by least developed countries in recent years is being threatened by the global economic crisis and that the international support provided to them needs to be increased” should likewise be deleted. In the sixth preambular paragraph, the words “in which the need for support to be provided to the least developed countries with respect to their integration in the global trade system and financing for development was reiterated” should be deleted. In the eighth preambular paragraph, the words “whose mandate would be, inter alia, to undertake a comprehensive appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Decade 2001-2010 and adopt a renewed partnership between the least developed countries and their development partners” should be deleted. In the ninth preambular paragraph the word “Welcoming” should be deleted and replaced with “Recalling further”. A new, tenth preambular paragraph should be inserted: “Emphasizing that the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries should strengthen concerted global actions in support of the Least Developed Countries,”.

A new operative paragraph 2 should be inserted: “Also takes note of economic and social progress of many least developed countries in recent years, which has led to the fact that a number of countries are proceeding towards graduation from the list of least developed countries and that some of them are on track to achieving the growth and investment targets of the Programme of Action by 2010;”. The former operative paragraph 2 should be renumbered as operative

paragraph 3 and the word “however” inserted following “Remains concerned”. The former operative paragraphs three, four and five should be deleted. A new operative paragraph 4 should be inserted: “Expresses its deep concern that the number of people living in extreme poverty remains significantly high in the least developed countries, while an increasing number of people are at risk of malnutrition, in particular children and women, and recognizes that there are important linkages between development, poverty eradication and gender equality;”. A new operative paragraph 5 should be inserted: “Expresses concern about the severe impact of the global economic and financial crisis on developing countries and recognizes that the social and economic progress achieved during recent years, particularly on the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, is now threatened in developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, and resolving to strive to combine short-term responses to meet the immediate impact of the financial and economic crisis, particularly on the most vulnerable countries, with medium- and long-term responses;”.

In operative paragraph 6, “Urges” should be replaced with “Encourages”; in the third to fourth lines the words “increase their assistance to” should be replaced with “assist”; and, in the eighth to tenth lines, the words “especially in the preparations for the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries” should be deleted. In operative paragraph 7, the words “and in this regard, urges the least developed countries to further strengthen country ownership in the implementation of the Programme of Action” should be deleted from the end of the paragraph.

Current operative paragraphs 8 to 13 should be deleted. A new operative paragraph 8 should be added: “Underlines the fact that, for the further implementation of the Programme of Action, the least developed countries and their development partners must be guided by an integral approach, a broader genuine partnership, country ownership, market considerations and results-oriented actions encompassing:

- (a) Fostering a people-centred policy framework;
- (b) Ensuring good governance at both the national and international levels as essential for the

implementation of the commitments embodied in the Programme of Action;

- (c) Building human and institutional capacities;
- (d) Building productive capacities to make globalization work for the least developed countries;
- (e) Enhancing the role of trade in development;
- (f) Reducing vulnerability and protecting the environment;
- (g) Mobilizing financial resources;”

A new operative paragraph 9 should be inserted: “Urges the least developed countries to strengthen country ownership in the implementation of the Programme of Action by, inter alia, translating its goals and targets into specific measures within their national development frameworks and poverty eradication strategies, including, where they exist, poverty reduction strategy papers, promoting broad-based and inclusive dialogue on development with relevant stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, and enhancing domestic resource mobilization and aid management;”. A new operative paragraph 10 should be added: “Urges development partners to fully implement, in a timely manner, commitments in the Programme of Action and to exercise individual best efforts to continue to increase their financial and technical support for its implementation;”.

The current operative paragraph 14 should be renumbered operative paragraph 11 and, at the end of the paragraph, the words “and urges them to defer the graduation time frame already set out for the graduating countries in a manner consistent with their achieving the Millennium Development Goals by the 2015 target” should be deleted. The current operative paragraph 15 should be renumbered paragraph 12 and the words “offer of the Government of Turkey” should be replaced with “offers of the Governments of Austria and Turkey”. The current operative paragraph 16 should be renumbered paragraph 13 and, in the sixth to eighth lines, the words “and for coordinating the organization of pre-Conference events, including the mobilization and coordination of the active involvement of United Nations system organizations” should be replaced with “in accordance with mandates given in General Assembly resolution 56/227 of 24 December 2001, to ensure that those preparations are carried out effectively and to mobilize and

coordinate the active involvement of the organizations of the United Nations system;”.

The current operative paragraph 17 should be deleted. Current operative paragraph 18 should be renumbered paragraph 14 and the word “also” inserted following “Reiterates”. Former operative paragraph 19 should be renumbered 15 and, in the first line, “step up” should be replaced with “continue to take”. Current operative paragraph 20 should be deleted and replaced with a new paragraph 16: “Requests also the Secretary-General to ensure active involvement of the organizations of the United Nations system in the preparatory process for the Conference in a coordinated and coherent manner, inter alia, by making use of the existing coordination mechanisms of the United Nations;”. Current operative paragraph 21 should be renumbered 17 and, in the second line, “invites the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization” should be inserted following “United Nations system and”.

Current operative paragraph 22 should be deleted. Former operative paragraph 23 should be renumbered 18 and, in the fourth line, “Economic and Social” should be deleted. Former operative paragraph 24 should be renumbered 19, and, in the third line, “Economic and Social” should be deleted. Current operative paragraph 25 should be renumbered 20 and, in the first line, “also” should be inserted following “Reiterates”. Former operative paragraph 26 should be renumbered 21 and, in the first line, “Also” should be deleted; in the third to fifth lines “for consideration at the general segment of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council in 2010” should be replaced with “and to make available adequate resources, within existing resources, for the preparation of such a report.”.

He said that the draft resolution was an important one for the continued development of the least developed countries and took into account the effects of the current global economic crisis. He welcomed the spirit of compromise that had facilitated the drafting of the current text and hoped the Council would adopt the draft resolution by consensus.

Mr. Yüksel (Observer for Turkey) said that his delegation attached great importance to meeting the needs of the Least Developed Countries. He wished to avail himself of the opportunity to reiterate his

Government’s offer to host the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, in 2011.

The President said that he had been informed that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications. He took it that the Council wished to adopt the draft resolution, as orally revised, by consensus.

It was so decided.

Coordination, programme and other questions (*continued*)

(f) Ad hoc advisory groups on African countries emerging from conflict (*continued*) (A/64/82-E/2009/82 and Add.1, E/2009/L.33/Rev.1)

Draft resolution E/2009/L.33/Rev.1: African countries emerging from conflict

Mr. Hamza (Sudan), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China and, in addition, Luxembourg, called on the Council to adopt the draft resolution by consensus.

The President said that he had been informed that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications. He took it that the Council wished to adopt the draft resolution.

It was so decided.

The President proposed that the Council take note of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the Junior Professional Officer/Associate Expert/Associate Professional Officer Programmes in United Nations system organizations, contained in document A/64/82-E/2009/82 and Add.1.

It was so decided.

Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

(continued) (E/2009/L.26)

Draft resolution E/2009/L.26: Support to Non-Self-Governing Territories by the specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations

The President said that he had been informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

Mr. Sammis (United States of America), speaking in explanation of vote before the voting, recalled that in the past his delegation, like a number of others, had called for a vote on similar resolutions and had abstained during the voting. It would do so again with regard to the current text. His delegation agreed in principle that the United Nations system could provide support to territories that were not members of the Organization, so long as the domestic laws and policies of a territory's administering Power allowed such support.

It was the responsibility of the administering Power to decide the nature of the participation, if any, of its territories in the United Nations. Under the Constitution of the United States, the federal government had sole responsibility for the conduct of foreign relations, including for United States territories. He expressed concern that the proposed text contained language that could infringe on the constitutional arrangements of the United States. His delegation could not therefore support the draft resolution.

He noted however that recently his delegation had had constructive informal discussions with some member States that shared a regional economic space with Non-Self-Governing Territories. His delegation shared their interest in promoting regional economic integration. It should be possible to find a practical way forward that would allow them to achieve their goals without raising constitutional concerns for the United States. He looked forward to further discussions in that regard.

Mr. Ström (Sweden), speaking on behalf of the European Union in explanation of vote before the voting, said that his delegation likewise requested a

vote on the draft resolution. The United Nations had provided much assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories and that the Council had adopted numerous relations concerning that assistance. Regrettably, the current text contained political content that diverted attention from its objective. The countries of the European Union would abstain from supporting the draft resolution because the text dealt with issues that did not fall within the competence of the Council.

There had been constructive discussions about the purpose and nature of the draft resolution. While time had not allowed for satisfactory revision of the text, he was optimistic that the spirit from those discussions would inform consultations in the future. That augured well for the Council's substantive session of 2011.

Mr. Fautua (New Zealand), speaking in explanation of vote before the vote, said that his delegation, as administering Power for Tokelau, had first-hand experience of the support the United Nations could offer to Non-Self-Governing Territories. The year 2009 had been a challenging one for the leaders and people of Tokelau as they continued to promote the development of the three atolls that made up the Territory. Tokelau was a small and highly vulnerable Territory that benefited greatly from assistance provided by the Organization. His delegation would vote in favour of the draft resolution.

Mr. Pankin (Russian Federation), speaking in explanation of vote before the vote, said that his delegation would abstain from the voting because the question of support by the Organization for the Non-Self-Governing Territories did not fall within the Council's mandate for the coordination of the Organization's work in the economic and social fields.

Mr. St. Aimee (St. Lucia) said that Ecuador had joined the sponsors of the draft resolution. He hoped consensus would be possible the following year. Some delegations were concerned that the draft resolution raised questions relating to sovereignty; he stressed that his delegation did not believe that self-determination necessarily implied independence. The purpose of the draft resolution was to facilitate cooperation between the Organization and the administering Powers so as to enable the Non-Self-Governing Territories to benefit from the assistance the United Nations could offer.

At the request of the United States of America, a vote was taken by roll-call.

Netherlands, having been drawn by lot by the President, was called upon to vote first.

In favour:

Algeria, Barbados, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, China, El Salvador, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

Against:

None;

Abstaining:

Canada, Cote d'Ivoire, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malawi, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

The draft resolution was adopted by 25 votes to none, with 22 abstentions.

The President proposed that the Council take note of the report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people, contained in document A/64/78-E/2009/66.

It was so decided.

Regional cooperation (*continued*) (E/2009/15 and Add.1; E/2009/16; E/2009/17; E/2009/18; E/2009/19; E/2009/20)

The President proposed that the Council take note of the reports submitted under that agenda item:

- Report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation in the economic, social and related fields (E/2009/15 and Add.1)
- Report on the economic situation in 2008-2009 in the Economic Commission for Europe region: Europe, North America and the Commonwealth of Independent States (E/2009/16)
- Report on the overview of the economic and social conditions in Africa, 2009 (E/2009/17)
- Summary of the economic and social survey of Asia and the Pacific, 2009 (E/2009/18)

- Latin America and the Caribbean: economic situation and outlook, 2008-2009 (E/2009/19)
- Summary of the survey of economic and social developments in the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia region, 2008-2009 (E/2009/20)

It was so decided.

Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan (*continued*) (E/2009/13, E/2009/L.42)

Draft resolution E/2009/L.42: Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan

Mr. Hamza (Sudan), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, introduced draft resolution E/2009/L.42.

The President asked if any delegation wished to comment on the draft resolution, which had no programme budget implications.

Mr. Sammis (United States of America) expressed his concern at the ongoing humanitarian crisis in the Palestinian territory and at the loss of lives, both Palestinian and Israeli. The draft resolution now before the Council contained some extreme language which his delegation was unable to accept. He would therefore vote against it, and urged other members to do likewise. President Obama had restarted the peace process in the Middle East, with the goal of achieving a two-State solution through which Israel and Palestine could live peacefully side by side. Resolutions such as the present one contributed nothing to the collective effort to take the peace process forward.

Mr. Herrström (Sweden), speaking on behalf of the European Union, said the intention of those negotiating the text of the draft resolution had been to achieve consensus. That goal had been shared by the delegation of Palestine, and he expressed appreciation of the highly constructive atmosphere of the negotiations. Unfortunately, the reinsertion at the last minute of a number of paragraphs unacceptable to the

European Union had made it impossible for its members to support the text before the Council.

Mr. Morrill (Canada) said that his country strongly supported the Palestinian people, and had expended 300 million dollars over the past five years to assist development in the territory. It would continue to work with other donors to improve the living conditions of the Palestinians. However, the present draft resolution was one-sided and ignored the efforts of the Palestinian authorities to secure the well-being of the people.

Mr. Fautua (New Zealand) expressed concern at the increasing humanitarian problems among the Palestinian population, and especially among children. His country was supporting the work of United Nations agencies in meeting their needs. The text of the draft resolution went beyond the question of the living conditions of the Palestinian people. For that reason, his delegation intended to abstain in the vote.

A vote was taken by roll-call on draft resolution E/2009/L.42.

Poland, having been drawn by lot by the President, was called upon to vote first.

In favour:

Algeria, Barbados, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, China, El Salvador, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Malaysia, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);

Against:

Canada, Germany, Netherlands, Poland, United States of America;

Abstaining:

Côte d'Ivoire, Estonia, France, Greece, Japan, Kazakhstan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malawi, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Draft resolution E/2009/L.42 was adopted by 25 votes to 5, with 17 abstentions.

The President asked whether any delegation wished to make a general statement.

Mr. Fautua (New Zealand) said there was a double standard at work in the wording of the resolution, whose subject matter should have been confined to economic and social matters. In a previous resolution before the Council, on the Non-Self-Governing Territories, it had been pointed out that resolutions should not be political in nature.

Mr. Iwasaki (Japan) said that the situation in the Middle East was fraught with difficulty. The entire international community had long sought stability in the region. He expressed great respect for all those endeavouring to achieve peace. Japan was also committed to confidence-building in the region, through dialogue and assistance to help improve livelihoods in the Palestinian territories. However, the draft resolution was political and unbalanced in nature, and was not suitable for debate in the Council. It was also regrettable that such a complicated resolution should have been put to the vote without sufficient consultation with the full membership of the Council. His delegation had therefore abstained in the voting.

Ms. Atout (Observer for Palestine) said she hoped that in future any similar resolution could be adopted by consensus. There had been a good spirit of cooperation during the negotiations on the resolution, and it was only on certain points that agreement had proved to be unattainable. In spite of the efforts of United Nations agencies to alleviate conditions for the Palestinian people, their aspiration to meaningful statehood, in the sense intended by the Charter of the United Nations, was close to being denied. She hoped that Israel, as the occupying Power, would comply with its obligations under international law and international humanitarian law, as well as the decisions of the United Nations, so that the aspiration of the Palestinian people for "better standards of life in larger freedom" could be achieved.

Mr. Khabbaz-Hamoui (Observer for Syrian Arab Republic) expressed his disappointment that the resolution did not mention the loss of life and damage to infrastructure caused by the occupation. Israel had used banned weapons of war, including white phosphorus. The resolution was moreover silent on the request to lift the blockade which affected a million people living in Gaza and the West Bank, where the occupation forces were preventing the ordinary movements of people. Nor did it mention the piracy practised by Israel in seizing on the high seas vessels bringing humanitarian aid and medicine intended for

the people of Gaza. It did not mention, either, the obstacles placed by the occupation forces to Syrian farmers in the Golan, who were unable to export their harvests. Israel was seeking to starve them out of the Golan in order to make way for its settlers. His delegation had however sponsored the resolution for the sake of solidarity with the Group of 77 and China.

Mr. Adam (Observer for Israel) expressed his appreciation of the efforts made by the delegation of Sweden to achieve a consensus on the resolution, and of the goodwill shown by the delegation of Palestine. The resolution was entirely political, not economic, in nature. It was to be hoped that peace in the region could soon be achieved, and that people on the ground would decide on the future of the two-State solution.

The President said he took it that the Council wished to take note of the note by the Secretary-General on economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan (A/64/77-E/2009/13).

It was so decided.

Economic and environmental questions (*continued*)

(a) Sustainable development (*continued*) (E/2009/72, E/2009/L.43)

Draft resolution E/2009/L.43: Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its eleventh session

The President said that the Philippines had become a sponsor. The draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

The draft resolution was adopted.

The President said he took it that the Council wished to take note of the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Public-Private Alliance for Rural Development (E/2009/72).

It was so decided.

(h) International cooperation in tax matters (*continued*) (E/2009/L.34)

Draft resolution E/2009/L.34: Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters

The President said that, before inviting the Council to take action on draft resolution E/2009/L.34,

he would read out the following draft decision, which had been prepared on the basis of informal consultations and contained no programme budget implications:

“The Economic and Social Council:

*Takes note of the report of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters on its fourth session;*¹

Decides that the fifth session of the Committee shall be convened in Geneva from 19 to 23 October 2009;

*Approves the provisional agenda for the fifth session of the Committee as contained in its report on its fourth session.”*²

The draft decision read out by the President was adopted.

The President said he took it that, in light of the adoption of the draft decision, draft resolution E/2009/L.34 had been withdrawn by its sponsors, the Group of 77 and China.

It was so decided.

Mr. Hamza (Sudan), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that the Group had expected that the negotiations on the withdrawn draft resolution would be straightforward. It had been both surprised and disappointed that partners had entered into substantive discussions that had stalled the achievement of consensus. The text had been based on previously agreed language that contained technical updates as well as language from the outcomes of the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, in March 2002, and the United Nations Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and its Impact on Development, held in New York, in June 2009. In the interests of flexibility, and in order to facilitate completion of the Council’s programme of work, the Group had agreed to withdraw the text and support the oral decision just adopted. It was, however, the Group’s intention to propose a draft resolution on strengthening the institutional arrangements to promote

¹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2007, Supplement No. 25 (E/2007/45).*

² *See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2007, Supplement No. 25 (E/2007/45), chap. IV, para. 78.*

international cooperation in tax matters, including the United Nations Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters, which it would be introducing at the Council's resumed session in 2009.

(e) Environment (A/64/83-E/2009/83 and Add.1)

The President said he took it that the Council wished to take note of the note by the Secretary-General on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the Management review of environmental governance within the United Nations system (A/64/83-E/2009/83) and his note transmitting his comments and those of the United Nations system Chief Executives Board for Coordination on that same report (A/64/83/Add.1).

It was so decided.

United Nations research and training institutes (E/2009/84)

The President said he took it that the Council wished to take note of the report of the Council of the United Nations University on the work of the University (E/2009/84).

It was so decided.

Coordination segment (*continued*)

The role of the United Nations system in implementing the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2008 of the Economic and Social Council (*continued*) (A/64/64-E/2009/10, E/2009/56, E/2009/L.32, E/2009/L.44)

Draft resolution E/2009/L.32: Role of the Economic and Social Council in the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, in light of relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolution 61/16

The draft resolution was adopted.

Draft resolution E/2009/L.44: The role of the United Nations system in implementing the ministerial declaration on the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to sustainable development adopted at the high-level segment of the 2008 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council

The draft resolution was adopted.

The President said he took it that the Council wished to take note of the report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels (A/64/64-E/2009/10) as well as his report on the theme of the coordination segment: the role of the United Nations system in implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to sustainable development (E/2009/56).

It was so decided.

Mr. Sha Zukang (Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs) said that the six defining features of the 2009 substantive session had reinforced the Council's role in the development field.

First, the session had shown that the Council provided a unique platform for weaving together the various strands of the development agenda in the interest of more effective implementation. The link between development and public health had been made clear, as had that between climate change and sustainable development.

Secondly, the Council had demonstrated its capacity to mobilize a large number of actors. There had been unprecedented levels of participation, including by non-governmental organizations, in all the Council's activities. New avenues for engaging ordinary citizens in the Council's work had been opened up.

Thirdly, the Council had shown itself capable of linking global deliberations with national-level implementation. In that connection, it had highlighted four areas in which implementation needed to be accelerated: strengthening the role of the resident coordinator; developing comprehensive policies for human resources planning and deployment; rectifying the imbalance between core and non-core resources; and harmonizing United Nations system business practices.

Fourthly, the Council had shown its strengths in addressing the special concerns of countries emerging from conflict, in that it was able to encompass the broad spectrum of issues relating to the promotion of development and peacebuilding. It needed however to work more closely with the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission for the purpose of

addressing the challenges of post-conflict recovery and development.

Fifthly, the Council served as the primary forum for the international humanitarian community. As global vulnerabilities increased, there was an increasing need for a rapid and coordinated humanitarian response.

Lastly, the Council had played a key role in guiding the entire United Nations system in the field of development, and its coordination and general segments should be designed so as to maximize the Council's potential in that regard.

Ms. Lucas (Luxembourg), speaking in her capacity as President of the Economic and Social Council, said that the Council had achieved positive results in 2009, both in the preparations for the session and at the session itself. It had succeeded in placing public health at the centre of the development debate and had prepared the way for important follow-up action in that domain. The voluntary national presentations had made it clear that the Council offered a unique forum for mobilizing the international community in support of national efforts to attain the Millennium Development Goals. The fact that 15 countries had volunteered to make presentations in 2010 testified to the growing interest in that particular procedure. She hoped that a large number of countries would also volunteer to host regional ministerial meetings in preparation for the Council's meeting the following year.

One of the main messages emerging from the Council's coordination segment was that policies ensuring coherence between the economic, social and environmental fields were needed to address the multiple crises facing the international community. Within that framework, the United Nations system must intensify its efforts to promote sustainable development, in particular by expanding the scope of its activities in that domain. Attention had also been drawn to the need to strengthen the ties between the Council and the United Nations Chief Executives Board.

The Council had given new impetus to efforts aimed at implementing the recommendations of the 2007 triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development. With regard to humanitarian affairs, she welcomed the adoption by consensus of the resolution on strengthening United

Nations emergency humanitarian assistance. The joint meeting planned later in the year between the Council and the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission to discuss the impact of the food and economic crises on countries emerging from conflict opened up important possibilities for closer cooperation between the two bodies.

The Council had a central role to play in the formulation of an inclusive international response to the world financial and economic crisis. In that connection, it had endorsed the Global Jobs Pact adopted by the International Labour Organization and had encouraged Member States to promote and utilize it fully. It had also successfully fulfilled the mandate relating to the follow-up of development financing assigned to it in the final document of the United Nations Conference at the Highest Level on the World Financial and Economic Crisis. Other mandates would be debated or considered at forthcoming sessions.

The Council was already working on preparations for its next annual ministerial review, which would focus on gender equality and empowerment of women. Efforts should be made to ensure greater participation in the review process of stakeholders not previously involved in the Council's work on that topic.

Mr. Ström (Sweden), speaking on behalf of the European Union, said he wished to draw the Council's attention to the problem of late submission of draft resolutions. Because draft resolutions had not been circulated in all the official United Nations languages in a timely fashion, delegations had not been able to get instructions from their Governments or to engage in the necessary consultations, making it difficult for them to make an informed decision. Draft resolutions should ideally be introduced at the beginning of the Council's session and, failing that, no later than what was permitted in its Rules of Procedure.

Mr. Hamza (Sudan), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that the Group had been disappointed by the reluctance of its partners to make any real progress on many issues. The issue of public health, however, had been dealt with successfully. The ministerial declaration on that theme had acknowledged the impact of the global financial and economic crisis on the developing countries and had underlined the importance of aligning international assistance with national priorities. The crisis had highlighted the urgent need for comprehensive reform

of the international economic and financial system and, in that connection, he stressed that international financial institutions must have a clear development orientation.

The Annual Ministerial Review had become an effective forum for the exchange of experience and best practices and for identifying obstacles to achieving the Millennium Development Goals and finding ways to overcome them. The annual review could be further enriched by the active involvement of United Nations funds, programmes and agencies and international financial and economic institutions. Moreover, the Annual Ministerial Review and the Development Cooperation Forum should be action- and result-oriented. The annual review could be even more effective if its themes were selected on the basis of information provided by the functional and regional commissions.

He welcomed the adoption by the Council of the decision to set in motion a process to conclude the debate begun at the eighth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests on ways of implementing sustainable forest management. However, the Global Objectives on Forests and the Non-legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests would remain empty concepts in the absence of the necessary funding, and the effectiveness of the United Nations Forum on Forests would be diminished.

The Council had set in motion the process for fulfilling its responsibilities with regard to the Global Jobs Pact, implementation of the agreement with the Bretton Woods institutions, and promotion and strengthening of the United Nations development system.

The President declared the substantive session of the Council suspended.

The meeting rose at 12.52 p.m.