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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL



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Tenth Session
Mar del Plata, Argentina, 6 to 18 May 1963

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

PROVISIONAL SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FIFTH MEETING

Held at Mar del Plata, Argentina, on 14 May 1963, at 5 p.m.

CONTENTS:

Consideration of draft resolutions

Note: Delegations wishing to submit corrigenda to their statements in this summary record for inclusion in the final version are requested to make their corrections on a mimeographed copy of the record. The corrected copy should reach Miss Juanita Eyzaguirre (Conference Officer), Room 102, not later than forty-eight hours after distribution.

UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC SOCIAL COUNCY

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PRESENT:

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	Chairman:	Mr.	SANABRIA	(Faraguay)
	Rapporteur:	Mr.	TRAIBEL	Uruguay
	Members:	Mr.	SAN MIGUEL GANDARILLAS	Argentina Bolivia
			FURTADO) TAVORA)	Brazil
			SUMMERS	Canada
			FUENZALIDA) ESCOBAR CERDA)	Chile
		Mr.	SAMPER) GOMEZ)	Colombia
		Mr.	AZOFEIFA	Costa Rica
			SERRANO AVILA	Cuba Ecuador
			PEÑA	El Salvador
			BRUNEAU	France
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			CLARKE	Jamaica
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			HENRIQUEZ	Netherlands
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			BAILETTI	Paraguay Peru
			ATKINSON)	United Kingdom of
		Mr.	TAYLOR)	Great Britain and Northern Ireland
		Mr.	BINGHAM	United States of America
		Mr.	MALDINI	Uruguay
		${ m Mr}$.	LEDESMA	Venezuela
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			PRUES	Belgium
			/Mr,	BEHNKE

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Mr. BEHNKE Denmark
Mr. KEPES Hungary
Mr. TANI Japan
Mr. ROMMEL Poland
Mr. RUICA Romania
Mr. MARTENSON Sweden

Mr. GORGASSIDZE Union of Soviet

Socialist Republics

Mr. PROTIC Yugoslavia

Observers from States not Members of the United Nations:

Mr. MEWES Federal Republic

of Germany Switzerland

Mr. GRAF

Representatives of specialized agencies:

Mr. WESTOBY Food and Agri-

culture Organiza-

tion

Mr. ROMERO LOZANO United Nations

Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organi-

zation

Mr. VARGAS World Health

Organization International

Fr. BRAND International Monetary Fund

Representatives of inter-governmental organizations:

Miss DELHAYE European Economic

Community

Mr. ETIENNE General Agreement

on Tariffs and

Trade

Mr. REY ALVAREZ Inter-American

Development Bank

Mr. DELONS Inter-Governmental

Committee on

European Migration

/Mr. BANZAS

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E/CN.12/AC.53/SR.5 Page 4

Mr. BANZAS

Organization of American States

Secretariat:

Mr. A. SANTA CRUZ

Deputy Executive Secretary, ECLA

Mr. BAIBOA

Secretaries of the

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CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

Publicity concerning the Commission's work (Conference room paper No. 11)

Mr. TRAIBEL (Uruguay) sgressed the importance of utilizing all media of information to publicize and popularize the objectives of development in Latin America, to promote public discussion of them and, in particular, to gain the ear of political and trade union leaders. The problem of changing the traditional outlook had become urgent, as Mr. Prebisch so aptly explained in his manifesto on development (E/CN.12/680). Planning for development implied political decisions which could not be effective without the willing support of the peoples of the various countries, and without the voluntary acceptance of certain restrictions on individual economic freedoms. Such acceptance could not be imposed by an oligarchy or a technocracy; it had to grow out of a popular identification with the objectives of development brought about through the active cooperation of political parties, trade unions, employers' organizations and educational and cultural organs. The major instrument for the achievement of that end was information couched in simple and easily understandable terms and made to reach the people through every available channel. Only the support of an informed public opinion would enable Latin America to go forward dynamically in the planning and implementation of its economic and social development.

The task was immense in scope, and while ECLA's Information Service had done an excellent job, it could not hope to do everything.

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Through publicity concerning ECLA's work and the dissemination of information in educational centres and institutions, in trade union circles and among agricultural workers, there was hope of stimulating interest in and support for development goals, and eventually obtaining the fullest possible participation of all classes of the population at the planning stage. For all those reasons, Uruguay had co-sponsored the draft resolution and urged its adoption.

Mr. CORLETO (Hondurus) favoured fixing a specific date for the establishment of the Advisory Group suggested in operative paragraph 1.

Mr. LEDESMA (Venezuela) pointed out, that in view of the terms of operative paragraphs 2 and 3, the constitution of the Group could not be long delayed.

Mr. NAVARRETE (Mexico), supported by Mr. FURTADO (Brazil), proposed amendment of the opening phrase of operative paragraph 1 as follows: "To request the secretariat to set up at an early date."

Mr. TRAIBEL (Uruguay) suggested that the words "and television" should be inserted after "radio" in operative paragraph 2 (b).

The draft resolution, as amended, was approved.

Programming of housing (Conference room paper No. 14)

Mr. HENRI QUEZ (Netherlands) commended the sponsors of the draft resolution for their initiative: planning in housing was an essential part of balanced economic and social development, and his delegation would be glad to support the proposal, the more so since it placed the housing problem within that general context.

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In connection with the provisional report of the Latin American Seminar on Housing Statistics and Programmes (E/CN.12/647), of which the draft resolution took note with satisfaction, he pointed out that the Netherlands authorities, and studying the report, had expressed the view that the European definitions of housing units and households in need of dwelling facilities were too detailed to be immediately applicable to Latin America.

Moreover, in their opinion, if censuses were carried out, the method mentioned in paragraph 122 of the report should be applied and it would be prefurable to carry out more detailed censuses in the urban areas. The application of European yardsticks would make it difficult to carry out the statistical inquiry within a reasonably short term, and the establishment of future requirements was of the greatest urgancy.

Unfortunately, social planning techniques were limited in scope and the work of planning institutions was hampered by the lack of knowledge of criteria for establishing priorities in social development. Bearing those difficulties in mind, the Netherlands Government had made available to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the sum of 1 million dollars for the establishment of a United Nations research institute for social development which would begin operation in Geneva in 1964, for a period of five years. The advice of the Director General of the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning would undoubtedly be sought in connexion with its work.

Mr. BAILETTI

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Mr. BAILETTI (Peru) urged the Committee to support the draft resolution, which his delegation had co-sponsored. Most Latin American countries were facing a serious problem in housing owing to the exodus of the population from the rural to the urban areas and the difficulties in financing housing projects and in utilizing new techniques and building materials currently in use in the more advanced countries. They looked to ECLA and its group of consultants on the programming and financing of housing to provide the assistance which they urgently required.

Mr. CORLETO (Honduras) emphasized the importance of the financing of housing and accordingly proposed a redrafting of the opening part of operative paragraph 5 to read as follows: "To recommend to the secretariat that it promote intergevernmental exchanges of experience in relation to housing policies and programmes, building methods and systems of financing of housing..."

Mr. SERRANO AVILA (Cuba) said that while his delegation approved the content and objectives of the draft resolution, it would be compelled to vote against it in view of the reference in the final operative paragraph to co-ordination with OAS.

Mr. NAVARRETE (Mexico) suggested that the Cuban objection might be met by replacing the reference to IDB and OAS by the phrase: "the international organizations working in that field".

Mr. SERRANO AVILA (Cuba) said he was satisfied with that amendment and would vote in favour of the draft resolution.

/Mr. BINGHAM

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Mr. PINGHAM (United States of America) noted that since IBD and OAS were engaged in similar activities with respect to housing, precautions should be taken to avoid any overlapping in their work. Accordingly, he suggested the addition at the end of the last operative paragraph of the words "in order to avoid duplication of effort".

The draft resolution, as amended, was approved Agricultural development (Conference room paper No 19)

Mr. SERRANO AVILA (Cuba) said that his delegation would be unable to vote in favour of the draft resolution because of the phrases noting with satisfaction the work done in agricultural development by OAS and requesting the secretariat to co-operate with the members of CIDA, including OAS.

Mr. PEÑA (El Salvador) pointed out that the joint action carried out by ECLA, FAC, OAS, IDB and IAIS, as members of CIDA, in agricultural development and land reform was a matter of factual record and that any fault attributed to one must be shared by all the others. In the circumstances, he appealed to the representative of Cuba not to insist on the elimination of all references to OAS.

Mr. SERRANO AVII. (Cuba) said that it was not his intention to amend the draft resolution. However, if the references to OAS were retained, he would have to abstain in the vote.

The draft resolution was approved unanimously with

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Financing of development (Conference room paper Nº 21/Rev.1)

Mr. SERRANO AVILA (Cuba) regretted that once again he would have to abstain from the vote for the reasons he had previously indicated.

The draft resolution was adopted unanimously with l abstention

Economic integration and planning (Conference room paper Nº 22/Rev.1)

Mr. GANDARILLAS (Bolivia) said that he would have no difficulty in supporting the draft resolution although Bolivia was as yet not a member of ALAIC.

Mr. SERRANO AVILA (Cuba) explained that as Cuba's application for membership of ALALC had been rejected, he would have to abstain from the vote.

Mr. PETA (El Salvador) and Mr. SAN MIGUEL (Argentina) suggested minor drafting changes in the Spanish text of operative paragraph 1.

The changes were approved

Mr. LOOR (Ecuador) said he would like to see included in the the draft resolution a proposal which had been put forward by his country in conjunction with Faraguay at the session of ALALC held at Lima. He proposed the insertion of the following paragraph between paragraphs 2 and 3 of the operative part:

"To recommend the ECLA secretariat to study, in conjunction with the secretariat of ALAIC, specific regional market industrial projects which can be executed in the relatively less developed countries of the region".

/Mr. PEÑA

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Mr. PEÑA (El Salvador) favoured the Ecuadorian proposal but wondered whether the question was not being dealt with by some other Committee.

Mr. CALDERON (Mexico) said that it was being dealt with by Committee III and drew attention to Conference room paper No 34.

Mr. LOOR (Ecuador) pointed out that his proposal referred to the possible establishment of new industries primarily from the point of view of economic integration and was a logical consequence of the studies envisaged in operative paragraph 2.

The Ecuadorian proposal was adopted by 17 votes to none, with 3 abstentions

Mr. PEÑA (El Salvador) heped that in implementing the new paragraph, account would be taken of the needs of Central America.

The CHAIRMAN said that the secretariat would take note of the Salvadorian representative's request.

The draft resolution as a whole, as amended, was approved unanimously, with 1 abstention

Private enterprise and economic development (Conference room paper No 25)

After a preliminary discussion of a number of amendments, it was decided to discuss the draft resolution paragraph by paragraph.

Mr. CALDERON (Mexico) and Mr. FUENZALIDA (Chile) considered the first paragraph of the preamble superfluous. Although the /statement was

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statement was in itself true, it was only remotely relevant to the subject-matter of the draft resolution.

The sponsors of the draft resolution agreed to delete the first paragraph of the preamble.

The second paragraph of the preamble was approved.

The third paragraph of the preamble was approved subject to minor drafting changes in the Spanish text.

Mr. LOOR (Ecuador) said that the draft resolution was in line with the draft declaration he had put forward at the previous meeting (Conference room paper N° 29). His delegation therefore warmly supported the fourth paragraph of the preamble and the draft resolution in general, although he could have some concrete amendments to propose, including one requesting the ECLA secretariat, in co-operation with financial agencies interested in development, to accelerate studies of national and regional capital markets and of the legal, social and political structures which were hampering the rapid development of Latin America.

Private capital had a social function, and even though it was said to know no frontiers it should be induced to perform that function in the first instance in the country where it had been accumulated. The flight of private capital from Latin America was against the interests of all America and of the Alliance for Progress. The Commission should take a strong stand against it.

/Mr. TAVORA

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Mr. TAVORA (Brazil) thought that the fourth preambular paragraph would be stronger if it simply stated that part of Latin American savings were being invested abroad.

Mr. BINGHAM (United States of America) fult that it would be better to keep the work "funds" instead of "savings", since the paragraph referred to all privately owned funds irrespective of the way in which they were acquired. At the same time, his delegation would be unhappy about the omission of the word "substantial". The fact that the exact amount of funds going abroad was not known should not deter the Commission from noting that it was substantial.

Mr. LEDESMA (Venezuela) said that studies made in his country showed that under the previous regime enormous sums had been invested or deposited abroad. There had also been studies showing that as much as 3,000 million dollars worth of foreign capital was deposited in Swiss banks and a good deal of it had come from Latin America. He felt that the use of the word "substantial" was fully justified.

Mr. FURTADO (Brazil) said that while the word "substantial" might be applicable in the case of certain countries, it would be risky to apply it to Latin america as a whole. He suggested that the words "in some countries" should be inserted as a safeguard.

Mr. SAN MIGUEL (Argentina), Mr. LEDESMA (Vonezuela) and Mr. CALDERON (México) supported the suggestion.

/Mr. FUENZALIDA

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Mr. FUENZALIDa (Chile) observed that it was simply a contradiction to cay that something was indeterminate but substantial.

Mr. CALDERON (Lexico) felt that it would be better for the Commission not to make statements that could not be supported by concrete facts and suggested that the paragraph should simply refer to indeterminate amounts of funds being remitted abroad.

Mr. BALBOA (Secretary of the Committee) read out the following text of the fourth preambular paragraph revised in the light of the discussion:

"Mindful of the fact that an indeterminate proportion of the private funds of some Latin american countries is transmitted abroad every year,".

The revised text was approved.

Mr. CALDERON (Mexico) said that the final preambular paragraph contained elements which had no counterpart in the operative part. It might be better to limit the paragraph to a statement of the possible beneficial effects of a more stable economic policy.

Mr. FURTADO (Brazil) observed that there were many examples of countries in which long periods of economic stability had failed to encourage private enterprise to invest in projects contributing to economic development.

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At the request of Mr. BINGHAM (United States of America), Mr. CALDERON (Mexico) outlined his views with regard to the operative part.

After a brief discussion it was decided to revert to the discussion of the final preambular paragraph after dealing with the operative part of the draft resolution.

Mr. CALDERON (Mexico) proposed that the introductory paragraph of the operative part should be redrafted to read as follows:

"To request the secretariat, having regard to prevailing conditions in Latin America, to undertake studies on the basis of which procedures may be formulated to encourage private initiative and enterprise to play a more dynamic part in the development of Latin America, and, in particular:"

Mr. LOOR (Ecuador) proposed as a sub-amendment to the Mexican text, that the final words of the paragraph he altered to read: "... in the economic and social development of Latin America, and, in particular:".

Mr. SAN MIGUEL (Argentina) supported the amendment and the sub-amendment.

Mr. SERRANO AVILA (Cuba) said that since the operative part of the draft resolution was not in consonance with Cuba's economic system, he would be compelled to vote against it.

The introductory paragraph of the operative part, as amended by Mexico and sub-amended by Ecuador, was approved.

The CHAIRMAN

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The CHAIRMAN asked the Committee to consider sub-paragraphs (a) to (e) of the operative part.

Mr. FURTaDO (Brazil) suggested the following revised text for sub-paragraph (a):

"(a) To promote the spirit of enterprise of the Latin American private sector, in consonance with the social objectives of regional development and integration;". Sub-paragraph (a), as amended, was approved.

With regard to sub-paragraph (b), Mr. CALDERON (Mexico) said that while his delegation fully recognized the contribution of foreign capital to specific projects required to stimulate development, the participation of such capital in joint enterprises was normally subjet to national legislation and it was not within the competence of ECLA, as a technical commission, to recommend measures to that effect. Accordingly, he proposed that the text be amended to read:

- "(b) To identify areas suitable for the association of private domestic capital and foreign capital in joint enterprises;".
- Mr. FURTADO (Brazil) and Mr. SAN MIGUEL (Argentina) supported the amendment.
- Mr. LOOR (Ecuador) favoured retention of the original text, subject to alteration of the first word to read "encourage".
- Mr. ESCOBAR CERDA (Chile) supported the Ecuadorian amendment. In his view, the Mexican text would limit the concept contained in the original wording.

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The Mexican amendment was rejected by 10 votes to 4.

The Ecuadorian amendment was approved by 10 votes to 2.

Sub-paragraph (b), as amended, was approved.

Mr. CALDERON (Mexico) said that, in view of the result of the voting on sub-paragraph (b), his delegation would be compelled to abstain on the draft resolution as a whole.

Sub-paragraph (c) was approved.

With regard to sub-paragraph (d), Mr. LOOR (Ecuador) proposed the addition of the phrase: "and to study the establishment of a regional capital market;".

Mr. FURTADO (Brazil) supported that amendment. Sub-paragraph (d), is amended, was approved.

Mr. CALDERON (Mexico), supported by Mr. BINGHAM (United States of America), proposed the deletion of sub-paragraph (e), on the grounds that it was not within the competence of ECLA to assume a role in exchanges of views between planning agencies and the private sector.

Mr. ESCOBAR CERDA (Chile) stressed the urgency of activating contacts between planning agencies and the private sector despite all obstacles; indeed, it was the absence of such relationships that significantly hampered present planning efforts. ECLA should be asked to study in line with its continuing studies on planning, practical ways in which the various countries could establish machinery for establishing and maintaining constant contact with the private sector in order to introduce greater dynamism in their planning.

Mr. FURTADO

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Mr. FURTADO (Brazil) strongly supported the Chilean view and proposed that the private sector should be more explicitly defined as "bodies representing employers, employees and workers".

Mr. LOOR (Ecuador) proposed that the phrase "and other social sectors" be added to the Brazilian definition.

Mr. FURTADO (Brazil) agreed.

Mr. SAN MIGUEL (Argentina) supported the Brazilian amendment as further amended by Ecuador.

Mr. GANDARRILLAS (Bolivia) and Mr. LEDESMA (Venezuela) expressed preference for the original text, with the term "private sector" expanded to read "the various social sectors".

The CHAIRMAN put to the vote the Brazilian amendment, as modified by Ecuador.

The amendment was approved by 12 votes to 1, with 4 abstentions.

Sub-paragraph (e), as amended, was approved by 15 votes to 1, with 3 abstentions.

Mr. LOOR (Ecuador) recalled the statement he had made at the beginning of the discussion on the draft resolution and suggested the addition of the following sub-paragraph:

"(f) To make a careful study of the existing legal structures which prevent the private sector from participating on a larger scale in the economic and social development of some Latin American countries and hamper regional integration".

Mr. FURTADO

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Mr. FURTADO (Bruzil) said that in making its studies the ECLA secretariat inevitably had to draw some conclusions regarding the institutions of Latin American countries in general. However, to direct the secretariat to examine and comment on the legislation of particular countries would be an unwarranted interference in the internal affairs of those countries

Mr. LOOR (Equilor) said that every time the Latin american countries had asked the ETAM secretariat to study conditions and institutions in Latin America they had in effect yielded part of their severeignty in the interests of their own welfare. His proposal was designed to facilitate the attainment of objectives which everyone had supported and there could be no infringement of severeignty since each country would be free to deal with the conclusions of the studies as it saw it.

Mr. CalDERON (Mexico) sished to make it clear that his country had surrendered no part of its sovereignty in connexion with ECLA studies, and he felt sure that the ECLA secretariat took the same position. Indeed, it was that consideration which had motivated his delegation's opposition to sub-paragraph (b).

Mr. ESCOBAR CERDA (Chile) suggested that the purposes of the Leundorian proposal would be better served if in the final sub-paragraph the Commission recommended that the member States themselves made the studies envisaged, and offered the assistance of the sceretariat in that task if it was desired.

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Mr. LOOR (Equator) withdrew his proposal in favour of the Chilean suggestion.

Mr. PhNa (El Salvador) said that Latin american countries were generally aware that much of their legislation affecting the economy was antiquated and were taking steps to amend it. That was a laborious task, however, in view of the accumulated enactments and traditions of each country. In his own country, for example, work had been progressing for four years on a revision of the commercial code.

The addition suggested would imply that Governments had not concerned themselves with the problem and in his view such a reproach was not justified.

Mr. FURTADO (Brazil) did not think that the Commission should ask countries to revise their laws.

Mr. ESCOBAR CERDA (Chile) said that he was at a loss to understand the reluctance to support what was only a recommendation relating to the limited field of archaic legislation. At Punt, del Este the Latin American countries had unanimously applauded sweeping recommendations with regard to agrarian reform, tax reform and structural reforms in general. It was hard to see how any of those reforms could be carried out without new legislation affecting the legal structure of the Latin American countries.

Mr. PALACIOS (Guatemala) expressed concern over the proliferation of draft resolutions recommending that ECLA should undertake tasks for which the financial implications had not even been considered and without regard to their scope and feasibility. The effect of such recommendations was to weaken ECLA's action.

/Mr. LOOR

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Mr. LOOR (Ecuador) asked whether members of the Commission were afraid to take practical steps to solve Latin America's problems. Institutional factors had a major effect on economic and social development and should therefore be studied. There was no point in trying to form a Latin American common market without proper study of the institutional problems involved.

Mr. CALDERON (Mexico) said that his opposition to the proposal under consideration was prompted by the substance of the proposal and not by fear.

Mr. ESCOBAR CERDA (Chile) felt that his suggestion had given rise to a usoful debate and need not be voted upon. He therefore withdrew it.

The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to re-examine the final paragraph of the preamble.

Mr. CALDERON (Mexico) said that since there was no operative paragraph relating to the substance of the paragraph under consideration it should be deleted.

Mr. FURTADO (Brazil) and Mr. PEÑA (El Salvador) supported the suggestion made by the Mexican representative.

The CHAIRMAN said that unless there was an objection the last paragraph of the preamble would be deleted.

It was so decided,

The draft resolution as a whole, as amended, was adopted by 16 votes to one, with 4 abstentions.

/Mr. FURTADO

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E/CN.12/AC.53/SR.5 Page 22

Mr. FURTaDO (Brazil) said that while he had voted in favour of the draft resolution, he reserved his delegation's position with respect to operative paragraph (b).

Mr. PALACIOS (Guatemala) said that he had abstained because he had not participated in the debate on the substance of the draft resolution.

The meeting rose at 11.15 p.m.