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Second Committee

Summary record of the 38th meeting

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Tuesday, 1 December 2009, at 3 p.m.

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The meeting was called to order at 3.20 p.m.

Agenda item 55: Globalization and interdependence (continued)

(c) Science and technology for development (continued) (A/C.2/64/L.17 and L.49)

Draft resolutions on science and technology for development

- 1. **The Chairperson** invited the Committee to take action on draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.49, which was being submitted by Mr. Mohamed Cherif Diallo (Guinea), Vice-Chairperson of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.17. He took it that the Committee was prepared to waive the 24-hour rule under rule 120 of the rules of the procedure of the General Assembly and take immediate action on the draft resolution, which had no programme budget implications.
- 2. Draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.49 was adopted.
- 3. Draft resolution A/C.2/64/17 was withdrawn.

Agenda item 56: Groups of countries in special situations (continued)

(a) Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (continued) (A/C.2/64/L.7 and L.48)

Draft resolutions on the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

- 4. **The Chairperson** invited the Committee to take action on draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.48, which was being submitted by Mr. Mićić (Serbia), Vice-Chairperson of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.7. He took it that the Committee was prepared to waive the 24-hour rule under rule 120 of the rules of the procedure of the General Assembly and take immediate action on the draft resolution.
- 5. **Ms. de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Committee) read out a statement prepared by the Secretariat regarding draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.48. The statement was also being circulated to the members of the Committee at the meeting.
- 6. Referring to paragraph 3 of the draft resolution, she recalled that, under the established Headquarters principle, the Fourth United Nations Conference on the

- Least Developed Countries would be held in New York. In accordance with section 1, paragraph 5, of General Assembly resolution 40/243, the additional costs of the proposed change of venue from New York would be borne by the host country, Turkey. Pursuant to paragraphs 4 and 5 of the draft resolution, the total number of meetings of the Conference and the two sessions of its preparatory committees would amount to 42. Following adoption of General Assembly resolution 63/227, the Fourth Conference and its preparatory committees had been added to the draft calendar of conferences and meetings for 2010-2011, in accordance with the requirements contained in paragraphs 4, 5 and 7 of the draft resolution. That addition to the draft calendar had been based on the understanding that the provision of conference services would entail not more than two meetings per day for a duration of five days for the Conference, and two meetings of the preparatory committee. The total number of meetings included in the draft calendar was therefore 12. The resulting difference of 30 meetings gave rise to additional requirements of \$394,800 in the proposed programme budget for 2010-2011, including requirements for support services for the eight meetings required in New York that would need to be added to the number planned in New York (20 meetings for the two sessions of the preparatory committee, instead of 10 meetings for the Conference and 2 meetings for the preparatory committee). There would, however, be no additional requirements for documentation services, provided that documents were submitted on time, with all due regard for available processing capacity. In view of the additional requirements, the Secretariat would seek to identify resources that could be redeployed from provisions under section 2 and section 28D of the proposed programme budget for 2010-2011 in order to service fully the Conference and its intergovernmental preparatory committee.
- 7. With regard to paragraphs 6 and 10 of the draft resolution, requirements for the activities entailed would be covered respectively under sections 10 and 27 of the proposed programme budget for the next biennium. The meetings called for by paragraph 12 would be serviced within the existing capacity of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.
- 8. Accordingly, adoption of the draft resolution would have no financial implications under the proposed programme budget for 2010-2011.

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- 9. She drew attention to the provisions of section VI of General Assembly resolution 45/248 B of 21 December 1990, in which the General Assembly had reaffirmed that the Fifth Committee was the appropriate Main Committee of the Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters and had reaffirmed also the role of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. She also recalled that the Advisory Committee on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001 (A/54/7) had noted that the use of the phrase "within existing resources" had a negative effect on the implementation of activities and should therefore be avoided in resolutions and decisions.
- 10. Draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.48 was adopted.
- 11. Draft resolution A/C.2/64/L.7 was withdrawn.

Agenda item 170: United Nations University (A/64/234)

Draft resolution on amendments to the Charter of the United Nations University

12. **Mr. Weidling** (Germany), speaking in his capacity as facilitator, introduced the draft resolution (A/64/234, annex II).

Agenda item 53: Sustainable development (continued)

- (d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations (continued)
- The Chairperson referred to the ongoing discussions on draft resolutions relating to issues that would be addressed at the forthcoming Conference on Climate Change in Copenhagen. He informed the Committee that, following the recent Commonwealth Summit Conference in Trinidad and Tobago, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon had emphasized the importance of a positive signal from the General Assembly for a successful outcome to the Copenhagen Conference; he had said that if an agreement could be achieved in Copenhagen on medium-term goals, particularly in respect of financing, that would justify the mounting optimism expressed at the Commonwealth Conference. It was therefore crucial for all Member States to make every effort to reach an early agreement in the ongoing negotiating process within the Committee, as a negative outcome could jeopardize the possibility of a comprehensive and equitable deal being sealed in Copenhagen.

The meeting rose at 3.55 p.m.

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