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Chair: Mr. Donckel (Vice-Chair) (Luxembourg)

Contents

Item 17: Macroeconomic policy questions (*continued*)(a) International trade and development (*continued*)Item 19: Sustainable development (*continued*)(h) Harmony with Nature (*continued*)Item 20: Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) (*continued*)Item 21: Globalization and interdependence (*continued*)(a) Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence (*continued*)(c) Development cooperation with middle-income countries (*continued*)

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In the absence of Mr. Momen (Bangladesh), Mr. Donckel (Luxembourg), Vice-Chair, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 3.15 p.m.

Item 17: Macroeconomic policy questions (continued)

(a) International trade and development (continued)
(A/C.2/66/L.39 and L.76)

Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.76: International trade and development

1. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on the draft resolution, submitted by Mr. Zdorov (Belarus), Vice-Chair of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.39. The draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

2. **Mr. Zdorov** (Belarus) made a number of minor editorial changes to the draft resolution.

3. *Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.76, as orally revised, was adopted.*

4. *Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.39 was withdrawn.*

Item 19: Sustainable development (continued)

(h) Harmony with Nature (continued)
(A/C.2/66/L.42/Rev.1)

Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.42/Rev.1: Harmony with Nature

5. **Ms. de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Committee) noted that the requirements for servicing the interactive dialogue meeting referred to in operative paragraph 2 of the draft resolution would be covered from the budgetary provision for servicing the General Assembly, on the understanding that there would be no parallel meetings of the General Assembly or its Working Groups at the same time. Accordingly, the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.42/Rev.1 would not entail any additional programme budget implications for the biennium 2012-2013.

6. **Ms. Espósito Guevara** (Plurinational State of Bolivia) made some minor editorial changes to the draft resolution and announced that Belize, Benin, Peru and the Philippines wished to join the list of sponsors.

7. *Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.42/Rev.1, as orally revised, was adopted.*

Item 20: Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)
(continued) (A/C.2/66/L.36 and L.75)

Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.75: Implementation of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

8. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on the draft resolution, submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.36.

9. **Ms. de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Committee) noted that preparations for the third United Nations conference on housing and sustainable development (Habitat III) referred to in operative paragraph 2 of the draft resolution and activities related to it would be implemented in the bienniums 2014-2015 and 2016-2017, respectively. Any additional resources the draft resolution might require in those bienniums would be included in related programme submissions for Section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management and/or Section 15, Human settlements.

10. In the absence of specific information on the format, scope, schedule and number of meetings of the conference, the Secretary-General was unable to determine the conference-servicing requirements until the modalities of the meeting and preparatory activities were known.

11. **Mr. Laguna** (Mexico) said that the draft resolution was notable in particular because it took into account the issue of sustainable urbanization, in line with the main conferences on sustainable development, including Rio+20.

12. *Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.75 was adopted.*

13. **Mr. Müftüoğlu** (Turkey) announced that his Government had informed the Secretary-General of the United Nations of its political commitment to host Habitat III in 2016 by a letter of 13 November 2011.

14. *Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.36 was withdrawn.*

Agenda item 21: Globalization and interdependence
(continued) (A/C.2/66/L.13 and L.77)

Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.77: Culture and development

15. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.77, submitted by Mr. Bitrus Yohanna (Nigeria), Vice-Chair of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.13. The draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

16. **Mr. Traoré** (Senegal) drew attention to some revisions to the draft resolution. In operative paragraph 3 (i), the word “substituted” should be replaced by “a substitute”, while in the fourth line of operative paragraph 8, the word “sustainable” should be deleted.

17. *Draft decision A/C.2/66/L.77, as orally revised, was adopted.*

18. *Draft decision A/C.2/66/L.13 was withdrawn.*

(a) Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence (continued) (A/C.2/L.23 and L.74)

Draft decision A/C.2/66/L.74: Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

19. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on draft decision A/C.2/66/L.74, submitted by Mr. Bitrus Yohanna (Nigeria), Vice-Chair of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.23. The draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

20. *Draft decision A/C.2/66/L.74 was adopted.*

21. *Draft decision A/C.2/66/L.23 was withdrawn.*

(c) Development cooperation with middle-income countries (continued) (A/C.2/66/L.18 and L.78)

Draft decision A/C.2/66/L.78: Development cooperation with middle-income countries

22. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on draft decision A/C.2/66/L.78, submitted by Mr. Bitrus Yohanna (Nigeria), Vice-Chair of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.18. The draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

23. **Mr. Porretti** (Argentina) said that agreement on the draft resolution contained in document A/C.2/66/L.18, which had been submitted by the Group of 77 and China, would have resulted in a substantive rather than a procedural resolution. For the middle-income countries to receive special attention in the sphere of development assistance, would require openness to differing points of view and a readiness to negotiate, as well as respect for previous work in that area. It would, he hoped, be possible to capture that spirit in future negotiations on the topic.

24. *Draft decision A/C.2/66/L.78 was adopted.*

25. *Draft decision A/C.2/66/L.18 was withdrawn.*

26. **Ms. Handrujovicz** (Argentina), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that the Group had negotiated constructively with a view to improving development cooperation with middle-income countries and thereby achieving a more inclusive development cooperation system that would serve all developing countries and take into account their different needs and particularities. Thus the Group profoundly regretted the procedural nature of the draft resolution just adopted.

27. Despite some progress, 75 per cent of the world's poor population lived in middle-income countries, which still faced huge challenges in achieving the internationally agreed development goals including the Millennium Development Goals, among them creating jobs for young people, diversifying economies and developing technologies. It was of utmost importance that the international community and in particular the United Nations system should continue to support those countries' efforts to achieve sustainable development and to ensure that the achievements so far were not reversed.

28. One very significant characteristic of the middle-income countries was inequality of income distribution. Partial approaches to poverty diagnosis and reduction, as well as emphasis on certain dimensions of development to the detriment of others, thus gave a distorted view of the real situation of middle-income countries. National averages based only on criteria such as per capita income did not reflect accurately the actual particularities and development needs of a significant number of countries. For that reason it was important that the assistance provided should be well aligned with each country's own priorities, policies and strategies. The Group hoped for

an open, honest and objective exchange of views in future substantive discussions on the issue.

29. **Ms. Luna** (Mexico) said that her Government regretted the absence, despite the efforts to reach consensus, of a substantive resolution on such an important topic. Support to the middle-income countries would have a catalytic effect on national development efforts, particularly on resource mobilization.

30. Consolidation of advances made in the middle-income countries had a multiplier effect at the subregional level through mechanisms such as international trade, South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, all of them supplementing traditional cooperation. Mexico hoped that the funds and programmes of the United Nations system would increase their level of cooperation with the middle-income countries, and that the criteria for classifying countries would be revised, since at present they were not in line with those countries' real heterogeneity, capacities and needs.

The meeting rose at 4 p.m.