

Mr. Chairman, I should now like to turn to the actual terms of the draft resolution itself. Since this Committee has not had the opportunity to consider Item 96, we, the co-sponsors, have attempted to consult informally with as many members of this Committee as we could about the terms of the draft resolution. These informal discussions led the original co-sponsors of the draft resolution to modify certain passages which resulted in document L.838/Rev.1. Further informal conversations have led the co-sponsors to propose a few additional modifications which, we hope and believe, will ensure the smooth adoption of this resolution now.

Specifically, we should like to make the following changes in the draft resolution: two small amendments first and then a more extensive one. In the fourth preambular paragraph, the word "particular" should be inserted before the word "responsibilities". In the final preambular paragraph, it has been suggested to us that the words "with appreciation" might be deleted. We have agreed since the Committee has not had time to examine the Secretary-General's report, it might not be appropriate to say that we had noted the Secretary-General's report "with appreciation". The more extensive modification which the co-sponsors are willing to make concerns the sixth preambular paragraph. In that paragraph, it was noted that a number of member states, in their comments on the role and functions of the Economic and Social Council, related the Council's work to the following three broad fields of responsibility

- governing body for the activities of the United Nations proper in the economic, social and human rights fields;
- co-ordinator of the activities of the United Nations family in those fields; and
- forum for the discussion and formulation of broad international economic and social policy.

Members of this Committee who followed the work of the Council's Special Committee on Co-ordination at its last session will recall that from those discussions there emerged something of a consensus on these three points. These areas of responsibility were also taken as points of departure for the interventions of a number of delegations at last summer's session of the Council. A sizeable number of member states also endorsed these three guidelines in their written comments, as will be seen from document E/4052 and addenda 1 to 16 and document A/5920.

The co-sponsors believed it was useful to note this development in the preambular section of the draft resolution. However, one or two delegations have suggested to us that it would be inappropriate to include this paragraph since this Committee has not had the opportunity of examining Item 96 on our agenda. We are, therefore, willing to delete the sixth preambular paragraph.

Mr. Chairman, I am grateful to the other members of the Committee for listening to this somewhat long introduction of what is, in fact, a short resolution. The thirteen co-sponsors hope that all members of this Committee will now feel able to join with us in the adoption of this resolution.