

the Chairmanship of the Director General, and situating the Secretariat in association with UNDR0. The question of the High Level Board of Trustees was left open .We understand that a new addendum to that report is being distributed today, unfortunately too late to be of use for this debate.

In our view, the voluntary efforts of national scientific and technical entities are key to the success of the Decade, within which the U.N. is envisaged to play a facilitative and catalytic role. The structure must be tailored to reflect the specific role envisaged for the UN and must be as lean as possible given the need for cost effectiveness, the overall environment of restraint and the consequent competition for resources among compelling priorities. The structure should not be overly cumbersome, which requires that the function of each committee be examined prior to establishing it. It would also be useful for action to be taken in the context of consideration of the variety of related initiatives being put forward under the environment item. Finally, I would add the need to build in strong technical cooperation elements into the Decade so as to ensure dissemination of relevant technology to developing countries as well as the need for adequate attention to the public information aspects of the Decade.

The tragedy of flooding in Bangladesh, which has captured international attention in recent years, is a preoccupation of Canadian authorities. Subsequent to the 1988 floods, Canada provided \$14.5 million in assistance to support recovery efforts. Water management is an important part of Canada/Bangladesh cooperation for which \$61 million has been allocated over 5 years. The factors contributing to the problem are complex and have important international dimensions. We are pleased at the serious attention being given to the search for long-term solutions in which multilateral agencies are playing a leading part.

The recent focus in emergency assistance to the Sudan has been upon Operation Lifeline Sudan which was discussed in Plenary yesterday. We do of course realize that there are important needs elsewhere, particularly for the displaced. Canada is relieved that Operation Lifeline Sudan helped to avert a tragedy similar to that of the preceding year. The ceasefire and cooperation of combatants in the relief exercise was an important factor in the successes achieved. We welcome current plans for the preparation of a second phase of Operation Lifeline Sudan under the auspices of Mr Michael Priestly who has succeeded James Grant as