Decade", and that member states should pledge themselves to a renewed long-term programme designed to cover three fundamental ideas:

- (a) The gigantic task of accelerating economic growth called for a ten-year programme of intensive, planned, international economic co-operation.
- (b) The assault on "under-development" would have to be pressed on all levels—social as well as economic, utilizing private as well as public capital.
- (c) The United Nations would have to co-ordinate this massive programme and, at the same time, would have to become the major source of assistance.

The General Assembly's resolution incorporating these principles contained in President Kennedy's proposal was adopted unanimously.

At the twenty-first session there was little discussion of the progress, or lack of it, during the current Development Decade. Several delegations regretted the failure to make significant progress towards the achievement of the modest goals of the Decade. However, most speakers concentrated their attention on two draft resolutions tabled by the Netherlands and Pakistan respectively, looking forward to the next Decade rather than reviewing the current one.

The draft resolution of the Netherlands raised once again a question which has caused considerable debate in the past: whether it is possible to agree on "principles" for development—in this case for a draft Charter. Although the draft resolution of the Netherlands was considerably revised before it was voted upon (for example, the Secretary-General is now requested to do no more than prepare a concise survey "of the various principles, directives and guide-lines for action in the field of development as contained in resolutions, declarations and similar texts of the UN and related agencies"), it still caused misgivings to seven major Western contributor countries, which doubted whether anything of marked value would emerge from this exercise. In the Second Committee, the vote on the resolution was 75 in favour to none against, with seven abstentions (Canada, the U.S., Britain, Japan, Belgium, New Zealand and Australia). As the Netherlands hoped for a unanimous resolution, however, the seven abstaining nations joined in supporting the resolution in plenary, where it was adopted unanimously.

The Pakistan resolution encountered less scepticism except from the delegation of Malta, which questioned whether the Secretary-General could have access to the information necessary to prepare a preliminary framework of a development strategy for the 1970s, within which initial efforts could be concentrated on the elaboration of specific goals and targets for individual