

Summary of meetings

Tuesday, 3 July 2007

Economic and Social Council Substantive session of 2007

15th meeting *Thematic discussion: Strengthening efforts at all levels to promote pro-poor sustained economic growth, including through equitable macroeconomic policies* [2 (a)]

Summaries of round table discussions

The President of the Council summarized the round table discussion he had chaired on “Growth, poverty reduction and equity – emerging paradigm.”

The Moderator of the round table on “Coherence and coordination of macroeconomic policies at all levels”, Mr. Jomo Kwame Sundaram, Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development, summarized his round table discussion.

General discussion

The Council began its general discussion under item 2 (a) and heard statements by the representatives of Pakistan (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Portugal (on behalf of the European Union), the United States of America, Guinea-Bissau and the Russian Federation.

Annual ministerial review: Strengthening efforts to eradicate poverty and hunger, including through the global partnership for development. . . [2 (b)]

The Council began its consideration of the sub-item and heard a statement by the President.

The Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, Mr. Sha Zukang, introduced the report of the Secretary-General, contained in document E/2007/71.

H.E. Mr. Jean-Louis Schiltz, Minister for Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs of Luxembourg, delivered a keynote address.

National voluntary presentations

The President made a statement and introduced the panelists: H.E. Mr. Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury, Honourable Foreign Adviser (Foreign Minister, Bangladesh); Mr. Hamidur Rashid, Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Bangladesh); Mr. Md. Motaher Hussain, Chargé d'Affaires a.i., Permanent Mission of Bangladesh to the United Nations in Geneva; H. E. Mr. Trevor Prescod, Minister of Social Transformation (Barbados); H.E. Mr. Christopher Hackett, Permanent Representative of Barbados to the United Nations in New York; and Ms. Ruth Blackman, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Social Transformation (Barbados).

Following a statement by the Moderator, Mr. James Rubin, World Affairs Commentator for Sky News, national presentations were made by H. E. Mr. Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury (Bangladesh) and H. E. Mr. Trevor Prescod (Barbados).

The panelists responded to questions raised by the Moderator and engaged in a dialogue with the delegations of Angola, Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde, the United States of America and the United Kingdom as well as the representative of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

16th meeting

Annual Ministerial Review on the theme "Strengthening efforts to eradicate poverty and hunger, including through the global partnership for development" [2(b)]

National voluntary presentations

The Council continued its consideration of the Annual Ministerial Review and heard a statement by H.E. Mr. Nikolai Zaichenko, Minister of Economy of Belarus.

National voluntary presentations

The Vice-President (H.E. Mr. Leo Mérorès) introduced the panelists: H.E. Mr. Ato Mekonnen Manyazewal, State Minister of Finance and Economic Development (Ethiopia); Mr. Getachew Adam, Head, Development Planning and Research Department (Ethiopia); H.E. Prof. George Gyan-Baffour, Deputy Minister of Finance and Economic Planning (Ghana); Ms. Regina Adutwum, Director-General, National Development Planning Commission (Ghana).

Following a statement by the Moderator, Mr. James P. Rubin, World Affairs commentator, Sky News, national presentations were made by H.E. Mr. Ato Mekonnen Manyazewal, State Minister of Finance and Economic Development (Ethiopia) and H.E. Prof. George Gyan-Baffour, Deputy Minister of Finance and Economic Planning (Ghana).

The panelists engaged in a dialogue with the delegations of Benin, Guinea-Bissau, Madagascar, Philippines, Brazil, the United Kingdom, Germany and Pakistan, and by the representative of the Economic Commission for Africa.

The Vice-President (H.E. Mr. Leo Mérorès) introduced the panelists: H.E. Mr. Chhay Than, Senior Minister for Planning (Cambodia); Ms. Heang Siekly, Deputy Director-General of Planning (Cambodia); Mr. Nuth Chansokha, Deputy Director-General of Planning (Cambodia); H.E. Mr. Victor Borges, Minister of Foreign Affairs (Cape Verde); H.E. Ms. Fátima Veiga, Permanent Representative of Cape Verde to the United Nations; and Ms. Myriam Vieira, Expert from the Directorate-General of International Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Cape Verde).

Following a statement by the Moderator, Mr. James P. Rubin, World Affairs commentator, Sky News, national presentations were made by H.E. Mr. Chhay Than, Senior Minister for Planning (Cambodia) and H.E. Mr. Victor Borges, Minister of Foreign Affairs (Cape Verde).

The panelists engaged in a dialogue with the delegations of Guinea-Bissau, Luxembourg, Benin, Namibia, Netherlands, South Africa, Barbados, Brazil, Portugal and Japan and by the representative of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, and the representative of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States.