B. OBSERVATIONS AND RESERVATIONS BY DELEGATIONS
ON THE DECISIONS OF THE CONFERENCE

Immediately before “BRAZIL” insert the following text:

AUSTRIA*

The Austrian delegation wishes to make the following observations concerning resolution 15 (II) and decisions 27 (II) and 29 (II) in conformity with its statements at the second session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development:

Resolution 15 (II). Trade relations among countries having different economic and social systems, including problems of East-West trade, paying attention particularly to the trade interests of the developing countries and taking into account the work in this field of other United Nations organs, including the regional economic commissions.

The Austrian delegation participated actively in the elaboration of the above resolution (draft resolution TD/L.25/Rev.1 submitted by the Chairman of the Fifth Committee). It voted in favour of this resolution which it welcomes as a constructive step, designed to facilitate the expansion of trade flows between countries with different social and economic systems.

As concerns paragraph 1 of section I of this resolution, and its reference to principles, the Austrian delegation wishes to recall that Austria voted for General Principle Two, one of the principles obviously referred to in this context. This positive vote was followed by an explanation which stated the Austrian understanding that the principle of non-discrimination will be made effective through appropriate trading methods and on the basis of mutual advantage.

Decision 27 (II). Aid volume target.

Decision 29 (II). Improving the terms and conditions of aid, alleviating the problems of external indebtedness.

The Austrian delegation fully recognizes the need for a further increase in aid and is continuously striving to contribute its share to this aim. Austria accepted the one per cent target based on net national income at factor cost at the first session of the Conference and though it has not yet been able to reach this target, has taken the necessary measures to approach this objective.

In this spirit and in order to contribute to the success of the second session of the Conference, Austria will go along with the general agreement on document TD/L.28 and Corr.2 and Corr.2/Rev.1 (submitted by the Chairman of the Contact Group of the Plenary).

As stated in paragraph 3 of section V — Aid volume target of the aforementioned document, the target should be regarded as an incentive to greater efforts to provide resources rather than as a ceiling.

The implementation of a target, the composition of resources provided, and the pace at which donor countries can increase their aid programmes will necessarily vary according to the economic factors and the conditions prevailing in individual countries. Owing to the general slackening of economic progress in Europe, Austria is at present experiencing budgetary difficulties and a reduction in its own rate of growth.

The implementation of the new target will therefore depend on the future development of the Austrian economy.

These considerations apply in analogy to the recommendations on terms and conditions of aid.


2 Ibid., p. 44.

3 See decision 27 (II).