30th regular session
Item 20 of the provisional agenda
(GC(XXXIII)/87I)

PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF RULE 89 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

Note by the Secretariat

1. Last year the General Conference accepted a recommendation of the General Committee "that, in the interests of economy, summary records of the plenary sessions and meetings of committees be issued only once, and any corrections requested by delegates be issued separately in consolidated form for the entire series of meetings."  In addition, it agreed that the envisaged new procedure for handling such summary records would be initiated with immediate effect, before an amendment of the relevant Rule of Procedure (Rule 89).

2. In February of this year, the Board of Governors amended Rule 55 of its Provisional Rules of Procedure (which corresponds in subject-matter to Rule 89 of the Conference's Rules of Procedure), so that it now reads:

"Summary records of meetings of the Board shall be prepared by the Secretariat and distributed to Member States as soon as possible. Representatives of Member States shall inform the Secretariat in writing, within three weeks after distribution of a record, of any corrections they wish to have made. All corrections received by the Secretariat within the time limit indicated above shall be consolidated in a single corrigendum issued for each meeting of the Board."

1/ See paras 2 and 3 of GC(XXXII)/OR.309.
3. In the belief that the General Conference would wish to amend Rule 89 of its Rules of Procedure on the lines on which the Board amended its corresponding Rule of Procedure, the Secretariat proposes that Rule 89 be amended to read as follows:

"Rule 89. Records of plenary and committee meetings

(a) Summary records of all plenary meetings of the General Conference and its committees shall be prepared by the Secretariat and distributed as soon as possible to all Members. Each Member shall inform the Secretariat in writing, within three weeks after distribution of a record, of any corrections it wishes to have made. All corrections received by the Secretariat within the time limit indicated above and all texts provided in accordance with sub-paragraph (b) of this Rule shall be consolidated in a single corrigendum issued for each meeting of the General Conference and its committees during a session of the General Conference.

(b) Delegates may, on special occasions, request that their remarks made at a plenary meeting of the General Conference be set forth verbatim in the record. Such requests may be made at any time not later than three weeks after distribution of the summary record of the plenary meeting at which the remarks were made and shall be accompanied by a text, in one of the working languages, of the remarks to which the request relates."

4. Corrigenda to summary records of meetings held during the General Conference's thirty-second (1988) regular session are being issued in accordance with the amended version of Rule 89 proposed above.

RECOMMENDED ACTION BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

5. It is recommended that the General Conference approve the proposed amended text of Rule 89 of its Rules of Procedure set forth in paragraph 3 above.