

GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY

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CONFERENCE OF PLENIPOTENTIARIES  
ON THE STATUS OF REFUGEES AND  
STATELESS PERSONS

Dual distribution

DECISION ON THE STATUS OF REFUGEES AND STATELESS PERSONS  
BY THE COUNCIL OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION

Statement submitted by  
the INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION,  
a non-governmental organization in consultative  
relationship with the Economic and Social Council.

The Executive Secretary has received the following statement which is circulated in accordance with Article 27 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference.

Submitted: 29 March 1951

Received: 6 July 1951

The Council of the Inter-Parliamentary Union approves the general lines of the draft Convention relating to the status of refugees, prepared by the United Nations ad hoc Committee on Refugees and Stateless persons, and expresses the desire that the Conference which is to be held in July 1951 will elaborate a convention on that basis which will be ratified by all the Governments;

Desires, however, that the withdrawal of the national personal status from stateless persons shall be re-examined;

Considers, on the other hand, that it is essential to regulate exemption from reciprocity, allowing certain rights on a more liberal basis;

Is of opinion that it would be useful to define more closely the kind of facilities to be granted refugees desiring to acquire naturalisation; that is, shortening of residence requirements in the receiving country, at least in the case of stateless refugees;

Lastly, stresses the necessity of securing the observance of the Convention otherwise than by the jurisdictional clause relating to the settlement of inter-state disputes, particularly by conferring upon the High Commissioner the function of protection and of juridical and administrative assistance, and the right to approach Governments and also to request advisory opinions from the International Court of Justice;

And decides to bring the above resolution to the notice of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries which is to meet in Geneva in July 1951.