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REPORT
OF THE
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
covering the period from 6 August 1953
to 6 August 1954

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

✓ **OFFICIAL RECORDS : NINTH SESSION**

SUPPLEMENT No. 3 (A/2686)

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NEW YORK, 1954

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N O T E

All United Nations documents are designated by symbols, i.e., capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

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** The question of customs, ancient laws and practices affecting the human dignity of women dealt with in this sub-section is a separate item on the provisional agenda of the General Assembly at its ninth session.

*** The report of the United Nations Agent General for Korean Reconstruction is a separate sub-item on the provisional agenda of the General Assembly at its ninth session.

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EDITORIAL NOTE

RESOLUTIONS

References to resolutions. Throughout the text and in the footnotes of this report, resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Economic and Social Council are identified by symbols which consist of an arabic numeral indicating the number of the resolution and a roman numeral indicating the number of the session.

SUMMARY RECORDS

References to records of meetings. The text of this report refers to the debates of the Council, some of which took place in the plenary sessions, others in the various committees of the Council. The distinction between the debates in the different bodies is indicated in the footnotes which refer to the documents of these bodies by means of the following symbols:

E/SR.	Summary records of plenary meetings of the Council
E/AC.6	Documents of the Economic Committee
E/AC.7	Documents of the Social Committee
E/AC.24	Documents of the Co-ordination Committee
E/C.2	Documents of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations
E/C.4	Documents of the Interim Committee on Programme of Conferences
E/TAC	Documents of the Technical Assistance Committee.

The final text of the summary records of plenary meetings are printed in the form of separate fascicules which may later be bound in a volume. The summary records of the meetings of the Council's committees are issued in mimeographed form only, first as a provisional text, followed by the final text incorporating corrections.

SUPPLEMENTARY DOCUMENTS

In addition to the references to the resolutions and summary records mentioned above, the present report contains references to the *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council* for each session, as follows:

(1) Numbered supplements to the *Official Records* consisting mainly of the reports of the various commissions. For example, the annual report of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East has a Council symbol E/2553; it is printed as *Supplement No. 3* of the *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, seventeenth session*. For the sake of brevity references to these supplements are given in full only at the first mention; thereafter references are made to the E/ symbol only.

(2) Annexes to the *Official Records* compiled according to agenda items. For example, the report of the Technical Assistance Committee on item 11 of the Council's seventeenth session agenda was submitted as document E/2558 and Corr.1; it was also selected as one of the documents to be printed as an annex to the *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, seventeenth session*, under agenda item 11.

Those documents of the resumed sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth sessions of the Council covered by this report which have been selected to be printed in fascicule form are referred to by their E/ document symbols and also, in foot-

notes, by agenda items as annexes to the *Official Records*. Where the latter reference is not given, the document exists in mimeographed form only.

(3) In addition, for each session of the Council, there is issued a documentation fascicule containing: (i) any corrections to the summary records received too late for incorporation in the printed record; (ii) the table of contents of the printed summary records of plenary meetings; (iii) the complete list of delegations; (iv) the agenda of the session as adopted; and (v) a check list of all documents pertaining to the session showing in bold type those that are printed as annexes in fascicule form and those that are printed as United Nations publications, and indicating when draft resolutions or amendments have been incorporated in the final texts of the summary records of plenary meetings.

LIST OF PRINTED SUPPLEMENTS TO THE OFFICIAL RECORDS OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL PERTAINING TO THE SIXTEENTH (RESUMED), SEVENTEENTH AND EIGHTEENTH SESSIONS

<i>Supplement No.</i>	<i>Resumed sixteenth session</i>	<i>Document No.</i>
1A.	Resolutions	E/2508/Add.1
<i>Seventeenth session</i>		
1.	Resolutions	E/2596
2.	Annual Report of Economic Commission for Latin America (19 March 1953-25 March 1954)	E/2536 and Corr.1
3.	Annual Report of Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (15 February 1953-18 February 1954)	E/2553
<i>Eighteenth session</i>		
1.	Resolutions	E/2654
2.	Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (8-16 September 1953)	E/2518
2A.	Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund (1-9 March 1954)	E/2572
3.	Annual Report of the Economic Commission for Europe (19 March 1953-25 March 1954)	E/2556
4.	Sixth Report of the Technical Assistance Board to the Technical Assistance Committee	E/2566 and Corr.1 and Add.1
5.	Report of Statistical Commission (eighth session) (5-22 April 1954)	E/2569 and Corr.1
6.	Report of Commission on the Status of Women (eighth session) (22 March-9 April 1954)	E/2571
7.	Report of Commission on Human Rights (tenth session) (23 February-16 April 1954)	E/2573
8.	Report of Commission on Narcotic Drugs (ninth session) (19 April-14 May 1954)	E/2606

ABBREVIATIONS

ACC	Administrative Committee on Co-ordination
BCG	Bacillus Calmette-Guérin, anti-tuberculosis vaccine
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
Council	Economic and Social Council
ECAFE	Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe
ECLA	Economic Commission for Latin America
EPU	European Payments Union
Expanded Programme	Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance for economic development of under-developed countries
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
IMF	International Monetary Fund
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
ICC	International Chamber of Commerce
ICCICA	Interim Co-ordinating Committee for International Commodity Arrangements
ICEM	Inter-governmental Committee for European Migration
ICFTU	International Confederation of Free Trade Unions
ICITO	Interim Commission for the International Trade Organization
IFCTU	International Federation of Christian Trade Unions
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMCO	International Maritime Consultative Organization
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
NGO	Non-governmental organization
OAS	Organization of American States
PCOB	Permanent Central Opium Board
SITC	Standard International Trade Classification
SUNFED	Special United Nations Fund for Economic Development
TAA	United Nations Technical Assistance Administration
TAB	Technical Assistance Board
TAC	Technical Assistance Committee
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNKRA	United Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency
UPU	Universal Postal Union
WFTU	World Federation of Trade Unions
WHO	World Health Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization

INTRODUCTION

I

This report of the Economic and Social Council for the year August 1953 to August 1954 covers, I believe, one of the most fruitful periods in the life of the Council thus far. The work accomplished has been constructive in many respects. Furthermore, the Council has been able to carry on its work, particularly during the eighteenth session, in an atmosphere clarified by the conclusion of negotiations bringing to an end the fighting in Indo-China. The calmness, tolerance and mutual consideration so evident throughout our discussions bore witness to a universal desire for peace, and seemed to justify our conviction that the Council will be able to play a vital part in accomplishing the main purpose of the United Nations: the establishment of harmony among nations and peace among men of goodwill.

In addition to the work accomplished and the hopeful atmosphere mentioned, other factors made the eighteenth session particularly notable.

The presence and active participation of the Secretary-General gave added weight to the deliberations of the Council, and bespoke the firm tie which does and must exist between the Council and the Secretariat. The value placed by the Council on the Secretary-General's assistance is reflected in its resolution inviting him to introduce each year the discussions of the world economic situation, of the world social situation and of the programmes and activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies as a whole.

Also gratifying was the participation in one of our meetings of the President of the French Council of Ministers, M. Pierre Mendès-France, a former leader of the French delegation to the Council and therefore familiar with our problems, who found time to speak to us words of wisdom and encouragement concerning the work done and to be done by the Council.

Although the work of the Council is described at length in this report I should like to draw attention to a few points which I consider to have special significance.

The debate on the world economic situation covered a wide range. It included not only consideration of reports on the world situation and on conditions in the various economic regions but also reports on the closely related questions of full employment and the removal of obstacles to international trade. The situation in 1954 was characterized by the Secretary-General at the outset of the debate as being precariously balanced. This condition prevailed in spite of the significant progress made in 1953 in output, consumption, a better balance in international payments and improvements in the domestic structure of prices. The fact was that the improvements in the economic situation were taking place more rapidly in the industrialized than in the under-developed countries; consequently the gap between the developed and under-developed countries, the levels of output, consumption and general standards of living had tended to widen. At the same time the efforts of the under-developed countries to speed

up their rate of development and raise their standards of living were impeded by a decrease in the demand for the primary products which they exported, by a worsening in their terms of trade and by a chronic lack of capital for financing their economic development.

The course of the debate showed clearly that there was general agreement on the complete interdependence of the world economy and on the need, greater than ever, for close co-operation among the Governments of all countries in seeking solutions of economic problems. The interests of under-developed countries producing primary materials were closely linked with the maintenance of prosperous conditions, high levels of income and employment in the industrialized countries. Conversely economic development and rising standards of living in under-developed countries was of utmost importance to the developed countries which would benefit from expanded markets for their output.

In view of the world economic situation one of the most significant features of the Council's discussions was the special attention given to international trade. Two aspects of the problem received special study: ways and means of expanding the volume of world trade in general, and the need for international action to combat violent fluctuations in both the prices and volume of primary commodities in international trade. The Council considered at its seventeenth session a report of a group of experts in the relation between the prices of primary and of manufactured products. At its last session it requested the Secretary-General to include in his next World Economic Report an analysis of factors tending to limit expansion of international trade and to study the problems involved in promoting trade within and between all the various geographical and currency areas. The complexity of these problems led the experts reporting this year to recommend the creation of an additional international body to deal with the matter. After discussions in two sessions of the Council the practical outcome has been the creation of a new Advisory Commission on International Commodity Trade. Assessment of the efficacy of this body will be possible only when it has produced some tangible results, but it is, in any case, certain that this group of important problems, affecting under-developed countries dependent on their exports of primary commodities as well as industrialized countries which are heavy consumers of such commodities, will be under the continuing review of an inter-governmental organ within the United Nations.

It is already evident that the problems of economic development of under-developed countries and the needs of these countries has permeated the whole work of the Council. In the Council discussions on commodity trade as well as on many other matters the attempt has been made to find solutions which would make the maximum contribution to the needs and interests of this group of countries. The problem of the financing of economic development of these countries which have suffered from their chronic lack of capital has played

an especially important part in the Council's debate, and several different means of providing the necessary financing have been explored. During the past year, the Council has endeavoured to press on with the preparations for establishing a special United Nations fund for economic development when circumstances permit; it has also undertaken the examination of a proposal for creating an international finance corporation; it has devoted special attention to the possibilities of enlarging the flow of private capital into economic development.

It was in connexion with the question of a special United Nations fund that the Council welcomed my eminent predecessor, Mr. Raymond Scheyven, who has been appointed by the General Assembly to examine the comments of Governments on this subject and to explore further the possibility of establishing such a fund. Mr. Scheyven's statement recorded the changing views of Governments on this issue and proved the wisdom of the General Assembly in selecting him for this difficult and delicate mission.

Further evidence of the Council's concern for the under-developed countries lies in the measure it has approved to render more effective and flexible the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance.

Mr. Mendès-France, reaffirming his belief, which I think we all share, concerning the aims of this programme, told us that it was not a question of charity, of the rich helping the poor, but rather of a common effort made by sovereign States to enable those who, often by accident, have a wider technical experience or greater natural resources, to give benefit of their knowledge and advantages to those who, through no fault of their own, are in a less favourable position.

The organization and operation of the Council and its commissions has been one of the subjects to which the Council has devoted the closest attention, thus continuing to show its concern for ever-increasing efficiency. The Council adopted important measures designed to concentrate its efforts on fundamental problems, to readjust the distribution of its sessions and programmes of work over the year and to ensure the closest co-ordination and the greatest possible efficiency in the work of its various organs. Although work in those fields will continue to be done by the Secretariat, the Council abolished the Fiscal Commission and the Sub-Commission on Statistical Sampling, feeling that their work was no longer necessary.

The specialized agencies have continued to give the Council their full co-operation, as shown by the permanent contact maintained between these bodies and the Council in its work and its deliberations. Above all, however, we must point out that it is by carrying out their specific tasks that the specialized agencies can make their most valuable contribution to the achievement of our common purposes. The Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance and the United Nations Children's Fund provide concrete evidence of that common task.

After several years of patient labour, the Commission on Human Rights has finished two draft international covenants on human rights, one on economic, social and cultural rights and the other on civil and political rights. The Council's transmittal of these covenants to the General Assembly marks a very important step towards giving legal effect to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Thus the detailed examination of these drafts has been referred to a higher authority, in

the desire that they may be given the careful attention called for by the importance of the covenants and the difficult problems which they raise.

Similarly, attention must be called to the work of the Commission on the Status of Women, and to the Convention on the Political Rights of Women, which came into force on 7 July this year. Special mention must be made of the draft convention on the nationality of married women, which is based on the wise principle that marriage does not affect that nationality. This measure, like the others recommended by the Commission, reflects the respect due to the dignity of women and will, consequently, help to safeguard the family unit, which is the basis of social organization.

The Council expressed its satisfaction with the reports on the United Nations Children's Fund, showing once again the appreciation that body has been able to earn through work of outstanding merit.

Thus the Council, this year as in every year, has dealt with a wide range of problems in the economic and social fields. The importance of the Council's efforts were indicated by the Secretary-General when he said, during the discussion on the organization of the Council and its commissions, that their functioning bore directly not only on the international economic and social co-operation envisaged by the Charter, but fundamentally and finally, on the whole work for peace; that placed the Council at the very centre of the United Nations' work.

Economic and social progress, it must be admitted, has remained slow when compared with the magnitude of the issues at stake. The Council's efforts alone obviously cannot produce the required results; the whole-hearted co-operation of Governments, backed unreservedly by world public opinion, is also essential.

II

This, the ninth report of the Economic and Social Council to the General Assembly, covers the period from 6 August 1953 to 6 August 1954, when it suspended its eighteenth session. The report consists of (a) the present volume, (b) the three printed volumes of the resolutions of the resumed sixteenth session and of the seventeenth and eighteenth sessions.¹

Full references are also given to the summary records of the Council and its committee which are distributed to all Members of the United Nations. Annexes are given at the end of each chapter, as follows: annex I lists the relevant resolutions or decisions, annex II lists the relevant summary records of the Council and its committees, while annex III lists the relevant oral and written statements of non-governmental organizations. In addition, certain reports mentioned in the text are published separately.

The report has the same general form and character as the last six annual reports.² The first of the volumes comprising the report, i.e., the present volume, is organized in nine chapters, as follows:

- | | |
|---------|--|
| Chapter | I. Constitutional and organizational questions |
| Chapter | II. General economic questions |

¹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council. Resumed Sixteenth Session, Supplement No.1A; Seventeenth Session, Supplement No.1 and Eighteenth Session, Supplement No.1.*

² See document E/L.605 and E/SR.830.

- Chapter III. Economic development of under-developed countries
- Chapter IV. Social questions
- Chapter V. Human rights
- Chapter VI. Special questions
- Chapter VII. Questions of co-ordination and relations with specialized agencies
- Chapter VIII. Non-governmental organizations
- Chapter IX. Financial implications of the actions taken by the Council

Each chapter is designed to be referred *in toto*, should the General Committee of the General Assembly so recommend, to one of the Main Committees of the General Assembly, or to any joint meetings that the General Assembly might decide upon. Chapters II and III are concerned with matters in the field of the Second Committee, chapters IV and V with matters in the field of the Third Committee, chapter IX with matters in the field of the Fifth Committee, while chapters I, VI, VII and VIII could appropriately be taken up by the General Assembly in plenary session. Attention is drawn below to special considerations concerning several of these chapters.

Chapter II, "General economic questions", includes economic questions other than those directly related to economic development of under-developed countries.

A separate chapter, chapter III, deals with the economic development of under-developed countries, in response to General Assembly resolution 306 (IV), which recommended that the Council should: (a) continue to give urgent attention to problems of economic development, (b) stimulate its commissions and the specialized agencies to give similar urgent attention to these problems, and (c) include in its annual report to the General Assembly, a special chapter on the measures being taken to promote economic development. This chapter is divided into two parts: part A deals with the general problems of economic development, such as the financing of development, methods to increase world productivity and conservation and utilization of non-agricultural resources; part B deals with technical assistance for economic development and covers the United Nations programme as well as the Expanded Programme.

Chapter VII, "Questions of co-ordination and relations with specialized agencies", includes a statement of the general discussion of the co-ordination aspects of the reports of all the specialized agencies, and the

action taken by the Council. However, material on the substantive work of the specialized agencies pertaining to subjects considered by the Council is included in other chapters under the relevant subject headings.

Chapter IX, "Financial implications of the actions taken by the Council", is designed to indicate the principles and processes followed by the Council, under rule 34 of its rules of procedure, in considering the financial implications of its actions, and is also designed to provide information useful in relation to the rest of the report and to ensure that the Fifth Committee and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions are aware of the urgency and importance attached to the projects approved by the Council. The budgetary estimates resulting from the actions of the Council as submitted to the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly do not correspond in every detail with the estimates given in chapter IX. Since the latter are prepared individually for each item and are subject to revision when the effects of the Council's decisions are assessed as a whole, they appear in somewhat different form after consolidation. Action by the General Assembly on the subject-matter of this chapter will normally be based on the budget estimates submitted to the Fifth Committee by the Secretary-General.

A number of questions included in the report are also separate items on the provisional agenda of the General Assembly. These items are indicated by asterisks in the table of contents, and by footnote references. Other matters referred to the attention of or requiring action by the General Assembly are indicated in the text and in footnotes.

The agenda of the Council's sessions, a table showing the distribution of membership in the commissions of the Council and the Calendar of Conferences for the Council and its subsidiary bodies approved by the Council for 1955 are included as appendices to the report.

After expressing the gratitude which I owe to my colleagues in the Council, who have done so much to lighten my task as President, I wish to express my deep appreciation to the distinguished Vice-Presidents of the Council and to the Secretariat for their assistance and counsel during the course of the sessions of the Council, and in the preparation of this report.

(Signed) JUAN I. COOKE,
President,
Economic and Social Council

Geneva,
August, 1954

CONSTITUTIONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL QUESTIONS

Section I. Membership of the Council

1. At its eighth session¹ the General Assembly elected six member States to replace the following retiring members of the Economic and Social Council: Philippines, Poland, Sweden, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay. The States elected were: Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, Norway, Pakistan, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

2. The Council was therefore composed as follows for the year 1954:

	<i>Year of Retirement</i>
*Argentina	1954
Australia	1955
*Belgium	1954
*China	1954
*Cuba	1954
Czechoslovakia	1956
Ecuador	1956
*Egypt	1954
*France	1954
India	1955
Norway	1956
Pakistan	1956
Turkey	1955
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.....	1956
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1956
United States of America.....	1955
Venezuela	1955
Yugoslavia	1955

* Retiring members.

Section II. Officers of the Council

3. At the first meeting of its seventeenth session on 30 March 1954², the Council elected Mr. Juan I. Cooke (Argentina) President, Sir Douglas Copland (Australia) and Mr. Jiří Nosek (Czechoslovakia) First and Second Vice-Presidents respectively for 1954.

Section III. Subsidiary organs of the Council

4. The subsidiary organs of the Council are listed under the following headings:

- A. Committees of the Council,³
- B. Functional commissions and sub-commission,
- C. Regional economic commissions,
- D. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighth Session, Plenary meetings*, 450th and 451st meetings.

² E/SR.755.

³ Included in this chapter are only committees which met during the period under review. Council action with regard to proposed new committees is described in the sections of this report dealing with the substantive matters of concern to these committees.

A. COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL

5. The Committees included in this and following sections of this chapter are, as a general rule, those composed of government representatives. Secretariat committees and bodies, the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and its subsidiary bodies, the Technical Assistance Board, and committees of experts are not included.

- (i) Economic Committee;
- (ii) Social Committee;
- (iii) Co-ordination Committee;
- (iv) Technical Assistance Committee;
- (v) Technical Assistance Committee Working Party (Expanded Programme);
- (vi) Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations;
- (vii) Interim Committee on Programme of Conferences;
- (viii) United Nations High Commissioner's Advisory Committee for Refugees.

6. *The Economic Committee*, a committee of the whole, met during the seventeenth and eighteenth sessions under the chairmanship of the First Vice-President, Sir Douglas Copland.

7. *The Social Committee*, a committee of the whole, met during the seventeenth and eighteenth sessions under the chairmanship of the Second Vice-President, Mr. Jiří Nosek.

8. *The Co-ordination Committee*, a committee of the whole, met during the eighteenth session. At its 114th meeting on 6 July 1954⁴, Mr. Hans Engen (Norway) was elected Chairman.

9. *The Technical Assistance Committee*, a committee of the whole, met before the seventeenth and during the eighteenth sessions. At its 58th meeting, on 15 March 1954⁵, Dr. El Sayed Abdel Moneim El-Tanamli (Egypt) was elected chairman for 1954.

10. The Technical Assistance Committee Working Party met from 16-20 November 1953 and reconvened on 8, 9, 10, 11, 18 and 19 February 1954. Membership: Australia, Cuba, Egypt, France, India, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela and Yugoslavia. Chairman: Mr. Philippe de Seynes (France).

11. *The Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations* was composed of the President, as *ex-officio* Chairman of the Committee, without the right to vote, and seven members of the Council elected each year at the 1st regular session of the Council.

⁴ E/AC.24/SR.114.

⁵ E/TAC/SR.58.

12. The composition of the Committee as elected in 1953 was as follows:

Belgium	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
China	
France	
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	United States of America
	Venezuela

Mr. Robert Fenaux (Belgium) was elected Acting Chairman, on 23 February 1954.⁶

13. At its seventeenth session, the Council decided, in accordance with rule 89 of its rules of procedure, to suspend that part of rule 82 relating to the time of election of members of the NGO Committee and ask the Council at its eighteenth session to make such amendment in that rule as would be necessary to provide that members of the Committee shall be elected at the resumed part of the second session each year. At its eighteenth session the Council accordingly revised rule 82⁷ to provide that the Committee shall now serve for the calendar year following the election and shall be chosen from States which will be members of the Council for the year.

14. *The Interim Committee on Programme of Conferences* was composed of the following members:

China	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
France	
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	United States of America

15. *United Nations High Commissioner's Advisory Committee for Refugees*. The Council, in resolution 393 B (XIII), had decided "to establish an advisory committee to be known as the 'United Nations High Commissioner's Advisory Committee on Refugees', to advise the High Commissioner at his request in the exercise of his functions".

1. The Committee is composed of fifteen States, Members and non-members of the United Nations as follows:

Australia	Italy
Austria	Switzerland
Belgium	Turkey
Brazil	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Denmark	
Federal Republic of Germany	United States of America
France	Venezuela
Holy See	
Israel	

B. FUNCTIONAL COMMISSIONS AND SUB-COMMISSION

17. The Economic and Social Council had eight functional commissions and a sub-commission as follows:

- (i) Transport and Communications Commission;
- (ii) Fiscal Commission⁸;
- (iii) Statistical Commission;
- (iv) Population Commission;
- (v) Social Commission;
- (vi) Commission on Human Rights; Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities;
- (vii) Commission on the Status of Women;
- (viii) Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

18. Seven of the functional Commissions (Transport and Communications, Fiscal, Statistical, Population, Social, Human Rights, and Status of Women) consist of representatives from Member States of the United Nations elected by the Council. With a view to securing a balanced representation in the various fields covered by the Commissions, the Secretary-General consults with the Governments so elected before the representatives are finally nominated by these Governments and confirmed by the Council⁹. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs is composed of representatives of Member States of the United Nations directly nominated by their respective governments¹⁰.

19. The Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities is composed of persons selected by the Commission on Human Rights, in consultation with the Secretary-General and subject to the consent of the governments of which the persons are nationals.

20. In the first column below are listed the States elected by the Council to nominate members for 1954 of the functional commissions (other than the Commission on Narcotic Drugs).

21. At its eighteenth session¹¹ the Council held elections for one-third of the membership of the functional commissions in accordance with the arrangements for the renewal of membership on a system of rotation. The membership of the Commissions for 1954 and 1955 is shown below and in tabular form in appendix II of this report.

22. Transport and Communications Commission

1954	1955	Term of office until 31 December
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	1956
China	Chile (newly elected)	1957
Colombia	China	1955
Egypt	Colombia	1955
France	Egypt	1956
*India	France	1955
*Netherlands	India (re-elected)	1957
Norway	Netherlands (re-elected)	1957
Pakistan	Norway	1955
*Paraguay	Pakistan	1955
*Poland	Poland (re-elected)	1957
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	1956
*United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (re-elected)	1957
United States of America	United States of America	1956
Venezuela	Venezuela	1956

23. Fiscal Commission

1954	1954 (continued)	Commission discontinued (See para. 68)
Belgium	Pakistan	
Canada	Sweden	
Chile	Turkey	
China	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	
Colombia	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	
Cuba	United States of America	
Czechoslovakia		
France		
India		

* The retiring nominating States.

⁹ See Council resolutions 2/12 and 2(III).

¹⁰ See Council resolution 1/9.

¹¹ E/SR. 827 and 828.

⁶ E/C.2/SR.133.

⁷ See Section VIII.

⁸ The Council, by resolution 557 C.II(XVIII) decided to discontinue the Fiscal Commission.

24. Statistical Commission

1954	1955	Term of office until 31 December
*Australia	Australia (re-elected)	1957
Canada	Canada	1955
*China	China (re-elected)	1957
Cuba	Cuba	1955
Denmark	Denmark	1956
France	France	1956
India	India	1955
Iran	Iran	1955
*Netherlands	Netherlands (re-elected)	1957
Panama	Panama	1956
Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic	Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic	1955
*Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (re-elected)	1957
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1956
*United States of America	United States of America (re-elected)	1957
Yugoslavia	Yugoslavia	1956

25. Population Commission

1954	1955	Term of office until 31 December
Argentina	Argentina	1956
Belgium	Belgium	1956
Brazil	Brazil	1956
Canada	Canada	1956
China	China	1955
France	Costa-Rica (newly elected)	1957
*Indonesia	France	1955
Iran	India (newly elected)	1957
*Mexico	Iran	1955
Sweden	Sweden	1955
Syria	Syria	1956
Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic	Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic	1955
*Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (re-elected)	1957
*United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (re-elected)	1957
*United States of America	United States of America (re-elected)	1957

26. Social Commission

1954	1955	Term of office until 31 December
Argentina	Argentina	1955
Australia	Australia	1956
Belgium	Belgium	1956
Brazil	Brazil	1955
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	1956
China	China	1956
Czechoslovakia	Czechoslovakia	1955
*France	France (re-elected)	1957
*Greece	Greece (re-elected)	1957
*India	India (re-elected)	1957
Iraq	Iraq	1955
Israel	Israel	1956
Norway	Norway	1955
*Philippines	Philippines (re-elected)	1957
*Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (re-elected)	1957
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1955
*United States of America	United States of America (re-elected)	1957
Uruguay	Uruguay	1956

* The retiring nominating States.

27. Commission on Human Rights

1954	1955	Term of office until 31 December
Australia	Australia	1956
*Belgium	Chile	1956
Chile	China (re-elected)	1957
*China	Egypt	1955
Egypt	France	1955
France	Greece	1956
Greece	India	1955
India	Lebanon (re-elected)	1957
*Lebanon	Mexico (newly elected)	1957
Pakistan	Norway (newly elected)	1957
Philippines	Pakistan	1956
*Poland	Philippines	1955
Turkey	Poland (re-elected)	1957
Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic	Turkey	1956
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic	1955
*United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	1955
United States of America	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (re-elected)	1957
*Uruguay	United States of America	1956

28. Commission on the Status of Women

1954	1955	Term of office until 31 December
*Burma	Argentina (newly elected)	1957
*Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	Australia (newly elected)	1957
*Chile	Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic (re-elected)	1957
*China	China (re-elected)	1957
Cuba	Cuba	1956
Dominican Republic	Dominican Republic	1956
France	France	1956
Haiti	Haiti	1955
*Iran	Indonesia (newly elected)	1957
Lebanon	Lebanon	1955
*Pakistan	Pakistan (re-elected)	1957
Poland	Poland	1956
Sweden	Sweden	1956
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	1955
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1955
United States of America	United States of America	1955
Venezuela	Venezuela	1955
Yugoslavia	Yugoslavia	1956

29. On 7 December 1953¹², the Council confirmed the names of new members of the functional commissions, submitted by their Governments in the period between the adjournment of the sixteenth session on 5 August 1953 and its resumption on 30 November 1953 (E/2521 and Add.1 and 2).

30. On 30 April 1954¹³, the Council confirmed the names of new members of the functional commissions, submitted by their Governments in the period between the close of the sixteenth session and the closing date of the seventeenth session of the Council.¹⁴

31. On 6 August 1954 the Council confirmed the name of a new member of the Transport and Communications Commission, submitted by his Government in

* The retiring nominating States.

¹² E/SR.754.

¹³ E/SR.791.

¹⁴ See E/2576 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

the period between the closing of the seventeenth session and the closing of the eighteenth session of the Council.¹⁵

32. *Commission on Narcotic Drugs*

At its ninth session, the Council elected¹⁶ the following ten members for an indefinite period:

Canada	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
China	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
France	United States of America
India	Yugoslavia
Peru	
Turkey	

At the sixteenth session of the Council¹⁷ the following five members were elected for a period of three years:

Egypt	Mexico
Greece	Poland
Iran	

33. *Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities*

The following members of the Sub-Commission, or alternates, attended:

Mr. Charles D. Ammoun (Lebanon)
 Mr. Mohamed Awad (Egypt)
 Mr. Nikolai Petrovich Emelyanov (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)
 Mr. Philp Halpern (alternate) (United States of America)
 Mr. C. Richard Hiscocks (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)
 Mr. José D. Inglés (alternate) (Philippines)
 Mr. Eugeniusz Kulaga (alternate) (Poland)
 Mr. Hérard Roy (Haiti)
 Mr. Hernán Santa Cruz (Chile)
 Mr. Max Sorensen (Denmark)

C. REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS

34. The Economic Commission for Europe consists of the following members:

Belgium	Poland
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	Sweden
Czechoslovakia	Turkey
Denmark	Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic
France	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Greece	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Iceland	United States of America
Luxembourg	Yugoslavia
Netherlands	
Norway	

35. The following European nations, not Members of the United Nations, participate in a consultative capacity in the work of the Commission:

Albania	Ireland
Austria	Italy
Bulgaria	Portugal
Finland	Romania
Hungary	Switzerland

36. The Council, at its seventeenth session, adopted resolution 517 B (XVII) on the question of admission

to membership in the regional economic commissions of States not Members of the United Nations which would amend paragraph 7 of the terms of reference of the Economic Commission for Europe to include Austria, Finland, Ireland, Italy and Portugal as members of the Commission "provided that in each case the States apply for such membership and agree to contribute annually such equitable amounts as the General Assembly shall assess from time to time in accordance with procedures established by the General Assembly in similar cases".

37. The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East consists of the following members and associate members:

Afghanistan	Pakistan
Australia	Philippines
Burma	Thailand
China	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
France	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
India	
Indonesia	United States of America
Netherlands	
New Zealand	

Associate members

Cambodia	Kingdom of Laos
Ceylon	Malaya and British Borneo
Hong Kong	Nepal
Japan	Viet-Nam
Republic of Korea	

38. The Council, at its seventeenth session, adopted resolution 517 A (XVII) on the question of admission to membership in the regional economic commissions of States not Members of the United Nations which would amend paragraph 3 of the terms of reference of ECAFE to include Cambodia, Ceylon, the Republic of Korea, Japan, Laos, Nepal and Viet-Nam as members of the Commission "provided that in each case the States apply for such membership and agree to contribute annually such equitable amounts as the General Assembly shall assess from time to time in accordance with procedures established by the General Assembly in similar cases", and to amend paragraph 4 of the terms of reference to delete the above-mentioned countries therefrom as and when each of them becomes a full member of the Commission.

39. The Economic Commission for Latin America consists of the following members:

Argentina	Honduras
Bolivia	Mexico
Brazil	Netherlands
Chile	Nicaragua
Colombia	Panama
Costa Rica	Paraguay
Cuba	Peru
Dominican Republic	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Ecuador	United States of America
El Salvador	Uruguay
France	Venezuela
Guatemala	
Haiti	

40. The Council at its seventeenth session adopted resolution 515 (XVII) requesting the Secretary-General to "authorize the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America to invite Italy to attend sessions of the Commission on a basis similar to that provided in paragraph 6 of the terms of reference of the Commission for Members of the United Nations not members of the Commission".

¹⁵ E/SR.830.

¹⁶ E/SR.823.

¹⁷ E/SR.749; see also resolution 199 (VIII).

D. UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND

41. Under General Assembly resolution 417 (V), the Executive Board of UNICEF consist of the governments of the eighteen States represented on the Social Commission and of the Governments of eight States, not necessarily Members of the United Nations, to be designated by the Council for appropriate terms. The composition of the Executive Board of the Fund for 1954 was as follows:

Argentina	Italy
Australia	Norway
Belgium	Pakistan
Brazil	Peru
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	Philippines
Canada	Switzerland
China	Thailand
Czechoslovakia	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Ecuador	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
France	United States of America
Greece	Uruguay
India	Yugoslavia
Iraq	
Israel	

Chairman: Mr. A. R. Lindt (Switzerland).

42. At its eighteenth session¹⁸, the Council replaced the retiring members of the Board, Peru and Thailand, by the Dominican Republic and Japan. The new members were elected for a period of three years.

43. In electing one third of the membership of the Social Commission, the Council re-elected France, Greece, India, Philippines, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and United States of America as members of the Commission, and therefore automatically as members of the Executive Board of UNICEF.

44. The Executive Board of UNICEF for 1955 will thus be composed as follows:

Argentina	Italy
Australia	Japan
Belgium	Norway
Brazil	Pakistan
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	Philippines
Canada	Switzerland
China	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Czechoslovakia	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Dominican Republic	United States of America
Ecuador	Uruguay
France	Yugoslavia
Greece	
India	
Iraq	
Israel	

45. At its 118th meeting, on 27 October 1953, the Executive Board elected its officers and established the following committees for 1954:

A Programme Committee consisting of the following twelve members:

Argentina	Israel
Australia	Philippines
Brazil	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Canada	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
China	United States of America
France	
India	

A Committee on Administrative Budget consisting of the following seven members:

Belgium	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
France	
Iraq	United States of America
Pakistan	Yugoslavia

Section IV. Permanent Central Opium Board and Narcotic Drugs Supervisory Body

Permanent Central Opium Board

46. The Permanent Central Opium Board was created by the International Convention of 19 February 1925 on Narcotic Drugs. Its principal function is to watch constantly the licit movement of narcotic drugs, from production to all kinds of uses, in order to prevent leakages into the illicit traffic. Under the provisions of the Convention, as amended by the Protocol of 11 December 1946, the eight members of the Board are appointed by the Economic and Social Council, for a term of five years. The last renewal of the Board's membership by the Council took place in 1952, effective as from March 1953. The present members are:¹⁹

Mr. Roman Sanchez (Chile)
Professor Paul Reuter (France)
Mr. M. E. Rehman (India)
Mr. Fouad Abou Zahar (Lebanon)
Professor Hans Fischer (Switzerland)
Sir Harry Greenfield (United Kingdom)
Mr. Herbert L. May (United States of America)

47. On 14 June 1954, the Board elected Sir Harry Greenfield President and Mr. Paul Reuter Vice-President for one year.

Narcotic Drugs Supervisory Body

48. The Narcotic Drugs Supervisory Body was set up by the Convention of 13 July 1931 for limiting the manufacture and regulating the distribution of narcotic drugs. Its task is to examine the estimates of requirements in narcotic drugs which governments have to submit annually. The Supervisory Body consists of four members, two of whom are appointed by WHO and two others by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Permanent Central Opium Board respectively. The present membership of the Supervisory Body is as follows:

Professor Sedat Tavat (Turkey), appointed by the World Health Organization.

Mr. Herbert L. May (United States of America), appointed by the Permanent Central Opium Board.

Colonel C. H. L. Sharman (Canada), appointed by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, elected President on 21 June 1954 for one year.

Professor Hans Fischer (Switzerland), appointed by the World Health Organization, elected Vice-President on 21 June 1954.

Section V. Sessions and conferences of the Council and its subsidiary organs

49. The Council and its subsidiary bodies held the following sessions during the period 5 August 1953 to 6 August 1954:

¹⁸ E/SR.828.

¹⁹ Mr. Emilio D. Espinosa resigned as of the end of June 1954.

50. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

SIXTEENTH SESSION (resumed): 30 November–7 December 1953, New York (3 plenary meetings).

SEVENTEENTH SESSION: 30 March–30 April 1954, New York (37 plenary meetings).

Economic Committee (20 meetings);

Social Committee (20 meetings).

Total for seventeenth session: 77 meetings.

EIGHTEENTH SESSION: 29 June–6 August 1954, Geneva (39 plenary meetings).

Economic Committee (10 meetings);

Social Committee (16 meetings);

Co-ordination Committee (20 meetings);

Technical Assistance Committee (13 meetings);

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (4 meetings);

Interim Committee on Programme of Conferences (1 meeting).

Total for eighteenth session: 103 meetings.

51. COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

23-25 February 1954	New York	(5 meetings)
31 March 1954	New York	(2 meetings)
2, 12, 14 April 1954	New York	(3 meetings)
30 June-3 August 1954	Geneva	(4 meetings)

Interim Committee on Programme of Conferences

5 August	Geneva	(1 meeting)
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Technical Assistance Committee

15-18 March 1954	New York	(8 meetings)
Working group		
8-19 February 1954	New York	(9 meetings)

Interim Co-ordinating Committee for International Commodity Arrangements

9-12 December 1953	Geneva	(6 meetings)
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United Nations High Commissioner's Advisory Committee for Refugees

Fourth session	2-4 March 1954	Geneva
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52. FUNCTIONAL COMMISSIONS

Commission on Human Rights

Tenth session	23 February-16 April 1954	New York
Working Party	(1 meeting)	

Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities

Sixth session	4-29 January 1954	New York
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Statistical Commission

Eighth session	5-22 April 1954	Geneva
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Commission on the Status of Women

Eighth session	22 March-9 April 1954	New York
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Commission on Narcotic Drugs

Ninth session	19 April-14 May 1954	New York
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53. OTHER BODIES

United Nations Conference on Customs Formalities for the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles and for Tourism

11 May-4 June 1954	New York
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Plenary meetings: 9 meetings

Committees and drafting groups: 49 meetings

Total: 58 meetings

Permanent Central Opium Board

63rd session	9-13 November 1953	Geneva
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64th session	14-18 June and 22 June 1954	Geneva
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Narcotic Drugs Supervisory Body

40th session	26-30 October and 6 November 1953	Geneva
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41st session	21 and 25 June 1954	Geneva
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Permanent Central Opium Board and Narcotic Drugs Supervisory Body

10th session	2-6 November 1953	Geneva
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11th session	22-25 June 1954	Geneva
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54. REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS

Economic Commission for Europe²⁰

Ninth session	9-25 March 1954	Geneva
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Committee on Agricultural Problems

Third session	21-26 June 1954	Geneva
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²⁰ In addition to the ECE committees listed, the following subsidiary bodies held meetings during the period under review:

Committee on Agricultural Problems: Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Foodstuffs.

Coal Committee: Coal Trade Sub-Committee, Utilization Working Party, Classification Working Party, Working Party on Coal Statistics.

*Committee on Electric Power: Group of Experts on Depreciation of Plants owned by Electrical Companies, Group of Experts for the Study of Methods employed for the Determination of Electric Power Consumption Trends, Working Party for the Study of Rural Electrification, Liaison Group, Group of Experts for the Study of Gross Hydro-Electric Potential, Group of Experts for the Study of Legal Questions; *Youngelexport*: Co-ordination Committee, Economic Committee, Technical Committee, Financial Committee, Legal Committee.*

Industry and Materials Committee: Ad hoc Working Party on Contract Practices in Engineering; Housing Sub-Committee, Working Party on Housing and Building Statistics, Working Party on Cost of Building.

Inland Transport Committee: Sub-Committee on Road Transport, Working Party on the Prevention of Road Traffic Accidents, Working Party on International Passenger Transport Services by Road, Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road, Working Party on Construction of Vehicles (Road Transport), Joint Meeting of Working Party on Development and Improvement of Transport of Passengers and Goods by Road and the Working Party on Legal Questions, Joint Working Party on Safety at Level Crossings, Working Party on Tariffs, Sub-Group on Rail Transport, Sub-Group on Road Transport, Sub-Group on Inland Water Transport, Working Party on Transport Costs and Accountancy, Sub-Group on Rail Transport, Sub-Group on Road Transport; Sub-Group on Inland Water Transport, Working Party of Experts on Statistical Information, Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs, Working Party on Co-ordination of Transport, Group of Customs Experts, Joint Meeting of the Working Party on Co-ordination of Transport and the Working Party on Transport Costs and Accountancy, Joint Meeting of the Working Party on Legal Questions and the Working Party on Improvement and Development of Transport by Road.

Timber Committee: Joint Meeting of Timber Committee and FAO European Forestry Commission, Joint Working Party of Experts on the Study on "European Timber Trends and Prospects" (ECE/FAO), Pilot Committee on Logging Techniques and Training of Forest Workers (ECE/FAO).

Committee on the Development of Trade: Consultation of Trade Experts to consider Possibilities of Expanding East/West Trade.

Conference of European Statisticians: (14-19 June 1954), Working Party on Statistics of Fixed Capital Formations.

<i>Coal Committee</i>		
Twenty-ninth session	25-26 August 1953	Geneva
Thirtieth session	2-3 December 1953	Geneva
Thirty-first session	2-3 March 1954	Geneva
Thirty-second session	21-22 September 1954	Geneva

<i>Committee on Electric Power</i>		
Eleventh session	24-27 May 1954	Geneva

<i>Inland Transport Committee</i>		
Eleventh session	11-15 January 1954	Geneva

<i>Steel Committee</i>		
Eleventh session	28-29 September 1953	Geneva
Twelfth session	29-30 March 1954	Geneva

<i>Timber Committee</i>		
Eleventh session	5-12 October 1953	Rome

<i>Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East</i> ²¹		
Tenth session	8-18 February 1954	Kandy

<i>Committee on Industry and Trade</i>		
Sixth session	26 January-4 February 1954	Kandy

<i>Sub-Committee on Iron and Steel</i>		
Fifth session	31 August-3 September 1953	Bangkok

<i>Sub-Committee on Electric Power</i>		
Third session	5-9 October 1953	Bangkok

<i>Inland Transport Committee</i>		
Third session	20-25 January 1954	Kandy

<i>Highway Sub-Committee</i>		
Second session	14-19 September 1953	Bangkok

<i>Railway Sub-Committee</i>		
Second session	5-10 October 1953	Paris

<i>Inland Waterway Sub-Committee</i>		
Second session	3-8 May 1954	Saigon

²¹ In addition to the ECAFE committees listed, the following subsidiary bodies held meetings during the period under review:

Working Party on Small-Scale Industries and Handicraft Marketing

Third meeting 21-26 September 1953 Bangkok

ECAFE/ILO/UNESCO Inter-Secretariat Working Party on Trained Personnel for Economic Development

Third meeting 7-14 September 1953 Bangkok

Working Party of Experts on Financing Economic Development

First meeting 7-12 September 1953 Bangkok

ECAFE/TAA Seminar on Housing and Community Improvement

21 January-17 February 1954 New Delhi

Working Party on Craft-Measurement Draft Convention

11-15 January 1954 Dacca

Inter-Secretariat Working Party on Housing and Building Materials

(ECAFE/UN SOA/ILO/UNESCO/FAO/WHO) 18-23 February 1954 New Delhi

Third Regional Conference of Statisticians

1-11 March 1954 New Delhi

Conference on Administration of Public Enterprises in the Industrial Field

15-30 March 1954 Rangoon

Study Tour by Cottage and Small-Scale Industry Directors and Experts

25 April-31 May 1954 Japan

Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development

17-22 May 1954 Tokyo

Working Group on Payments

19-28 July 1954 Bangkok

Economic Commission for Latin America

Committee of the Whole		
8-10 February 1954		Santiago, Chile
Seminar on Transport in Central America ²²		
9-20 June 1953		San José, Costa Rica
Workshop on Budget Management ²³		
3-11 September 1953		Mexico City, Mexico

<i>Committee on Economic Co-operation in Central America</i>		
Second session	13-16 October 1953	San José, Costa Rica

55. UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND

Executive Board

8-16 September 1953	New York
1-9 March 1954	New York

Programme Committee

11, 12, 14 September 1953	New York
1-9 March 1954	New York

Committee on Administrative Budget

10 September 1953	New York
17-18 May 1954	New York

Section VI. Basic programme for 1954

56. In accordance with the terms of its resolution 414 D (XIII) and rule 2 of its rules of procedure, the Council resumed its sixteenth session on 30 November 1953 to work out, with the assistance of the Secretary-General, a basic programme for 1954. The Council had before it a note by the Secretary-General in the form of two draft provisional agenda (E/2513 and Add.1)²⁴ for the two regular sessions in 1954.

57. The Council, at its resumed sixteenth session, considered²⁵ the lists of items for its seventeenth and eighteenth sessions and took a number of decisions relating to transfer of items from one session to another, postponement or addition of items. Subsequently the Council approved the basic programme for 1954 (E/L.571/Rev.1 and Add.1, E/L.572²⁴) as amended. The list of items for the seventeenth session became the provisional agenda for that session (E/2525). The Council requested the Secretary-General, in consultation with delegations to fix the dates on which it would take up major groups of items on the agenda of its seventeenth session.

58. The Council, at its seventeenth session, considered²⁶ the list of items for its eighteenth session and made certain modifications, as reflected in the provisional agenda (E/2600). It decided to request the Secretary-General, after consultation with its members, to fix the date for commencement of discussion of major groups of agenda items for the eighteenth session.

Section VII. Organization and operation of the Council and its commissions

59. At its thirteenth session, the Council carried out a thorough review of its organization and operation in respect of its own work and that of its commissions. Since several of the provisions of its resolution 414

²² Jointly with TAA.

²³ Jointly with TAA and the United Nations Department of Economic Affairs.

²⁴ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Resumed Sixteenth Session, agenda item 40.

²⁵ E/SR.752, 753 and 754.

²⁶ E/SR.791.

(XIII) covered a period of three years expiring in 1954, the Council included in the agenda of its seventeenth session an item on "Organization and operation of the Council and its commissions", and subsequently decided at that session to postpone consideration of this item until its eighteenth session.²⁷

60. At the eighteenth session, the question first came before the Council at its 796th meeting, when the Secretary-General gave his views on the problem as a whole.²⁸ The Co-ordination Committee then undertook a detailed examination of:

(i) Those parts of the Secretary-General's Review of the Organization and Work of the Secretariat in the economic and social field (E/2598)²⁹ which relate directly to the economic and social programmes of the United Nations;

(ii) The organization and operation of the Council;

(iii) The organization and operation of the commissions, including the question of the Commission on International Commodity Trade.

61. With regard to the work of the Secretariat in the economic and social fields, the discussion centred on the following points: the importance of the work on the development of the under-developed countries; ways and means of reducing the volume and frequency and enhancing the quality of documentation; desirability of entrusting certain research projects to private institutions; co-operation between the Secretariat at Headquarters, including TAA and the secretariats of the regional economic commissions; possibility of consulting the commissions regarding changes in the programme of studies and publications.

62. After a broad exchange of views on those points³⁰, the Committee decided to submit to the Council a number of recommendations (E/2649, Annex I)²⁹ which were adopted by the Council in its resolution 557 A (XVIII). The provisions include an invitation to the Secretary-General to take appropriate action to put his suggestions into effect; to submit to the commissions his plans regarding publications and studies; and to pursue his review of the substantive work programme of the Secretariat in the economic and social fields and to furnish further reports to the Council.

63. With regard to the organization and operation of the Council, the recommendations submitted by the Co-ordination Committee (E/2649, annex II)²⁹, and adopted by the Council, deal essentially with the following points.

64. The Council in its resolution 557 B I (XVIII) made provision for arrangements enabling it to concentrate its efforts by lightening its agendas, which have hitherto been overburdened. For this purpose, the resolution provided that no item included in the agenda would be considered more than once a year, unless in exceptional cases the Council decides otherwise; it instructed the commissions and their subsidiary bodies to concentrate their efforts on issues of major importance and submit to the Council for prior approval all requests for new studies or other projects which would require additional budgetary provisions or substantial changes in work programmes. Similarly, it decided that any re-

quest by the commissions for new studies or projects to be undertaken by the specialized agencies which would require substantial changes in the work programmes of the specialized agencies or additional budgetary provisions must be submitted to the Council for its prior approval. Member States were likewise invited, in proposing items for inclusion in the agenda, to give preference to items lending themselves to constructive action and for which adequate documentation is available.

65. In its resolution 557 B II (XVIII) the Council sought to distribute its work more evenly over the year and to arrange its schedule of meetings so as to facilitate the attendance of high-level representatives and experts of Member States. To that end the Council decided to hold two regular sessions each year; the first, beginning in the last week of March, to last not longer than three weeks and to be resumed in the third week of May for a period of approximately three weeks; the second, beginning in the second week of July, to last not longer than four weeks and to be resumed during or shortly after the General Assembly for a brief series of meetings.

66. The Council further indicated the main questions to be dealt with at each of its sessions or resumed sessions as follows:

"(a) The agenda of the March session shall include a limited number of major questions in the economic, social and human rights fields, including specific aspects of economic development—other than those indicated in paragraph (b) below which are appropriate for high-level discussion and decision;

"(b) The agenda of the July session shall be mainly confined to the consideration of the world economic situation, and, when appropriate, of the world social situation, and to a general review of the development and co-ordination of the economic and social and human rights programmes and activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies as a whole;

"(c) The agenda of the resumed part of the July session shall include:

"(i) Allocation of items to sessions of the Council during the forthcoming year on the basis of a draft programme submitted by the Secretary-General;

"(ii) The establishment of dates for opening debate on items allocated to the March session;

"(iii) Any other items that the Council decides can appropriately be dealt with at that time, including questions arising out of the General Assembly;

"(d) All other items shall so far as possible be allocated to the resumed part of the March session."

67. It also provided that discussions on the world economic situation and the world social situation would be introduced by the Secretary-General, assisted by appropriate officials of the Secretariat, including the Executive Secretaries of the regional economic commissions, who would as a rule participate in the discussion of questions relating to the world economic situation. The Secretary-General would also introduce the discussion of the programmes and activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies as a whole. The resolution finally invited the Executive heads of the specialized agencies to take an active part both in the discussion of the programmes and activities of the United Nations as a whole and, where appropriate, in

²⁷ E/SR.756.

²⁸ E/SR.796.

²⁹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eighteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 29.*

³⁰ E/AC.24/SR.115-120.

the discussions of the world economic and social situations.

68. With regard to the functional commissions, the Council in resolution 557 C (XVIII) made the following arrangements:

(a) In its resolution 557 C I (XVIII) the Council decided, before taking action concerning the re-establishment of the Economic, Employment and Development Commission, to await the report which the Secretary-General is to submit to its resumed eighteenth session. It requested the Secretary-General to study the question of this Commission's terms of reference in the light of the decisions taken by the Council at the eighteenth session concerning the organization and operation of the Council and its commissions, and also in the light of the Council's practices since its adoption of resolution 414 (XIII) in dealing with problems falling within the terms of reference under which this Commission operated.

(b) Under resolution 557 C II (XVIII) it decided to discontinue the activities of the Fiscal Commission.

(c) Under resolution 557 C III (XVIII) it decided not to re-establish the Sub-Commission on Statistical Sampling.

(d) Under resolution 557 C IV (XVIII) it decided that the following seven functional commissions and one sub-commission would continue to operate in accordance with the decisions previously adopted by the Council and still in force, as follows:

(i) the Commission on Human Rights, the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities—to be convened annually;

(ii) the Population Commission, the Statistical Commission, the Social Commission and the Transport and Communications Commission—to be convened once every two years, unless special circumstances lead the Secretary-General to make other proposals on the subject and such proposals be approved by the Council.

69. The Council, at its seventeenth session³¹, decided in resolution 512 A (XVII) to establish a permanent advisory Commission on International Commodity Trade. At its eighteenth session³², it proceeded with the organization and establishment of that Commission.

70. The Council, in resolution 557 F (XVIII) decided that the Commission on International Commodity Trade should be composed of one representative of each of eighteen Members of the United Nations elected by the Council, bearing in mind the need to ensure adequate representation of all geographical regions and of countries in various stages of development participating to an important extent in international commodity trade and/or closely dependent thereon. It decided that any Member State not represented on the Commission might bring any relevant problem to the attention of the Commission, and that the Commission, subject to prior authorization by the Council, might invite States which are not Members of the United Nations to take part in its discussions. The Council decided that with the exception of the initial period, members would serve for three years; that when a representative of a member of the Commission was unable to serve for the full term

of three years, the vacancy would be filled by another representative designated by the same Member State; that retiring members would be eligible for re-election; that the Commission would be composed, initially, of the eighteen States elected by the Council as early as possible at its resumed eighteenth session; that the term of office of a third of the members would end on 31 December 1956, a third on 31 December 1957, and a third on 31 December 1958; and that subsequent elections would be conducted in accordance with the usual procedure for elections to functional commissions of the Council.

71. The Council finally decided that the Commission should submit to it at its twentieth session the first report on its specific activities concerning international commodity trade, and include therein its observations on its terms of reference, organization, rules of procedure and work programme, taking into account the records of the discussions of the Council on that subject.³³

Section VIII. Rules of procedures of the Council and its subsidiary bodies

72. The Council, under resolution 557 E (XVIII) decided that the Secretary-General should prepare and present to the Council at the nineteenth session such draft revised rules of procedure as may be required in order to make the rules of procedure of the Council conform to the provisions of the resolution adopted by the Council on the organization and operation of the Council.

AMENDMENT OF RULE 82

73. At the Council's seventeenth session it was proposed that, despite the provision of rule 82 that the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations be elected at the first session of each year, the elections take place at the resumed second session of the Council when the membership of the Council for the following year would be known.³⁴ In accordance with rule 89 the Council decided to suspend that part of rule 82 relating to the time of elections.³⁵

74. At its eighteenth session, the Council decided to place the question of revision on its agenda and referred the matter to the Committee.³⁶ The Committee decided³⁷ to recommend (E/2646) to the Council that the elections should be held at the resumed second session and that the Committee should elect its own officers, the previous rule having provided that the President of the Council act as Chairman of the Committee. The Council at its 829th meeting accepted these recommendations.

Section IX. Question of the representation of China on the Council and its subsidiary organs

75. At the seventeenth and eighteenth sessions of the Council³⁸ the representatives of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Czechoslovakia stated that it was improper for the Central People's Government of

³¹ E/SR.762, 764-769 and 791; E/AC.6/142-145/149-151, 156.

³² E/AC.24/SR.125 and 127, 132; E/SR.796, 797, 829.

³³ The main considerations which led the Council to establish the Commission, to make certain provisions regarding its operation and to provide for some review of its status, are given in Chapter II, section IV.

³⁴ E/SR.756.

³⁵ E/SR.757.

³⁶ E/SR.798.

³⁷ E/C.2/SR.146.

³⁸ E/SR.755 and 792.

the People's Republic of China not to be represented in the United Nations and in particular in the Economic and Social Council, and that the only legal representatives of the Chinese people were those appointed by that Government. The representatives of China and the United States declared their opposition to the above view.

76. At both the seventeenth and eighteenth sessions, when the President and First Vice-President reported that they had found that proper credentials had been communicated by the representatives of all members of the Council, the Second Vice-President questioned the validity of the credentials submitted by the Chinese delegation.³⁹

77. At its eighteenth session the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics requested that the following statement be circulated in connexion with the above report: "The USSR delegation deems it essential to point out that, as it has already stated at the opening meeting of the Council's session, the lawful representative of China on the Council can be none other than the representative appointed by the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China."⁴⁰

78. The representative of China to the Economic and Social Council requested that the following statement be circulated: "In connexion with document E/2647 of 4 August 1954, the Chinese delegation takes exception to the position held by the Second Vice-President. The credential of the representative of China are issued by the Government of the Republic of China which is a Charter Member of the United Nations and the only Government having proper legal status in the Organization."

79. In connexion with the question of confirmation of members of functional commissions of the Council, the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics stated that the legal representative of China on the Fiscal Commission could be appointed only by the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China and he could not consider the present member to be the legal representative of China on the Commission.⁴¹

80. *Technical Assistance Committee*. At its 58th meeting on 14 March 1954⁴² the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics expressed the opinion that only persons elected by the Central People's Republic of China could be competent to represent that country in the Committee. Statements by the representatives of Czechoslovakia in support and by the representative of China in opposition to that view were incorporated in the record.

81. Similar questions were raised in the functional commissions listed below:

82. *Statistical Commission* (eighth session) 5 April 1954 (E/2569). The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics submitted a draft resolution reading as follows: "The Statistical Commission decides to invite a representative designated by the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China to take the rightful place of China at its eighth session".

The Chairman ruled the proposal out of order, as the Statistical Commission was a subordinate organ of the Economic and Social Council, which was the competent body to deal with any modifications in the membership of the Commission. The representative of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic supported the representative of the USSR and challenged the ruling of the Chairman. The ruling was put to the vote and upheld.

83. *Commission on Human Rights* (tenth session) 23 February 1954 (E/2573, E/CN.4/SR.411). Statements with respect to the representation of China on the Commission were made by the representatives of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Poland and China.

84. *Commission on Narcotic Drugs* (ninth session) 19 April 1954 (E/CN.7/SR.224). Statements with respect to the representation of China on the Commission were made by the representatives of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Poland, the United States of America and China.

85. *Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East* (tenth session) 8 February 1954 (E/2553). The question of the representation of China was raised by the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. The representative of the Philippines moved an adjournment of the debate on the question. This was opposed by the representative of India. The motion for adjournment was then put to the vote and adopted.

86. *Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund* (E/2518). At its 111th meeting on 8 September 1954, the representative of the Soviet Socialist Republics moved "that the representative of the Kuomintang group" be excluded from the Executive Board and "that the representative of the People's Republic of China" be invited to participate in the work of the Board. The representative of the United States moved adjournment of the debate on the USSR proposal under rule 25 of the rules of procedure. This motion was adopted.

Section X. Question of admission to membership in the regional economic commissions of States not Members of the United Nations

87. The question of admission to membership in the regional economic commissions of States not Members of the United Nations was first raised at the fifteenth session of the Council and the Council decided to adjourn the discussion of this question to its sixteenth session when the Council again deferred discussion to its seventeenth session.⁴³

88. The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East discussed this matter again at its tenth session and adopted resolution 12 (X) in which the Commission urged the Council "to reach a decision giving effect to the wish of the Commission to admit to membership of ECAFE those associate members which are responsible for their own international relations".

89. The Council, at its seventeenth session, had before it the report of ECAFE (E/2553) containing resolution 12 (X), as well as a memorandum by the Secretary-General (E/2458)⁴⁴ containing a legal study,

³⁹ E/2579 and E/2647.

⁴⁰ E/2652.

⁴¹ E/SR.791 and E/C.2/SR.133.

⁴² E/TAC/SR.58.

⁴³ See *Report of the Economic and Social Council covering the period from 2 August 1952 to 5 August 1953*, paras. 84-89.

⁴⁴ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Seventeenth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 8.

requested by the Council at its fifteenth session, on the question of whether the Council has the authority under the Charter to grant full membership with voting rights in its commissions to States which are not Members of the United Nations.

90. During the debate⁴⁵ certain representatives stated that ECAFE was, for the second time, submitting to the Council a request and it would be inappropriate not to give effect to the Commission's desire. They considered that it was incumbent upon the Council now that its competence had been defined by the Secretary-General's memorandum (E/2458) to grant full membership in ECAFE to the seven countries in question. They pointed out that the States in question had been considered by the General Assembly as eligible for membership in the United Nations and felt that they had fulfilled the requisite conditions. Several representatives regretted that a representative of the People's Republic of China was not a member of ECAFE for it was a country which could play a decisive role in the economic rehabilitation of the area; they considered the draft resolution unsatisfactory on the grounds that it disregarded the People's Republic of China. They had no objection to the admission to membership in ECAFE of such States as Ceylon, Japan and Nepal but, with regard to the other four States, still entertained some doubts as to whether they were fully responsible for their own international relations. The representative of India submitted a draft resolution (E/L.598)⁴⁶ which considered that the international status of Laos, Cambodia, Viet-Nam and the Republic of Korea needed clarification and resolved that admission of these States to membership of ECAFE be deferred.

91. The Council rejected the draft resolution submitted by the representative of India and adopted, as resolution 517-A (XVII), a joint draft resolution submitted by the delegations of France, Pakistan and the United States of America (E/L.591).⁴⁶ The resolution noted the recommendation of ECAFE and noted further that the General Assembly had determined that Cambodia, Ceylon, the Republic of Korea, Japan, Laos, Nepal and Viet-Nam, all associate members of ECAFE were eligible for membership in the United Nations; it decided to amend paragraphs 3 and 4 of the terms of reference of ECAFE so as to include those seven countries as members of the Commission, "provided that in each case the States apply for such membership and agree to contribute annually such equitable amounts as the General Assembly shall assess from time to time in accordance with procedures established by the General Assembly in similar cases".

92. A similar draft resolution (E/L.592)⁴⁶ was submitted to the Council at its seventeenth session⁴⁷ concerning the question of admission to membership in ECE of Austria, Finland, Ireland, Italy and Portugal. The delegation of Norway proposed (E/L.596)⁴⁶ that in as much as no request had been made by ECE to make any change in its membership and as the harmonious working relations of the Commission should not be disturbed by any change in its membership at the initiative of the Council, the Council should not

consider, at that time, the question of admission to membership in the Economic Commission for Europe of States not Members of the United Nations. The representative of Czechoslovakia, supported by certain representatives, felt that it would be desirable to give equal treatment to all countries not Members of the United Nations participating in consultative capacity in the work of ECE and moved a draft resolution (E/L.597)⁴⁶ stating that the Council, desirous of developing and strengthening economic relations between the various countries in Europe, and considering that all the States at present taking part in the work of ECE should enjoy the same rights, decided to grant voting rights in ECE to those European States not Members of the United Nations which at present take part in the work of the Commission in an advisory capacity and have asked to be given voting rights. The representative of Czechoslovakia pointed out that his draft resolution was based on the principle of universality and was designed to strengthen international economic co-operation.

93. Some delegations while having no objection to the admission of these five States to full membership in ECE, considered it important to uphold the principle of universality and to give similar treatment to all other European States which were currently taking part in the work of ECE in an advisory capacity. The representative of India stated that his delegation was not entirely satisfied with the interpretation given in the Secretary-General's memorandum (E/2458) and that his delegation was opposed to the application of any criteria which would bar admission to membership of countries on the ground that they adhere to the communist or other ideology. He stated that the United Nations as a world forum should make room for all countries regardless of their political beliefs and in accordance with the principle of universality. The representative of the Soviet Union considered that the joint draft resolution submitted by Belgium and the United States of America (E/L.594)⁴⁶ "was an extension of the cold war in the field of European trade in pursuance of the United States policy".

94. The Council rejected the draft resolutions submitted by Norway and Czechoslovakia and adopted, as resolution 517 B (XVII), the joint draft resolution submitted by Belgium and the United States of America. The resolution, noting that the General Assembly had determined that Austria, Finland, Ireland, Italy and Portugal were eligible for membership in the United Nations, decided to amend paragraph 7 of the terms of reference of ECE to include those five countries as members of the Commission "provided that in each case the States apply for such membership and agree to contribute annually such equitable amounts as the General Assembly shall assess from time to time in accordance with procedures established by the General Assembly in similar cases."

95. The Council, at its eighteenth session, decided⁴⁸ under rule 50 of its rules of procedure to adjourn the debate on the draft resolution submitted by the representative of the USSR (E/L.634)⁴⁹ relating to the question of admission to the Economic Commission for Europe of Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania.

⁴⁵ E/SR.779, 780 and 781.

⁴⁶ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Seventeenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 8.*

⁴⁷ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Seventeenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 8.*

⁴⁸ E/SR.779, 780 and 781.

⁴⁹ E/SR.826.

⁴⁹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eighteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 5.*

Section XI. Question of access to Headquarters of representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status

96. The representative of the United States of America informed the Council at the opening of its seventeenth session⁵⁰ that his Government had granted all visas requested by representatives of non-governmental organizations who wished to attend the Council, with the exception of a visa requested for one representative of the World Federation of Trade Unions, which had been refused on grounds of national security. He stated that the Headquarters Agreement did not contemplate the admission of such people as the representative involved. A visa had been granted that morning to another representative of the World Federation of Trade Unions.

97. Later in the session, the representative of the WFTU made statements before the Council Committee on non-governmental organizations⁵¹ in which he called attention to the delay in the issue of visas to the Federation's representatives, the rejection of one application for a visa, and the restrictions placed upon the visa issued to himself. The Committee reported⁵² the hearing to the Council and transmitted to it the summary record of the meeting.

98. At the closing meeting of the seventeenth session of the Council⁵³ two representatives expressed the view that the delay in granting the visa and the restrictions placed upon it were in contravention of the Headquarters Agreement. The representative of the United States of America declared that the delay had not interfered with the participation of the World Federation of Trade Unions in the Council's work, and that the Headquarters Agreement spoke only of access to Headquarters, which had been granted to the Federation's representative. The Secretary-General stated that there was nothing in the Headquarters Agreement to preclude the United States from qualifying a representative's right to live in the United States of America, provided that it did not interfere with his work at the United Nations and his right to a reasonable life outside. Recalling that at the sixteenth session of the Council, the United States had indicated it would do everything possible to ensure speedy decisions on visas, the Secretary-General trusted it would live up to that promise. He himself would do everything in his power to facilitate speedy decisions and to emphasize the importance of timely action in the interests of the United Nations.

Section XII. Programme of conferences

PROGRAMME OF CONFERENCES FOR 1954

99. At its resumed sixteenth session of the Council, the Argentine delegation felt obliged to withdraw its invitation to the Council to hold one of its sessions in 1954 in Buenos Aires.⁵⁴

PROGRAMME OF CONFERENCES FOR 1955

100. At its eighteenth session, the Council expressed its approval⁵⁵ of the Calendar of Conferences for 1955 submitted by the Secretary-General in consultation with

the Interim Committee on Programme of Conferences (E/2651 and Corr.1).

101. The Council decided that the Commission on Human Rights should hold its next session in Geneva beginning 30 March 1955.

102. The Calendar of Conferences for 1955 as approved by the Council is set forth in appendix III of this report.

Annex I

RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS OF THE COUNCIL

Resumed sixteenth session

Decisions:

Basic Programme of the Council for 1954: plenary meetings 752, 753 and 754.

Confirmation of members of functional commissions of the Council: plenary meetings 754.

Seventeenth session

Resolutions:

515 (XVII). Annual Report of the Economic Commission for Latin America.

517 (XVIII). Question of admission to membership in the regional economic commissions of States not Members of the United Nations.

Decisions:

Election of officers of the Council for 1954: plenary meeting 755.

Confirmation of members of functional commissions of the Council: plenary meeting 791.

Provisional agenda for the eighteenth session of the Council: plenary meeting 791.

Eighteenth session

Resolutions:

557 (XVIII). Organization and operation of the Council and its commissions.

Decisions:

Elections: plenary meetings 827 and 828.

Confirmation of members of functional commissions of the Council: plenary meeting 830.

Question of admission to ECE of Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania: plenary meeting 826.

Calendar of Conferences for 1955: plenary meeting 830.

Annex II

SUMMARY RECORDS OF THE COUNCIL AND ITS COMMITTEES

The summary records of the meetings of the Council and its committees at the resumed sixteenth session and at the seventeenth and eighteenth sessions of the Council relevant to the various sections of the chapter are indicated below.

Section II. Officers of the Council

Plenary meeting 755.

Section III. Subsidiary organs of the Council

Plenary meetings 754, 791, 827, 828, 830.

Co-ordination Committee meeting 114.

Technical Assistance Committee meeting 58.

NGO Committee meeting 133.

Section VI. Basic programme for 1954

Plenary meetings 752, 753, 754, 791.

Section VII. Organization and operation of the Council and its commissions

Plenary meeting 829.

⁵⁰ E/SR.755.

⁵¹ E/C.2/SR.141 and E/C.2/386.

⁵² E/2568.

⁵³ E/SR.791.

⁵⁴ E/SR.752.

⁵⁵ E/SR.830.

Section IX. Question of representation of China on the Council and on its subsidiary organs

Plenary meetings 755, 791, 792.

Technical Assistance Committee meeting 58.

Section X. Question of admission to membership in the regional economic commissions of States not Members of the United Nations

Plenary meetings 779, 780, 781, 826.

Section XI. Question of access to Headquarters of representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status

Plenary meetings 755, 791.

Section XII. Programme of conferences

Plenary meetings 752, 830.

Annex III

STATEMENTS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

ORAL STATEMENTS BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO THE COUNCIL OR ITS COMMITTEES UNDER RULE 86

Seventeenth session

International Chamber of Commerce

Adoption of the sessional agenda. Plenary meeting 756.

ORAL STATEMENTS BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO THE COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS UNDER RULES 84 AND 85

Seventeenth session

World Federation of Trade Unions

Question of access to Headquarters of representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status. NGO Committee meeting 141.

WRITTEN STATEMENTS BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO THE COUNCIL

World Federation of Trade Unions

E/C.2/386 Question of access to Headquarters of representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status.

Chamber of Commerce of the United States of America

E/C.2/397 Organization and operation of the Council and its commissions: Permanent Commission on International Trade.

GENERAL ECONOMIC QUESTIONS

Section I. World economic situation

INTRODUCTION

103. The Council in 1954 departed from its normal practice of considering the world economic situation at the spring session and the information submitted by Governments to three inquiries relating to the subject of full employment at the summer session; in 1954, it combined these topics in one agenda item and added a third subject; "Removal of obstacles to international trade and means of developing international economic relations". As a consequence, the Council held a broad and comprehensive discussion on these three subjects at its eighteenth session. This provided an opportunity for a general exchange of views covering the whole field of economic affairs. In addition, many delegations found it essential in the course of the debate on the world economic situation also to deal with questions relating to the economic development of under-developed countries which they judged to be of crucial importance in the current world situation.

The specific elements included in this agenda item and the major items of documentation before the Council were as follows:

(a) Consideration of the world economic situation
*World Economic Report 1952-53 (E/2560)*¹

*Summary of Recent Economic Developments in the Middle East 1952-53 (E/2581)*²

*Summary of Recent Economic Developments in Africa 1952-53 (E/2582)*³

*Enlargement of the Exchange Economy in Tropical Africa (E/2557)*⁴

*Review of International Commodity Problems 1953 (E/2578)*⁵

(b) Full employment

Replies of Governments to the questionnaire on full employment, economic development, balance of payments and economic trends, objectives and policies in 1953 and 1954 (E/2408/Add.13, E/2565 and Add. 1-10).

Analysis of replies of Governments to the questionnaire on full employment (E/2620 and Add.1).

Reconversion after the rearmament period—replies of Governments to the Secretary-General's note verbale (E/2564 and Add. 1-3).

Replies of Governments to the Secretary-General's note verbale on the maintenance of full employment and the avoidance of inflation (E/2563 and Add. 1-4).

Summary of replies of Governments to the Secretary-General's note verbale on the maintenance of full employment and the avoidance of inflation (E/2597).

(c) Removal of obstacles to international trade and means of developing international economic relations (E/2549).

105. The discussion began with a general debate on all three sub-items. Delegations dealt largely with the general aspects of the current world economic situation though several delegations referred specifically to some related problems of full employment. The Council then considered each of the sub-items in turn.

DOCUMENTATION ON THE WORLD ECONOMIC SITUATION AT THE EIGHTEENTH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL

106. The Council's annual review⁶ of the world economic situation, made in accordance with General Assembly resolution 118 (II) was based primarily on the *World Economic Report, 1952-53 (E/2560)*.⁷

107. The report stated that the year 1953 had been in several respects one of the most satisfactory years for the world economy since the Second World War. Total production and consumption had been at record levels and, in most countries, unemployment was relatively low. Inflationary pressures had either been eliminated in the course of the year or had tended to subside. The fluctuations in prices, production and international payments that had accompanied the Korean hostilities had apparently subsided. The disequilibrium in international transactions had been reduced, and restrictions on international trade and payments were being relaxed.

108. The report, however, pointed out that much of the improvement recorded in 1953 might well be temporary; major problems remained to be solved. The balance of inflationary and deflationary forces was precarious, and the continuance of full employment in the major industrial countries was by no means assured. The under-developed countries had not, in general, fared as well as the economically advanced countries, and many had suffered setbacks in economic activity and in investment. No international plans had been made to meet possible recurrences of frequent and violent fluctuations in the prices of primary commodities.

109. In the economically developed private enterprise economies, the increase in the real national product, which had averaged 7 per cent from 1950 to 1951, had slowed down to 2.5 per cent in 1952 and had risen again to 4 per cent in 1953. These changes were mainly due to three reasons: a steep increase in government expenditure until 1953; the wave of investment in

¹United Nations Publication, Sales No. 1954.II.C.1.

²United Nations Publication, Sales No. 1954.II.C.2.

³United Nations Publication, Sales No. 1954.II.C.3.

⁴United Nations Publication, Sales No. 1954.II.C.4.

⁵United Nations Publication, Sales No. 1954.II.D.3.

⁶E/AC.6/SR.160 and 163-165; E/SR.799-805 and 827.

⁷For an account of the economic surveys prepared by the secretariats of ECE, ECAFE and ECLA see sections XII, XIII and XIV below.

inventories which after reaching a peak in 1951, had fallen back to considerably lower levels in 1952 and 1953; and an upward movement of consumption, smaller in proportion than the increase in the national product in 1951, but roughly parallel to it in the two subsequent years.

110. In the centrally planned economies the expansion of the economic and military potential had resulted in large increases in the national output from 1950 to 1953 and in a considerable growth in industrial capacity. This expansion had, however, been accompanied by severe strains, since sharp limitations had been placed upon the resources devoted to consumption. Major problems had arisen from the inadequacy of agricultural output.

111. In the under-developed countries changes in the national product from 1950 to 1953 had shown diverse tendencies. Aside from the uneven impact on individual countries of the boom and slump in raw materials, the national product had also been affected in some countries by sharp fluctuations in crops. In general, however, the boom in raw materials in 1950/51 had resulted initially in an expansion in the output of exportable raw materials, and an increase in public and private investment. The weakening of raw material prices in 1951/1952 had been accompanied by a deterioration in balances of payments, but capital investment had been generally maintained or increased, reflecting in part the high export profits of the preceding period. It was not until 1952/1953 that the over-all economic activity of under-developed countries had slackened generally.

112. The volume of international trade had reached a high point in 1953; the volume of world exports (excluding those of eastern Europe and mainland China) had risen above the preceding peak in 1951, and, in the first nine months of 1953, had averaged 15 per cent higher than in 1950. At the same time, the balance in the regional pattern of world exports had improved substantially.

113. From mid-1950 to mid-1952 international trade had been characterized by extreme fluctuations, a year of sharp upswing in export receipts being followed by a year of substantial downturn. Since the second half of 1952, however, international trade had tended to be more stable.

114. The improvement in the dollar problem of trade from 1950 to 1953 was due to a rise in United States import demand and increased output in the non-dollar areas of exportable commodities, as well as of goods competing with imports from the dollar area, particularly of agricultural products and fuels. However, account must be taken of special and temporary factors such as an increase in United States military expenditures abroad, and temporary shortages of some items which had contributed to higher United States import demand. Finally, exchange and trade restrictions continued to be relied upon in a large part of the world, especially to reduce imports from the United States.

115. In 1953, many countries had been faced with problems of adjustment. In some of the developed private enterprise economies, the problem was whether and how soon investment and consumption would compensate for the levelling off in military expenditure. Further efforts were needed to create conditions of greater resilience in the world economy so as to enable

it to absorb the effects of temporary setbacks in economic activity in individual countries where major dislocations in international economic relations might result. In the centrally planned economies where, as indicated above, serious disproportions had arisen during the previous period, drastic alterations had been made in the emphasis of production plans in order to devote more resources to consumer goods industries and agriculture.

116. *The Summary of Recent Economic Developments in the Middle East, 1952-53* stated that economic progress in the Middle East had been uneven during the period 1952-1953, but that in almost all countries of the region some advances had been achieved in one or more of the main fields of activity, with Turkey emerging as the country in which general economic development had been most marked. The greatest expansion in production had been registered in petroleum, of which, however, only a small number of Middle Eastern countries were major producers. Total crude petroleum production in the area had amounted to 106 million metric tons in 1952 and had exceeded 120 million in 1953, accounting in that year for 18.4 per cent of world output. Agricultural production had shown a more widespread, though generally smaller, increase: in 1952/1953 output had been about 7 per cent greater than in the 1951/1952, and *per capita* output had been above the pre-war level. Industrial progress had been, on the whole, slow, but there had been some exceptions, notably Turkey. There had been marked diversity in movements in the balance of payments. The revenue accruing to the major petroleum producing countries had amounted to over \$500 million in 1953 as compared with \$440 million in 1952. In some other cases, on the other hand, the situation had developed less favourably owing particularly to a deterioration in the terms of trade resulting from declines in the prices of raw materials exported by the region. Iran, Israel, Jordan and Turkey had received considerable foreign aid.

117. *The Summary of Recent Economic Developments in Africa, 1952-53* described the year 1952 and the first half of 1953 as a period of levelling off in economic activity in Africa as a whole. Indications were that aggregate money income remained at a relatively high level in nearly all countries, the most significant exception being the Sudan. However, inasmuch as prices of mineral exports were on the whole better maintained than those of many agricultural products, there was probably some decline in the income of many agricultural producers. The effects of this decline in the export earnings of some agricultural groups tended to be offset domestically in most of the dependent territories by increased development expenditures.

118. *The Enlargement of the Exchange Economy in Tropical Africa* dealt with the extent to which land and labour have become involved in monetary activities and the manner in which the growth of an exchange economy takes place. Today, in tropical Africa as a whole, approximately 30 per cent of the cultivable land area and 40 per cent of the labour resources are employed in production for monetary exchange. While in all territories commercialization has taken place partly through the sale of produce and partly through making labour from the barter economies available for wages, there is a marked tendency for one of these two forms to dominate. Production for markets plays by far the major role in cash earnings in the agricultural economies in the Gold Coast, Nigeria, French

West Africa and Uganda; while in Kenya, Northern and Southern Rhodesia wage employment is the chief source of income. When commercialization takes the first form, the indigenous agricultural economy engages most of the resources of the territory and its development is closely linked with that of the whole economy. When on the other hand commercialization takes the second form, economic development may be jeopardized by a decline in agriculture and a consequent shortage of domestic food supply. Economic development problems are much influenced by these conditions as economic development implies an enlargement of exchange activities, and thus profound changes in economic and social structure.

DISCUSSION IN THE COUNCIL

119. The Secretary-General opened the discussion by referring to the Council's great opportunity, on the basis of comprehensive and adequate documentation, of giving a lead to other inter-governmental bodies and to Governments themselves, in so far as the Council approached the problems of stability and economic development at the highest level from a world-wide viewpoint. The achievement of internal stability was a problem common to all nations, advanced and under-developed alike and the success of domestic measures was contingent on favourable international conditions. In many areas where standards of living were low production was not increasing as rapidly as in the more advanced areas so that the economic gap between the advanced and under-developed areas was widening; moreover, the system of international relationships was precariously balanced. It was essential that all governments and international organizations should co-operate to provide sound, long-term solutions for basic economic problems.

120. During the discussion on the world economic situation most representatives referred to the value of documentation provided by the *World Economic Report, 1952-53*. Though certain delegations dissented from some of its conclusions, general appreciation was expressed of its analysis of recent trends and future possibilities. The supplementary reports on Africa and the Middle East respectively, regions without regional commissions, were welcomed as filling serious gaps in available information which had hitherto prevented an adequate analysis of economic developments in those areas.

121. Representatives proceeded to discuss the world economic situation in the light of the documentation presented by the Secretariat and developments in their respective countries. The general conviction was reiterated that the economies of the under-developed countries and those of the developed countries were closely interdependent. The former required a market for the export of primary commodities and foreign capital to finance economic development while the latter depended on expanding world markets to exploit their full industrial potential. As was pointed out by one major industrialized country, the developed countries of western Europe and North America inevitably bore a major responsibility for the maintenance of world economic activity. The need for co-ordinated action in the various directions was indicated.

122. The recent period was described as one in which, in spite of the economic disturbances experienced in the last four years, most of the developed

countries had attained record levels of production, and had made significant progress in raising the real consumption of their populations, and expanding their foreign trade; moreover, the structural disequilibrium in the balance of payments between the United States and the rest of the world was, at least for the time being, modified in a favourable direction. The role of large-scale armament expenditure in the maintenance of the level of output was not denied but the views of representatives as to the precise character of the impact of defence expenditure on the economic situation in particular countries varied widely. Members of the Council from developed countries referred to the burden it imposed on their economies in real terms and to the tendency of government expenditure on defence correspondingly to occasion inflationary pressures. On the other hand some of these delegations expressed full awareness of the danger that, when defence expenditure was stabilized or reduced, this might occasion a deficiency of demand and lead to unemployment, but they added that their Governments were aware of the available correctives which they intended, when necessary, to use; one member, however, expressed the view that the efficacy of these methods would depend to a large extent on the success achieved in dealing with the major problem of instability in international trade and payments.

123. Referring to the economic situation in one of the major industrial countries, the representative of the United States stated that the moderate contraction, which had taken place in his country in the first quarter of 1954, could be interpreted as an adjustment caused by the reduction in purchases of manufactures on government account and a marked decline in investment in stocks, which was due to a shift in the views of businessmen as to the size of inventories of goods they wished to hold. Throughout these adjustments, the confidence of businessmen and investors had been fully maintained and the future economic situation could be viewed optimistically; in the short run, because of the existence in the present day United States economy of a number of stabilizing factors and also the determination of the United States Government to take whatever steps were necessary should the readjustment process show any tendency to falter; and in the long run, because the dynamic elements in the American economy warranted the assumption of continuous economic growth.

124. The spokesmen for the under-developed countries felt, on the other hand, that the world economic situation considered as whole could hardly give rise to unreserved optimism and that these economies generally were not sharing in the record rise in output experienced by most developed countries in 1953. The point was also made by several representatives of this group of countries that if the recent slackening of the level of economic activity in the United States were to continue or to spread to other areas, the stability of the world economy, and particularly of the under-developed countries would be seriously threatened.

125. The representatives of the centrally planned economies claimed that heavy expenditure on armaments was a characteristic post-war phenomenon in capitalist countries and that these expenditures had had harmful effects upon their economies and upon international trade. This diversion of resources had been stimulated by the character of United States aid to Europe which, they claimed, could now be seen to have

had contributed nothing to the rehabilitation of Europe but, on the contrary, had distorted the structure of their economies towards the production of military supplies. These countries were, in consequence, facing a crisis and were calling for trade rather than aid. The chief victims, however, of the crisis which currently confronted the capitalist countries were the under-developed countries whose economies were threatened by the recent weakening of primary commodity prices. Their present plight was a striking contrast to the achievements of the centrally planned economies, which, they said, were engaged at the present time in increasing real consumption, raising the standard of living of their people and continuing their forward-looking programme of peaceful development. One delegation referred to the reduction in armament expenditure which had contributed towards these achievements in their economy.

126. Some representatives expressed the view that the apparent progress towards the correction of the structural disequilibrium in the balance of payments between the United States and the rest of the world was based on temporarily favourable circumstances and did not imply that there was no longer a need for special measures to solve the dollar problem. United States foreign aid still accounted for a large part of the world supply of dollars and disequilibrating forces were still present, even though widely restrained by the use of import restrictions and other controls. However, the improvement in the dollar balance, even though it might prove to be temporary, was of permanent value in so far as it had led to an increase in gold and dollar reserves held outside the United States, which would help to cushion the swings in international trade and help to avoid the imposition of premature and excessive import restrictions.

127. The concern expressed by the Secretary-General in his opening statement that although world income was growing, it was increasingly unevenly distributed and that the gap between living standards and the rate of economic progress in the developed and under-developed countries was constantly widening was shared by most members. The Secretary-General had observed that production was not increasing, as rapidly in many areas where the standard of living was low, as in the more advanced areas and that population was increasing faster than production. In consequence, the level of *per capita* consumption in a number of under-developed regions was falling. This situation indicated the need for appropriate measures. Representatives from under-developed countries repeatedly referred to the inadequate rate of progress of development of their respective countries, and this in spite of the aid that had been given to the under-developed countries and in spite of their own efforts to maintain a rate of development in the face of adverse circumstances, efforts which had been made frequently at the cost of contracting domestic consumption, already at dangerously low levels.

128. Recent events had shown that the under-developed countries had few means at their disposal of offsetting a decline in the export earnings which were a vital factor in financing their economic development. The weakening of the primary commodity prices and the contraction of their export markets produced a grave fall in their overseas purchasing power and automatically restricted the resources available for development. The representatives of under-developed countries

instanced the serious fluctuations of their reserves brought about by fluctuations in the terms of trade. In the light of these facts, representatives from under-developed countries felt that the need for international co-operative action to stabilize commodity prices could not be over-emphasized and most delegations felt that such action would contribute greatly towards world economic stability.

129. In spite of what one member referred to as the "inevitable difference of perspective among members of the Council", there was general agreement as to the desirability of expanding the volume of world trade. Such an expansion would benefit the whole world and it could only be achieved by international co-operative action. But delegations held different views as to the precise means to be adopted towards this end. The centrally planned economies referred to the desirability of expanding trade between themselves and the rest of the world; in their opinion trade discrimination currently practised had proved to be a boomerang since the trade boycotts had proved powerless to prevent the development of these economies, had simply led to a contraction of world markets and so had merely harmed the countries which had initiated it. Several delegations emphasized in the subsequent discussion on removal of obstacles to international trade and means of developing international economic relations that some of the restrictions imposed on the flow of international trade were necessitated by considerations of national security.⁸ The view was also expressed that the possibility of further expanding East-West trade would largely depend on certain economic measures being taken in eastern European countries to encourage the production of goods for which there was a ready demand in western Europe.

130. Turning to the general problem of liberalization of world trade, other delegations felt that because of the close interdependence between the level of national economic activity and international trade and payments, some degree of co-ordination of individual domestic policies was the prerequisite of further advance towards the removal of restraints on international trade and the freer convertibility of currencies. It was recognized that the world situation was complex and, in the nature of the case there would be no single panacea. Expansion of international trade could in some cases only be secured after a process of reallocating resources, a process which even in relatively advanced countries required considerable time and effort. In referring to the contribution made by the recent commodity agreements, attention was drawn to the extremely limited field of international trade which was affected by this type of agreement and to the need for action of a wider scope. Reference was made to the important part that should be played by the United Nations in co-ordinating national economic policies, although it was felt that investment policy must remain to a large extent, a matter for individual governments.

131. Closely allied to problems of domestic and balance of payments equilibrium and of central importance to the progress of economic development was the international flow of capital. The representatives of the under-developed countries stressed the need for diversifying their economies and emphasized the inadequacy of domestic capital formation in their countries to make possible a more rapid rate of economic development

⁸ See Section III below.

and thereby narrow the existing gap between living standards in the developed and in the under-developed countries. The under-developed countries considered that, at the same time, the flow of international private capital supplementing their own resources was insufficient and that a substantial measure of public financing of an international nature was required to meet this urgent problem. In this connexion, the hope was expressed by the delegations of the under-developed countries and of some industrialized countries that the Council might give favourable consideration to recommendations regarding the creation of a special fund for grants-in-aid and low interest long-term loans for the purpose of accelerating economic development of under-developed countries.

132. The representative of the International Labour Organisation referred to the widespread fear that unemployment might spread and the hope that preventive measures would be taken in time. It was important, in his view, to distinguish between the various types of unemployment in formulating a full employment policy. The threat of under-employment and structural unemployment in the under-developed countries could only be met by measures of long-term development.

133. The representative of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions noted that the disparity between the rate of economic development in the industrialized countries and that in the under-developed countries had persisted in spite of rises in output and some increases in consumption in the latter countries. The existence of unmarketable surpluses of primary commodities together with widespread privation indicated inherent weaknesses in the mechanism for marketing primary commodities. The slow progress of economic development of some under-developed countries was due to the survival of feudal elements, the maintenance of dictatorships or the persistent domination by a few powerful groups which, incidentally, in some countries also prevented the development of a free trade union movement. Steadfast and concerted action could achieve a great deal even with limited outside assistance. He reiterated the view of the ICFTU that the opportunity of decreased military expenditure should be taken advantage of, in order to increase assistance to the under-developed countries, and that flexible international commodity agreements should be established to provide for fair prices of primary products at levels which would guarantee fair remuneration for producers, and, in particular, for the workers. The ICFTU had consistently demanded that full employment should take priority over other economic objectives and was now urging Governments to define their full employment standards and to translate the pledge to promote full employment into specific obligations.

134. The representative of the World Federation of Trade Unions stated that workers and their trade union organizations realized the precarious nature of the economic situation in a large part of the world particularly as they were the first victims of a state of affairs which could not be expected automatically to right itself. The WFTU wished to endorse the Secretary-General's plea for the fullest possible international co-operation. Increased armament expenditure, and a rise in consumer prices in the most recent years, had brought about a regrettable decline in real wages. Moreover, unemployment had increased in the civilian sectors of industry. The crisis which he claimed was emerging in the United States was a source of grave

anxiety to workers there and elsewhere. The appropriate solution for current economic problems was to expand home markets by increasing the purchasing power of the masses and expand foreign markets by removing trade restrictions and restoring normal trade relations between all countries. The tendency to cut costs, even at the expense of wages, in order to increase exports if followed by many countries, would lead to a contraction of markets and a further drop in the level of employment. He asked the Council to take effective action in this respect to remove these obstacles. The WFTU therefore suggested that a consultative conference be convened under the auspices and authority of the Council's Secretariat, open to all interested economic and social groups including trade union organizations to seek ways and means of raising the levels of economic activity, trade and employment.

135. The representative of the International Federation of Christian Trade Unions condemned the growing inequality in the distribution of the world's wealth and urged the Council to consider its proposal for the establishment of joint employer-employee bodies at the national, professional and enterprise level to act not merely in an advisory but in an executive capacity. His organization devoutly desired a substantial reduction in armament expenditure which should be accompanied by full employment achieved by the traditional policies and particularly by housing construction. The removal of major sources of world instability involved a sincere willingness to co-operate to that end.

136. The representative of the World Federation of United Nations Associations noted that unique opportunities for securing impartial economic analyses were available through the work of the United Nations Secretariat. He welcomed the Secretariat's report on economic developments in the African continent and particularly the work it had done on problems connected with the decline of indigenous farming in these territories as a result of the transition to an exchange economy. The representative also referred to the maintenance of full employment and the necessity of a large degree of co-operation in the field of international trade and assistance to under-developed countries as problems which still demanded the Council's attention. WFUNA was trying to enlist support in Africa for the United Nations through the ten United Nations associations operating in different parts of the continent and through the seminars on the United Nations held in West and East Africa in 1953. Healthy trade relations were in the interests of both the under-developed and the industrialized countries and could make a substantial contribution to the achievement of peaceful co-existence and real co-operation between nations organized on different systems.

137. In accordance with paragraphs 22 and 23 of Council resolution 288 B (X) a paper (E/C.2/406) was circulated from the National Association of Manufacturers (U.S.A.) putting forward recommendations that in order to provide the economic basis for their common defence and steadily rising standards of living, the United States and the Latin-American republics should consider taking all possible measures to encourage investment of both national and foreign private capital to finance economic development and, in general, to establish conditions favourable to private trade, free enterprise and non-discriminatory commerce among nations.

138. At the conclusion of the debate⁹, the Council adopted resolution 531 A (XVIII) taking note of the *World Economic Report, 1952-53*, stating that the solution of international, economic and social problems would contribute to the creation of conditions of stability and well-being necessary for ensuring peaceful and friendly relations among the nations; considering that an easing of the international political situation would greatly contribute to the maintenance of economic and social stability and to the achievement of greater economic and social progress; and affirming (a) that improvement of the international political situation should lead to a reduction of armaments and to an expansion of civilian production; (b) that the achievement of full employment with rising productivity and living standards should remain the primary objective of both national and international economic and social policy; and (c) that acceleration of the economic development of the under-developed countries, particularly in the fields of industry, agriculture and commerce, is of major importance for the achievement of a more prosperous and stable world economy.

Section II. Full employment

139. The Council at its eighteenth session¹⁰ considered as a part of its discussion of the world economic situation a group of problems associated with the question of the achievement and maintenance of full employment. The sub-item on the Council's agenda comprised the following sub-headings:

- (i) Consideration of replies from Governments to the questionnaire on full employment;
- (ii) Reconversion after the rearmament period;
- (iii) Measures to prevent possible inflation at high levels of economic activity.

140. The following account deals first with the Council's discussion of sub-items (i) and (ii) which are taken together while sub-item (iii) forms the subject of a separate section. The Council embodied its decisions on all of the points in resolution 531 B (XVIII) which is dealt with at the end of this section under the sub-heading "Recommendations of the Council".

REPLIES FROM GOVERNMENTS TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE ON FULL EMPLOYMENT; RECONVERSION AFTER THE REARMAMENT PERIOD

141. The Council had before it the replies of Governments to the questionnaire on full employment, economic development, the balance of payments and economic trends, objectives and policies in 1953 and 1954¹¹. The questionnaire was prepared and circulated to Governments by the Secretary-General in accordance with resolution 520 B (VI) of the General Assembly and resolutions 221 E (IX), 290 (XI) and 371 B (XIII) of the Council. There was also submitted to the Council an analysis prepared by the Secretariat of the Governments' replies to the questionnaire on full employment. The analysis consisted of two parts. The first part (E/2620) reviewed domestic full employment policies (part A of the questionnaire), the second

(E/2620/Add.1) dealt with the balance of payments and related policies (part B of the questionnaire).

142. The questionnaire also included a number of questions relating to the economic development of under-developed countries. The questions were especially directed to those countries which consider themselves "under-developed" in the sense in which the phrase has been used in the United Nations. Owing to the fact that the replies to this part of the questionnaire were too few to permit a significant analysis of them, it did not prove possible to examine the problems of under-developed countries as provided in Council resolution 371 B (XIII) and General Assembly resolution 520 B (VI). Completion of the draft study reviewing salient aspects and trends of economic development, anticipated in the Secretariat's analysis of replies of Governments to the full employment part of the questionnaire, was therefore deferred and renewed attention will be given to the amendment of the questionnaire¹².

143. The replies of Governments under part A of the questionnaire related to three subjects: the full employment standard, economic trends experienced in 1953, and objectives and forecasts for 1954 including the policies being pursued. With regard to full employment standards Governments either gave no quantitative data or referred to the views expressed in their previous replies. The economic trends in the various countries as they emerged from the replies were substantially as had been reported in the *World Economic Report 1952-53*¹³. As for forecasts for 1954, quantitative data were not included in all replies, and for the purposes of the analysis relevant additional material currently published in the countries concerned was used. In most of the developed private enterprise economies, represented by seven major industrial countries, the rates of increase in output which had occurred from 1952 to 1953 were not expected to be sustained in 1954. If increases in productivity and in the labour force were taken into account, an upward tendency for unemployment between 1953 and 1954 might be anticipated in Canada and the United States where the level of gross national product was not expected to rise; only slight changes in the employment situation was expected in the case of the countries of western Europe and of Japan, which anticipated a limited rise of about three per cent in their gross national product. The replies received from two countries from the group of centrally planned economies indicated that both countries planned an increase in national income, employment and consumption from 1953 to 1954 with greater emphasis on the expansion of consumer goods. This is shown by the higher planned rates of increase in output in the consumer goods industries and agriculture and by the planned re-allocation of new investment in favour of these two sectors.

144. With regard to the data provided in governments' replies on balance of payments, trends and pros-

⁹ See also draft resolutions E/AC.6/L.102 and Rev.1, E/AC.6/L.108 and E/AC.6/L.109.

¹⁰ E/AC.6/SR.160-163; E/SR.799-805.

¹¹ E/2408/Add.13, E/2565 and E/2565 Add.1-10.

¹² In his review of the organization and work of the Secretariat (E/2598, para.10), the Secretary-General stated that the form of the full employment questionnaire was undergoing a careful re-examination by the Secretariat with a view to simplifying the task of Governments in responding to it. In resolution 557 A (XVIII), the Council, taking into account the discussion in the Council, invited the Secretary-General to take such action as was appropriate to put his suggestions concerning the organization and work of the Secretariat in the economic and social fields into effect (See chapter I, section VII).

¹³ See section I, para. 107-115.

pects (part B of the questionnaire), a tendency towards more balanced international payments was noticeable in 1953 and the "hardening" of several inconvertible currencies appeared to imply an approach towards currency convertibility which was stressed as a goal by a number of Governments. This tendency allowed a general relaxation of trade and payment controls. In general, an increase in the volume of trade was anticipated, resulting from the expansion of production and relaxation of import restrictions; on the other hand, though the recent decline in United States production has not so far produced the widely anticipated adverse effects upon the trade and balance of payments position of other countries, the fear of such effects has not been completely eliminated; it was also frequently assumed by Governments that prices of goods entering into international trade would be slightly lower than in 1953. With regard to international capital movements, the information supplied by Governments indicated that the major capital exporting countries and many capital importing countries continued to seek an expansion of the international flow of private capital for long term investment.

145. In connexion with sub-item (ii) the Council had before it the replies of Governments (E/2564 and Add.1-3) to a note verbale sent by the Secretary-General inviting Governments to indicate their views on measures which they considered necessary to prevent adverse effects on their economies or on those of other countries arising from reduction in their defence expenditures.¹⁴

146. The replies indicated that, in the opinion of the Governments, domestic corrective measures were available to offset the effect of any reductions in defence expenditure that were likely to occur in present circumstances, and could be readily used to maintain the level of employment. Fears were expressed, in some replies, however, lest such reductions in defence expenditure in the major industrial countries, if not fully offset by corrective measures, might lead to contraction of export markets, aggravated, perhaps, by the imposition of restrictions on the flow of international trade, because of the resulting unfavourable repercussions upon the balance of payments position.

147. In the course of the general debate, different views emerged on the extent to which the current world situation constituted a threat to full employment. Some representatives from under-developed countries expressed their anxiety that the present decline in economic activity and employment in North America, if it persisted for some time, might lead to a serious disruption of the world economy. Some claimed that serious unemployment in the United States was a threat to the capitalist world where production had decreased, unemployment had emerged, consumption had fallen and a sense of fear among the working population prevailed. The representative of the United States mentioned that the defence production programme having been curtailed, the economy of his country, flexible though it is, could hardly adjust immediately to the resulting substantial cut in government expenditure; this time, there was no pent-up volume of civilian demand, such as had existed at the end of the war, to take up the slack and facilitate the transition from military to civilian production. It was a matter of

some concern that unemployment in his country was currently at a somewhat higher level than could be attributed to such causes as frictional and temporary employment. He emphasized, however, that the decline in industrial production had shown no tendency to gain momentum and, judging by the maintenance of housing construction and the volume of business investment that the confidence of the public and of business was not impaired.

148. The representatives of some of the more developed countries referred to the full awareness of their Governments of the nature of the problem and to their intention to use corrective measures where and as soon as necessary. During the general debate on the world economic situation, a representative of one major industrial country acknowledged the "heaviest responsibility" that the industrial countries of western Europe and North America bore for maintaining high and expanding levels of economic activity in the world as a whole. General confidence was expressed that as defence expenditure was stabilized any necessary steps could rapidly be taken to encourage an adequate expansion of civilian consumption and investment to prevent any serious fall in total demand. It was noted, however, that the efficacy of domestic corrective measures was, in most countries, contingent to a considerable extent on favourable international conditions, and that care should be taken that the measures used by Governments to stabilize the domestic economies were not such as to jeopardize stability elsewhere. One member suggested that, in accordance with Council resolution 483 B (XVI), a detailed study should be made by a committee of experts of the problems involved in reconversion as these were presented in Governments' replies.

149. Several representatives emphasized the close relationship between problems of full employment and economic development. The unemployment problem was fundamentally in under-developed countries where employment was primarily a problem of availability of adequate capital resources rather than of effective demand. Nor was seasonal unemployment a key problem since the working population adapted itself to seasonal variations in output. Employment in under-developed regions was a structural problem; disguised unemployment was endemic and aggravated by the natural increase of population and, in some cases, by immigration. The acceleration of economic development was therefore urged as offering, through the growth of new industries, a solution which in turn would sustain increased production in industrial countries. Conversely the economic development of under-developed countries was dependent on stable markets for their primary commodity exports which implied the need for maintaining and expanding the flow of international trade. Discussion of this aspect of the problem occurred, however, in connexion with the agenda item "Removal of obstacles to international trade and means of developing international economic relations".¹⁵

150. The decisions finally reached by the Council on sub-items (i) and (ii) are indicated at the end of this section under the sub-heading "Recommendations of the Council".¹⁶

¹⁴ This note was sent under part B of Council resolution 483 (XVI).

¹⁵ See section III below.

¹⁶ See para. 162.

151. At its sixteenth session the Council had considered that the problem of reconciling the attainment and maintenance of full employment in the industrialized countries and the acceleration of the economic development of the under-developed countries with the avoidance of the harmful effects of inflation deserved further consideration. It had therefore suggested under resolution 483 A (XVI) that Governments having experience in dealing with inflationary pressures communicate the benefit of their experience to the Secretary-General for the information of the Council.

152. The Council at its eighteenth session had before it the replies of Governments to the Secretary-General's note verbale (E/2563 and Add.1-3) and a summary of them prepared by the Secretary-General in accordance with Council resolution 483 A (XVI) (E/2597). The first part of the summary dealt with "industrialized" and the second with "less economically developed" countries.

153. The statements received from the Governments of the industrialized countries offered a general description of recent inflationary movements which stemmed either from a general excess of effective demand and localized scarcities of supply or from both interrelated factors.

154. The replies did not, in general, single out full employment as an independent cause contributing to recent inflationary movements; an important element in the price rises was, in a number of cases, the phenomenon of cost inflation related mainly to a rise in import prices. With regard to corrective measures taken in the recent period since mid-1950, when inflationary pressures had intensified following the outbreak of hostilities in Korea, Governments mentioned credit restrictions, fiscal measures such as increases in taxation tending to discourage increased consumption and unessential investment, and restriction of non-military government expenditures. Direct controls which had generally been adopted during the Second World War had been reimposed only with the greatest reluctance as legislative and political support for them gradually disintegrated and, when reimposed, their administration had been much less rigid than during the war. Among this group of countries, Sweden informed the Council of a current research project which is being sponsored by that Government in the field of full employment and price stability, and the United Kingdom described the experience in dealing with the problem of cost inflation, with which it has contended in recent years.

155. One of the economically less-developed countries described as a "typical" case of inflation related to the process of economic development, the advance of industrialization in association with relative stagnation in agriculture and an accompanying upward movement of prices and wages. Other countries in this group ascribed their inflationary experience either to a rise in prices of their imports or to a curtailment of imports brought about by a decline in the demand for and proceeds from their exports. The anti-inflationary measures taken by countries of this group, in most cases monetary and fiscal measures such as restriction of bank credit and reduction of government deficits, had had various degrees of effectiveness. Some countries also reported measures to improve the supply situation

by encouraging domestic production of food, and by imports.

156. It appeared, in the course of the discussion in the Council, that the problem of inflation, which had concerned most Governments in the period immediately following the outbreak of hostilities in Korea, was no longer felt to be a major threat to the economic stability of their countries. As could be seen from the documentation submitted to the Council, during the past four years most countries had faced problems brought about by an excessive demand on their resources, including the claims of rapidly growing defence requirements, and they had been confronted by the dangers of a rapid price inflation. Corrective measures had, however, been used effectively in many countries and the expansion of demand and production in Europe during the past eighteen months had caused neither a marked upward pressure on internal prices nor new disturbances to the balance of payments. Representatives from the industrialized countries referred to the relative price stability during the recent period and pointed out that, in spite of the continued burden of armament expenditure inflationary pressure had been eliminated or checked.

157. However, members of the Council in general concurred with the broad lines of the evaluation of the economic situation made in the *World Economic Report 1952-53*, to the effect that the balance between inflationary and deflationary forces remained precarious. In the words of one delegation, it was still not possible to claim that all or most countries were free from the dangers of demand inflation or of cost inflation, the latter arising from the tendency at high levels of activity and strong demand for labour, for wages and salaries to rise faster than real output per head, and for import prices to rise. Governments should, it was urged, be continually on the alert and prepared to take immediate corrective action of the kind in which they had acquired experience in recent years. While much could be accomplished in the way of checking excess demand, the scope of the available corrective measures was limited, by the extent to which the domestic price rises were due to cost inflation factors arising from fluctuations in the prices of imports. In this connexion, measures to secure greater stability of prices of the main commodities moving in international trade would be an important factor in Governments' efforts to maintain domestic price stability.

158. Representatives from under-developed countries took the opportunity of this debate to stress again the exceptional sensitivity of their economies to fluctuations in commodity prices. They also emphasized the inflationary consequences of the acceleration of economic development. One representative stated, in this connexion, that price stability could only be made compatible with economic development if there were adequate imports of foreign capital. Several members referred to a number of monetary and fiscal measures which their Governments had taken to counteract the inflationary tendencies, and one delegate from a primary producing country referred to a comprehensive programme of price stabilization which his Government had recently carried out.

159. The general view was that the phenomenon of inflation was a complex one requiring the close and sustained attention of Governments. The particular question of whether inflationary trends are necessarily

associated with high levels of activity and steady economic expansion deserved further study; the information given by members on ways in which their Governments had dealt with inflationary pressures would provide useful material for a detailed study of this kind. This point of view was embodied in resolution 531 B (XVIII) which the Council adopted at the close of the debate.¹⁷

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COUNCIL

160. During the debate a proposal was made¹⁸ that the Council should call on the Governments of all countries, where unemployment existed to take the following remedial measures: development of civilian production and reduction of military expenditure; promotion of the development of international trade; decrease in taxation and extension of social security; organization or improvement of State systems of unemployment insurance; execution of other measures designed to raise general living standards and alleviation of the plight of the unemployed. In addition, it was proposed that the Secretary-General, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 479 (V) should convene a non-governmental advisory conference and invite the competent specialized inter-governmental organizations, all national and international trade union organizations, and other non-governmental organizations concerned, with a view to securing a complete exchange of information on the employment situation and on practical steps for raising the level of employment. It was also proposed that the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the ILO, should prepare a report based on the findings of the advisory conference, on the studies made by the ILO and on other information, for the twentieth session of the Council.

161. The proposal to call a non-governmental advisory conference was criticized by many delegations on the grounds that such a conference would be unmanageably large, that it would not include Governments, and that studies of the kind involved would be best undertaken by existing agencies competent in the field. Moreover, some of the measures proposed were incompatible with the operation of a free economy and would merely diminish the scope of action which should be left to the individual Governments concerned.

162. At the close of the debate on the group of problems related to full employment, the Council adopted resolution 531 B (XVIII)¹⁹ in which it recognized the need for the continued pursuit by Member States of positive policies designed to maintain national and international economic stability with high and expanding levels of employment, productivity and standards of living, and to promote the economic development of the under-developed countries; it noted the intentions of Member States to continue their efforts to maintain high levels of domestic production and employment; considered that in pursuing their domestic economic policies Member States should have regard to the desirability of avoiding adverse effects upon the employment levels and general economic stability of other Member States; it recognized that the achievement of full employment in the under-developed countries was hampered by their economic structure and their vulnerability to excessive fluctuations in terms of

trade; and noted that higher levels of production and employment in under-developed countries would be assisted by greater stability in the prices of primary commodities and by increased flow of capital. The first operative paragraph invited the ILO to continue its important work in the field of employment problems with due regard to the need for providing the Council with comments and suggestions on the problems of particular concern to the Council; the second operative paragraph, representing its decisions under item 2 b (iii) "Measures to prevent possible inflation at high levels of economic activity", commended to the attention of Member States documents E/2563 and Add.1-4 and E/2597 surveying the experience of Member States in dealing with inflationary tendencies at high levels of economic activity; the resolution then recommended that Member States follow the changes in economic trends and be prepared at any time to take action to maintain high and expanding levels of production and employment in the face of reductions in demand on particular sectors of their economies, including reductions which might result from reduction in government expenditures on defence, giving regard to the importance of avoiding adverse effects upon employment and economic development of other States. The Council finally recommended that national and international effects should be intensified to reduce instability in the prices of primary commodities and to facilitate the flow of capital to under-developed countries.

Section III. Removal of obstacles to international trade and means of developing international economic relations

163. At the seventeenth session of the Council the delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics proposed that an item: "Removal of obstacles to international trade and means of developing international economic relations" be added to the agenda. The Council decided to include this matter²⁰ not as a separate item but as a sub-item under the general subject "world economic situation", and to postpone the discussion to its summer session.

164. At the eighteenth session²¹ the high degree of international economic interdependence, which had been emphasized during the general debate on the world economic situation, was again stressed during the discussion of this sub-item. Members were unanimous in their view that an expansion of international trade was desirable and many held that some positive co-operative action was required to this end.²²

165. Some representatives referred to the variety of restraints currently imposed on the international flow of trade and held that immediate progress should be made towards liberalization of trade and currency convertibility. Others felt that currency convertibility and liberalization of trade were longer-term objectives; they were only the technical instruments of international trade and their serviceability depended upon the co-ordination of trade policies. Immediate progress could only be made by dealing with some of the individual elements of the general problem of expanding international trade: first, the organization of regional economic

¹⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁸ E/AC.6/L.106, E/L.616 and Corr.1.

¹⁹ E/SR.827; see also E/AC.6/L.103 and Rev.1 and E/2643.

²⁰ E/SR.756.

²¹ E/AC.6/SR.164-167; E/SR.799-805.

²² The debate centred around draft resolutions E/L.613 and Rev.1-3, E/L.614, and amendments E/AC.6/L.110, E/AC.6/L.112 and E/L.622.

units and, in particular, the economic integration of Europe; second, improvement in the position of the under-developed countries; third, removal of various measures which restrained or distorted international trade; fourth, expansion of interregional trade, and, in particular East-West trade.

166. In connexion with the first element of the problem, reference was made to the valuable work of the regional economic commissions; to the progress of Benelux, to the positive results yielded by the European Coal and Steel Community and to the liberalization of trade and payments among the OEEC countries.

167. In connexion with the second, it was noted that world price fluctuations affected under-developed countries far more severely than others; it was urged that economic development was a world problem since the under-developed countries needed capital while the developed feared unemployment. One delegation attributed the fall in primary commodity prices in recent years to the policies pursued by the developed countries, and the inadequacy of reserves of gold and foreign exchange in these countries, to cushion temporary disequilibria, was felt to have occasioned sudden changes in import policy. Representatives from the under-developed countries complained not only of the instability of commodity prices²³ but of the deterioration of their terms of trade. Commodity agreements had proved beneficial but they only covered a negligible field and it was difficult to devise schemes that were sufficiently flexible.

168. Considerable attention was given to the third aspect, barriers to international trade. Quantitative limitation of imports, artificial aids to exports, inconvertible currencies and monetary instability were instanced as harmful administrative and fiscal forms of interference with the flow of trade. Double taxation of income derived from foreign investments was also mentioned as an obstacle to trade relations which was particularly harmful to under-developed countries. Restraints on trade inhibited the international flow of capital and their unpredictable character gave rise to an element of uncertainty and instability in world markets.

169. In relation to the fourth aspect, all members held that expansion of interregional trade was, in principle, desirable. Delegates from the centrally planned economies, however, emphasized the harmful effect of restraints imposed on East-West trade by the industrialized countries, whereas other delegations replied that in any case the total volume of East-West trade, in relation to world trade as a whole was not large, and that their Governments judged that national security required a measure of control over the flow of certain strategic goods. The division of the world into two currency areas, in the view of some delegations, seriously hindered the employment in areas lacking capital equipment of the surplus of such equipment available in other areas. Others attributed the failure to facilitate the use in deficit areas of the surpluses produced in other areas to a deficiency in the machinery of international investment; the Bank, it was felt, was too restrictive in its lending policies and although the Bank, the Fund and EPU were useful instruments, the international flow of capital was still insufficient. Reference was made specifically to the need for a special

fund for economic development²⁴ which might prepare the ground for further profitable investments.

170. Attention was drawn to the various steps that had been taken, particularly through GATT, to reduce tariffs, quantitative restrictions and other barriers to international trade. Other delegations maintained that an easing of the political situation was needed to encourage international trade and bring new prosperity which would spread to all States and ensure rapid economic and social development; this advance could, in its turn, contribute significantly to the betterment of international relations.

171. One delegation reiterated the view²⁵ that the economic development of various States encountered difficulties which manifested themselves in the contraction of civilian production, increase in unemployment, a fall in the living standard of the people, and increasing difficulty in marketing goods, that these difficulties were increasing still further as a result of the artificial obstacles to international trade created during the past few years. In view of these considerations it was recommended that governments of Member States should adopt measures to promote normal trade development of trade relations between States, irrespective of their social and economic systems. It was proposed that the Secretary-General, after consultation with the Executive Secretaries of the regional economic commissions, should take the initiative in convening an international conference of government experts from states, both Members and non-members of the United Nations, for the purpose of formulating recommendations for developing international trade.

172. Several delegations, however, held the view that to summon an international conference at this stage would be premature, since extensive preparatory work would be required to ensure its success. It was essential to study the obstacles standing in the way of international trade as carefully as possible and the immediate convening of a conference might not provide the best atmosphere for the kind of objective study which was required and which the Secretariat could provide. Moreover, an instrument already existed in GATT for dealing with obstacles in the way of international trade; the functions and operations of GATT were to be reconsidered in the winter and it would be wise to await the outcome before making any further move. Certain members also stated that the expansion of East-West trade must not be at the expense of security measures, that some of the present obstacles to the expansion of East-West trade arose from the policies of the Soviet bloc, and that another important factor was the inability of eastern European countries to deliver suitable commodities in exchange for their imports.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COUNCIL

173. The Council adopted resolution 531 C (XVIII) in which it requested the Secretary-General to include in his next World Economic Report an analysis, prepared in consultation with the international bodies concerned, of factors tending to limit international trade, including a study on a global basis of the problems involved in promoting the development of trade within and between all the various geographical and currency areas, it being understood that use would be made of

²³ See section IV below.

²⁴ See chapter III, section I.

²⁵ See E/L.614.

the valuable work being done by experts under the auspices of the regional economic commissions; it urged that Governments should take all practicable steps to facilitate the further expansion of mutually beneficial international trade; and decided to place the expansion of international trade and the development of international economic relations on the agenda for its twentieth session, when the subject would once again be studied in all its aspects.

Section IV. International Commodity Trade²⁶

REPORT BY GROUP OF EXPERTS ON INTERNATIONAL PRICE RELATIONS

174. In resolution 623 (VII) the General Assembly had requested the Secretary-General to appoint a group of experts to prepare a report on practical measures to deal with certain problems arising in connexion with the changes in the relative prices of primary and manufactured goods, and on commodity agreements to deal with those problems. The experts appointed were:

Charles F. Carter, Professor of Applied Economics at The Queen's University, Belfast;

Sumitro Djojohadikusumo, Professor of Economics, Djakarta School of Economics, University of Indonesia;

J. Goudriaan, Professor of Business Economics at Pretoria University;

Klaus Knorr, Associate Professor of Public and International Affairs, Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University; and

Francisco Garcia Olano, Director del Centro de Investigaciones de la Escuela Superior de Economía, Buenos Aires.

175. The report of this group, entitled *Commodity Trade and Economic Development* (E/2519)²⁷ is transmitted, in accordance with resolution 623 (VII), to the General Assembly together with an account of the action taken by the Council. This report, which was considered by the Council at its seventeenth session, presents the main problems arising from the instability of primary commodity markets and reviews past proposals to deal with these problems. After analysing the behaviour of the prices of different groups of commodities the report concludes that the chief stabilizing measures must be directed separately at the prices of different classes of goods and should be designed to eliminate short-term fluctuations around long-term price movements. If the gross instability in primary commodity markets were moderated in this way then industrialized as well as economically under-developed countries would benefit. For these reasons the report deals principally with measures designed to assist in the stabilization of the prices of primary commodities.

176. The measures examined in the report fall under four main headings: (a) international commodity stabilization schemes; (b) commodity reserve currency schemes; (c) compensatory schemes; (d) national measures.

177. With regard to international commodity stabilization schemes, the report concludes that international agreements on individual commodities can prevent excessive short-run fluctuations in the price of the commodities concerned. If, however, agreements are used to hold in check the long-run movement of prices, they will either break down or be maintained only by degrees of restrictions considered generally harmful. Commodity agreements in a number of commodities would benefit all trading countries, but no grounds exist for confidence that agreements for single commodities would be concluded in sufficient number to meet the under-developed countries' urgent need for greater stability of earnings. Provided the problems of finance could be solved, buffer stocks for individual commodities, or for a group of them, are preferable to multilateral contracts. However, where the nature and secular movement of markets in particular commodities render them unsuitable for buffer stock schemes, multilateral contracts may promise a measure of stability. The possibility of simultaneously negotiating a number of commodity agreements should be examined, but the real diversity of commodity problems and complexity of such negotiations should not be disregarded.

178. In the report, consideration is also given to proposals to stabilize the prices of a group of basic commodities through the use of a commodity reserve currency. It is argued that if Governments wish to have stability of price relations consistent with economic progress, then they may have to look beyond schemes relating to particular commodities and, in fact, review the general structure of the world's monetary systems. The report suggests that the "commodity reserve currency" scheme deserves further study.

179. The report contends that general compensatory measures which would enable countries suffering a deterioration in their terms of trade to maintain their importing capacity could be useful, and two such proposals are presented for particular consideration. The first scheme, which would operate through the International Monetary Fund, is described as "contra-cyclical lending" designed to "offset some of the international disturbances created by temporary business depressions in the main industrial countries". Assistance to primary producing countries under this scheme would be short-term and repayable. The second proposal is the "automatic mutual insurance scheme", in which countries suffering from a shift in the terms of trade would receive, under defined circumstances, compensatory payments from countries which have benefited. Such assistance would not be repayable.

180. With regard to national stabilization measures, the report indicates various ways in which Governments could, by measures within their domestic jurisdiction, help towards greater stability; reference is made to the need for countries to avoid causing violent disturbance to the economies of other countries; and it is pointed out that effective stabilization may require the simultaneous adoption of national and international measures.

181. The report suggests that in the absence of effective international procedure for discussing and proposing action on the general problem of stabilization the Council should establish an inter-governmental trade stabilization commission to be concerned with the instability of world commodity markets. The commission would be composed of eight or nine government representatives, including those of the most important

²⁶ The discussion of the subject matter covered in this section took place under item 30 of the Council's agenda at the seventeenth session and under item 29 at the eighteenth session. The organizational aspects of the problem of establishing an advisory commission in this field are dealt with in chapter I, section VII, the aspects relating specifically to economic development in chapter III, section I.

²⁷ United Nations Publication, Sales No. 1954.II.B.1.

trading countries, and would meet as needed but should "undertake serious and continued work". The commission would be advisory only and its main tasks would be to consider and make recommendations to the Council on general proposals for stabilization "when the stability of the world's markets appears threatened".

DISCUSSION IN THE COUNCIL AT THE SEVENTEENTH SESSION

182. In the course of the debate²⁸ on this item there was general agreement as to the need for the national and international measures which would contribute to stability. Several representatives emphasized that devices which served temporarily to reduce price fluctuations must be judged by their potentialities for contributing to healthy economic growth. They might retard rather than promote such growth if they interfered with long-term price trends and introduced rigidities and restraints that impaired the elasticity of economic adjustment which was fundamental to economic progress. This, they held, was a danger, in connexion with proposals for inter-governmental commodity arrangements. These representatives also felt that the report had properly stressed the importance of reducing the impact of fluctuations on primary producing activities by sound fiscal, monetary and investment policies as well as by formulating and executing broad development programmes.

183. Some delegations thought that the report had unduly stressed the concept of stability in its interpretation of the phrase "an adequate, just and equitable" as applied by the General Assembly resolution to the relationship between the prices of primary products and those of manufactured goods. Those delegations maintained that there was evidence of a secular deterioration in the terms of trade of primary producers as against those of manufactured products, and of the under-developed countries as against developed countries. Other delegations, however, emphasized that the experts had not found definite evidence on this point and that they had been justified in concentrating on the problems of stability, particularly since the interests of all countries coincided in the question of price stability. International agreement on what constituted fair terms of trade, in the sense of actual price levels, would be difficult to obtain. One representative thought that the report should have given greater attention to problems of long-term trends in terms of trade which was closely linked with problems of short-term fluctuations; it was held that, moreover, price fluctuations were the result of inflexibility in the economic structure of under-developed countries. Attention was drawn to the omission from the report of any reference to the need to expand international trade and to abolish discriminatory trade practices.

184. With regard to the recommendations concerning international commodity agreements, several representatives thought that the report had underestimated the effectiveness of single commodity agreements. They held that it was essential to consider each commodity on its merits in the light of prevailing supply and demand conditions and that circumstances should determine the appropriate method of approach. It was argued that the multi-commodity approach was neither practical nor desirable. Formidable technical problems involved

in single commodity agreements would be only multiplied in attempting to deal with many commodities simultaneously; it would be difficult to persuade governments to give up known and immediate advantages for hypothetical and distant benefits; and finally, there would be great difficulty in finding a basis of common interest for a multi-commodity approach among primary producers themselves. Moreover, any agreement covering many commodities would involve widespread interference with the working of a free world economy. It would magnify the danger of diverting production, consumption and trade patterns from the channels they would be likely to assume under a healthy, competitive and free enterprise system. The net result of such multi-commodity arrangements, even if it were practicable to conclude them, would be detrimental rather than beneficial to economic development. Another representative felt that the objectives stated in the General Assembly resolution might best be achieved by allowing an element of flexibility to Governments and to the main producers of primary commodities in working out single commodity agreements.

185. Some delegations thought that the report's analysis of a "commodity reserve currency scheme" might well form the subject of further study, including full examination of the financial implications of the scheme. Others, however, considered the scheme impractical, and held that there was little likelihood that Governments would be prepared to accept a solution involving a change in existing monetary systems. One representative felt that the Council should give careful consideration to the suggestions of the report concerning compensatory arrangements involving capital transfers between developed and under-developed countries in the event of extreme fluctuations in the terms of trade.

186. Several representatives expressed their support of the recommendation in the report concerning contra-cyclical lending and urged that a determined effort be made to expand the resources of the International Monetary Fund and introduce more flexible practices in their use, not only to help achieve convertibility but also to enhance the role of the Fund in combating depression and meeting the need for credit when terms of trade took a trend unfavourable to an individual country or a group of countries. The representative of the Fund concurred in the opinion that it was one of the important functions of the Fund to make available to its members temporary assistance in meeting a decline in their international receipts arising out of a fall in the value of their exports in time of depression. That view was entirely consistent with the Fund's Articles of Agreement and with past statements of its policy. Present rules and procedures with respect to transactions in general were intended to allow appropriate contra-cyclical transactions. The Fund was fully aware of its responsibility to assist its members in lessening the balance-of-payments impact of any future depression and believed that, with its existing machinery and even with its existing resources, it could make a useful contribution to that end. Moreover, in the event of a severe depression, the Fund would probably consult its members on the desirability of additions to its resources and would consider possible changes in its modes of operation.

187. The representative of Indonesia, speaking as an observer, suggested that the only effective remedy would be an over-all solution under which the com-

²⁸ E/AC.6/SR.142-145, 149-151, 156; E/SR.762, 764-769 and 791.

the valuable work being done by experts under the auspices of the regional economic commissions; it urged that Governments should take all practicable steps to facilitate the further expansion of mutually beneficial international trade; and decided to place the expansion of international trade and the development of international economic relations on the agenda for its twentieth session, when the subject would once again be studied in all its aspects.

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175. The report of this group, entitled *Commodity Trade and Economic Development* (E/2519)²⁷ is transmitted, in accordance with resolution 623 (VII), to the General Assembly together with an account of the action taken by the Council. This report, which was considered by the Council at its seventeenth session, presents the main problems arising from the instability of primary commodity markets and reviews past proposals to deal with these problems. After analysing the behaviour of the prices of different groups of commodities the report concludes that the chief stabilizing measures must be directed separately at the prices of different classes of goods and should be designed to eliminate short-term fluctuations around long-term price movements. If the gross instability in primary commodity markets were moderated in this way then industrialized as well as economically under-developed countries would benefit. For these reasons the report deals principally with measures designed to assist in the stabilization of the prices of primary commodities.

176. The measures examined in the report fall under four main headings: (a) international commodity stabilization schemes; (b) commodity reserve currency schemes; (c) compensatory schemes; (d) national measures.

²⁶ The discussion of the subject matter covered in this section took place under item 30 of the Council's agenda at the seventeenth session and under item 29 at the eighteenth session. The organizational aspects of the problem of establishing an advisory commission in this field are dealt with in chapter I, section VII, the aspects relating specifically to economic development in chapter III, section I.

²⁷ United Nations Publication, Sales No. 1954.II.B.1.

177. With regard to international commodity stabilization schemes, the report concludes that international agreements on individual commodities can prevent excessive short-run fluctuations in the price of the commodities concerned. If, however, agreements are used to hold in check the long-run movement of prices, they will either break down or be maintained only by degrees of restrictions considered generally harmful. Commodity agreements in a number of commodities would benefit all trading countries, but no grounds exist for confidence that agreements for single commodities would be concluded in sufficient number to meet the under-developed countries' urgent need for greater stability of earnings. Provided the problems of finance could be solved, buffer stocks for individual commodities, or for a group of them, are preferable to multilateral contracts. However, where the nature and secular movement of markets in particular commodities render them unsuitable for buffer stock schemes, multilateral contracts may promise a measure of stability. The possibility of simultaneously negotiating a number of commodity agreements should be examined, but the real diversity of commodity problems and complexity of such negotiations should not be disregarded.

178. In the report, consideration is also given to proposals to stabilize the prices of a group of basic commodities through the use of a commodity reserve currency. It is argued that if Governments wish to have stability of price relations consistent with economic progress, then they may have to look beyond schemes relating to particular commodities and, in fact, review the general structure of the world's monetary systems. The report suggests that the "commodity reserve currency" scheme deserves further study.

179. The report contends that general compensatory measures which would enable countries suffering a deterioration in their terms of trade to maintain their importing capacity could be useful, and two such proposals are presented for particular consideration. The first scheme, which would operate through the International Monetary Fund, is described as "contra-cyclical lending" designed to "offset some of the international disturbances created by temporary business depressions in the main industrial countries". Assistance to primary producing countries under this scheme would be short-term and repayable. The second proposal is the "automatic mutual insurance scheme", in which countries suffering from a shift in the terms of trade would receive, under defined circumstances, compensatory payments from countries which have benefited. Such assistance would not be repayable.

180. With regard to national stabilization measures, the report indicates various ways in which Governments could, by measures within their domestic jurisdiction, help towards greater stability; reference is made to the need for countries to avoid causing violent disturbance to the economies of other countries; and it is pointed out that effective stabilization may require the simultaneous adoption of national and international measures.

181. The report suggests that in the absence of effective international procedure for discussing and proposing action on the general problem of stabilization the Council should establish an inter-governmental trade stabilization commission to be concerned with the instability of world commodity markets. The commission would be composed of eight or nine government representatives, including those of the most important

trading countries, and would meet as needed but should "undertake serious and continued work". The commission would be advisory only and its main tasks would be to consider and make recommendations to the Council on general proposals for stabilization "when the stability of the world's markets appears threatened".

DISCUSSION IN THE COUNCIL AT THE SEVENTEENTH SESSION

182. In the course of the debate²⁸ on this item there was general agreement as to the need for the national and international measures which would contribute to stability. Several representatives emphasized that devices which served temporarily to reduce price fluctuations must be judged by their potentialities for contributing to healthy economic growth. They might retard rather than promote such growth if they interfered with long-term price trends and introduced rigidities and restraints that impaired the elasticity of economic adjustment which was fundamental to economic progress. This, they held, was a danger, in connexion with proposals for inter-governmental commodity arrangements. These representatives also felt that the report had properly stressed the importance of reducing the impact of fluctuations on primary producing activities by sound fiscal, monetary and investment policies as well as by formulating and executing broad development programmes.

183. Some delegations thought that the report had unduly stressed the concept of stability in its interpretation of the phrase "an adequate, just and equitable" as applied by the General Assembly resolution to the relationship between the prices of primary products and those of manufactured goods. Those delegations maintained that there was evidence of a secular deterioration in the terms of trade of primary producers as against those of manufactured products, and of the under-developed countries as against developed countries. Other delegations, however, emphasized that the experts had not found definite evidence on this point and that they had been justified in concentrating on the problems of stability, particularly since the interests of all countries coincided in the question of price stability. International agreement on what constituted fair terms of trade, in the sense of actual price levels, would be difficult to obtain. One representative thought that the report should have given greater attention to problems of long-term trends in terms of trade which was closely linked with problems of short-term fluctuations; it was held that, moreover, price fluctuations were the result of inflexibility in the economic structure of under-developed countries. Attention was drawn to the omission from the report of any reference to the need to expand international trade and to abolish discriminatory trade practices.

184. With regard to the recommendations concerning international commodity agreements, several representatives thought that the report had underestimated the effectiveness of single commodity agreements. They held that it was essential to consider each commodity on its merits in the light of prevailing supply and demand conditions and that circumstances should determine the appropriate method of approach. It was argued that the multi-commodity approach was neither practical nor desirable. Formidable technical problems involved

in single commodity agreements would be only multiplied in attempting to deal with many commodities simultaneously; it would be difficult to persuade governments to give up known and immediate advantages for hypothetical and distant benefits; and finally, there would be great difficulty in finding a basis of common interest for a multi-commodity approach among primary producers themselves. Moreover, any agreement covering many commodities would involve widespread interference with the working of a free world economy. It would magnify the danger of diverting production, consumption and trade patterns from the channels they would be likely to assume under a healthy, competitive and free enterprise system. The net result of such multi-commodity arrangements, even if it were practicable to conclude them, would be detrimental rather than beneficial to economic development. Another representative felt that the objectives stated in the General Assembly resolution might best be achieved by allowing an element of flexibility to Governments and to the main producers of primary commodities in working out single commodity agreements.

185. Some delegations thought that the report's analysis of a "commodity reserve currency scheme" might well form the subject of further study, including full examination of the financial implications of the scheme. Others, however, considered the scheme impractical, and held that there was little likelihood that Governments would be prepared to accept a solution involving a change in existing monetary systems. One representative felt that the Council should give careful consideration to the suggestions of the report concerning compensatory arrangements involving capital transfers between developed and under-developed countries in the event of extreme fluctuations in the terms of trade.

186. Several representatives expressed their support of the recommendation in the report concerning contra-cyclical lending and urged that a determined effort be made to expand the resources of the International Monetary Fund and introduce more flexible practices in their use, not only to help achieve convertibility but also to enhance the role of the Fund in combating depression and meeting the need for credit when terms of trade took a trend unfavourable to an individual country or a group of countries. The representative of the Fund concurred in the opinion that it was one of the important functions of the Fund to make available to its members temporary assistance in meeting a decline in their international receipts arising out of a fall in the value of their exports in time of depression. That view was entirely consistent with the Fund's Articles of Agreement and with past statements of its policy. Present rules and procedures with respect to transactions in general were intended to allow appropriate contra-cyclical transactions. The Fund was fully aware of its responsibility to assist its members in lessening the balance-of-payments impact of any future depression and believed that, with its existing machinery and even with its existing resources, it could make a useful contribution to that end. Moreover, in the event of a severe depression, the Fund would probably consult its members on the desirability of additions to its resources and would consider possible changes in its modes of operation.

187. The representative of Indonesia, speaking as an observer, suggested that the only effective remedy would be an over-all solution under which the com-

²⁸ E/AC.6/SR.142-145, 149-151, 156; E/SR.762, 764-769 and 791.

modity agreements thus far concluded in a somewhat haphazard manner to stabilize the price of particular commodities would be replaced by a universal stabilization scheme covering all primary commodities in international trade.

188. The representative of FAO stated that his organization had always held the view, expressed in the report, that adequate national action must be regarded as a first requirement for ensuring reasonable stability of income for the producer, with appropriate safeguards for the consumer. Some of the main findings reached by FAO were on similar lines to those presented in the report. FAO, at its 1953 Conference, had reaffirmed its faith in international commodity agreements as a means of achieving greater stability in an expanding economy; and, while recognizing that consideration should also be given to multi-commodity arrangements, the Conference had concluded that simultaneously with the active exploration of other avenues, the commodity-by-commodity approach to international stabilization arrangements should continue to be pursued, especially in the initial stage. In the case of agricultural products, the slow progress in reaching agreements was partly due to technical difficulties and partly to the fair and reasonable principle that the interests of producing and consuming countries should receive equal consideration. On the whole, FAO felt that the promotion of international commodity stabilization measures had been hampered by the reluctance of Governments to act and by difficulties as yet unresolved in substance rather than by any lack of suitable inter-governmental machinery. However, if it were decided that a new organ were needed, FAO would do its utmost to contribute to the effectiveness of its work.

189. The representative of the ICFTU emphasized the need for international agreements on primary commodities and for the thorough study of the principles to be followed in order to achieve more stable international trade; and, in this connexion, supported the proposal for a new inter-governmental body.

190. With respect to the recommendation in the report for the establishment of an inter-governmental trade stabilization commission opinion was divided, both as to the need for new machinery and also as to the most appropriate time for considering the establishment of any new body.

191. Several delegations took the position that the present machinery was quite adequate. The United Nations, it was pointed out, already possessed in the Interim Co-ordinating Committee on International Commodity Arrangements the means necessary for consideration of the problem of price stabilization; ICCICA could easily be requested to transmit more detailed data on the general condition of commodity markets; and ICCICA was also concerned with convening study groups and international conferences on primary commodities. Again, it would be unwise to create a new organ that would duplicate the Council's discussions of broad economic policies. On the other hand, several representatives pointed out that little or nothing had, in fact, so far been done to bring about an enlarged degree of price stabilization. Others suggested that the proposed commission should also consider measures for the establishment and development of normal international trade relations. It was argued that the inter-governmental groups dealing with individual primary commodities could do little to achieve

general stability. The terms of reference of the ICCICA provided only limited authority and means of action; it was restricted to promoting individual agreements; it was a non-governmental body, whereas only a body composed of government representatives could be of use to the Council in its examination of all the problems pertinent to international trade in primary commodities. To change the ICCICA's terms of reference would be tantamount to setting up a new organ. It might therefore be better to abolish it and replace it by the proposed commodity trade stabilization commission. Such a commission would function continuously and its task would be, not to study the major problems of economic policy, but rather to build the framework for action designed to stabilize prices. Its purpose would not be to duplicate but to facilitate the Council's work.

192. On the question of the appropriate time to consider new machinery, some members of the Council opposed immediate establishment of the commission and expressed the view that it would be unwise to establish a new body to deal with problems of international trade in primary commodities without making a preliminary survey of the work of existing bodies, and without adequate consideration of the functions that might properly be assigned to it. Others referred to the fact that GATT would be reviewed later in the year and pointed out that, because it was difficult to envisage the exact form which the problem would take when the Agreement was revised, it would be advisable to await the outcome of the forthcoming review. One suggestion was that it might be best to defer action on the proposal until the Council, at its eighteenth session, had considered the question of its own reorganization. Another suggestion would have established an *ad hoc* committee to examine the proposals of the group of experts and determine the membership and terms of reference of the stabilization commission. Proposals were made that the Secretary-General be requested to submit to the Council's nineteenth session a report on any development considered relevant to the Council's further consideration of the proposal (E/AC.6/L.82); and that Governments of Member States be invited to comment on the proposed commission as well as other measures recommended in the report (E/AC.6/L.84/Rev.1).

193. Representatives favouring immediate establishment of the commission stressed the urgency of the problem as one requiring action on an international basis. GATT, it was stated, would in any case not meet the requirements of the under-developed countries; it concentrated rather on tariff problems and trade in all commodities, whereas more direct concern with the problem of stability and trade in primary commodities was desired. Another formula proposed that the Council take an immediate decision on the substance of the question, but postpone the actual establishment of the commission to its eighteenth session, when it might be considered in connexion with the question of the reorganization of the Council and its commissions, and that it invite Governments of Member States to transmit to the Council before that session any relevant comments on the advisory commission (E/AC.6/L.78/Rev.1).

194. At the conclusion of the debate²⁰, the Council adopted resolution 512 A (XVII). The preamble stated that all reports on the subject emphasized the need for effective measures of international co-operation to solve the grave problem of the inadequacy and instability of the export proceeds of countries in the process of development; and that, in order to facilitate the adoption of measures to solve these problems on a just and equitable basis, it was necessary to establish specialized machinery within the framework of the United Nations. It considered further that since there was currently no effective international procedure for the study of such problems, it was urgent and essential, both for the under-developed countries and for the international economy as a whole, to find a solution of the problem of the instability of primary commodity markets and the secular deterioration of the terms of trade between primary commodities and manufactured goods in international trade. It also recognized the need for adopting measures likely to create the conditions of stability and well-being which are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations. It then resolved (1) that a permanent "Commission on International Commodity Trade" should be established as an advisory commission to the Council; (2) that the main task of the Commission should be to examine measures designed to avoid excessive price fluctuations, including measures aiming at the maintenance of a just and equitable relationship between the prices of primary commodities and the prices of manufactured goods, in international trade, and to make recommendations; and any Member of the United Nations not represented on the Commission would be permitted to bring relevant problems to its attention and take part in its discussion; (3) that the Commission should also keep constantly under review, submit periodic reports and proposals to the Council and publish studies, on prices, terms of trade and other matters relating to international trade in primary commodities. By this resolution, the Council also decided to postpone the organization and establishment of the Commission until its eighteenth session, and to deal with this aspect in connexion with consideration of the reorganization of the Council and its commissions at that session. It also invited the Governments of Member States to transmit to the Council before its eighteenth session any relevant comments on the Commission and views concerning their participation in it.

VIEWS OF GOVERNMENTS AND AGENCIES

195. In response to this invitation by the Council a number of Governments indicated their views. The Secretary-General issued the replies received up to the close of the Council's eighteenth session in documents E/2623 and Add.1-3. The majority of these replies were favourable to the establishment of a commission and many Governments indicated a desire to participate in its work. However, a number of countries expressed certain reservations about proceeding at the eighteenth

session with the organization and establishment of the Commission and some of them suggested that further action should be postponed until an examination had been made of the relationship of the Commission to any activities which GATT might undertake as a result of the 1954 review of its operations. The view was also expressed that no new international machinery was required in this field.

196. The replies of a number of Governments stated that the Commission's terms of reference required further consideration and some suggested that particular subjects not mentioned in resolution 512 A (XVII) should be included within the matters to be studied by the Commission; particular reference was made by some Governments to the need for the normalization and development of international trade. A number of Governments said in their replies that the members of the Commission should be selected from different geographical regions and from countries representing different degrees of economic development. Some pointed out that it was desirable that the representatives should be highly qualified experts in the field of international commodity trade. Several Governments referred to the need to prevent overlapping between the work of the new Commission and that of existing international organizations.

197. FAO also submitted some material. At its meeting held in June 1954 the FAO Committee on Commodity Problems in considering the action of the Council in establishing the new commission anticipated that arrangements would be made for collaboration with FAO, both at the inter-governmental and secretariat level, and expressed the belief that this would lead to improved activity in this field. In accordance with the request of the Committee, the Director-General of FAO transmitted to the Secretary-General for the consideration of the Council copies of the appropriate section of the report of the FAO Committee on Commodity Problems (E/2625) and a statement of the functions and activities of that Committee.

DISCUSSION IN THE COUNCIL AT THE EIGHTEENTH SESSION

198. At its eighteenth session²⁰ therefore, the Council resumed its consideration of this subject in the light of the views of Governments and of FAO described above, as one aspect of the problem of the organization and operation of the Council and commissions.²¹ All delegations expressed grave concern at the adverse effects both on the under-developed countries and on industrialized countries, of violent fluctuations in the prices of primary commodities. Considerable support was expressed for international action to remedy the situation, but differences of view developed as to the nature of such action and the international authority best suited to assume this responsibility.²² On the one hand it was urged that practical measures embodied in specific governmental undertakings would alone achieve results and that such progress could best be secured if the subject could be brought within the ambit of GATT. One delegation presented a specific proposal (E/AC.24/L.101) on this latter point and undertook to raise the matter at the forthcoming review

²⁰ The Council received the following proposals: a draft resolution by Argentina (E/AC.6/L.78) with amendments by Czechoslovakia (E/AC.6/L.83) and Egypt (E/AC.6/L.86); and a joint draft resolution by Australia and India (E/AC.6/L.82) with amendments by Norway (E/AC.6/L.84 Rev.1) and the United Kingdom (E/AC.6/L.91). These were replaced by a revised Argentine draft resolution (E/AC.6/L.78 Rev.1) with an amendment by Pakistan (E/AC.6/L.96); and by the revised joint draft resolution of Australia and India (E/AC.6/L.82 Rev.1), which was withdrawn after adoption by the Economic Committee of the former.

²¹ E/AC.24/SR.125, 127-132; E/SR.796-798 and 829.

²² See chapter I, section VII.

²³ Draft resolution E/AC.24/L.101 was considered with revisions 1 to 4.

by the Contracting Parties of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

199. Against this view it was pointed out that the Council had already decided by resolution 512 A (XVII) that a new commission could best advance international action in this field, that the problem was urgent and did not permit indefinite postponement while other bodies re-examined it, although the situation could always be reviewed if GATT was able and wished to assume a role in this field. In particular it was urged that the proposed Commission would be a practical and technical body of experts whose recommendations would be of real importance to Governments. A proposal for its immediate constitution was accordingly submitted.

200. In urging the immediate establishment of the Commission, some representatives pointed to the decline which had taken place in the prices of primary commodities during 1953. Other delegations stated, however, that low prices did not necessarily imply excessive fluctuations, and that in fact, the last 18 months had seen remarkable stability in commodity prices.

201. One delegation, while stressing its understanding of the seriousness of the problem, maintained that the proposed Commission raised most difficult questions regarding the participation of its government in the Commission. Another delegate emphasizing the desirability of proceeding as far as possible by agreement suggested that an *ad hoc* committee of the Council might be established with the responsibility of making recommendations to the Council designed to overcome the difficulties felt by several delegations concerning the terms of reference and organization of the new Commission.

202. It was further pointed out that the new Commission, if established, probably could not meet until January 1955 by which time more would be known of the outcome of the review of GATT. In any case the Commission would need first to prepare recommendations to the Council regarding its programme of work, organization, and rules of procedure.

203. The proposal before the Council, intended to establish the Commission immediately, dealt with its membership, working arrangements, and reporting responsibilities toward the Council and toward Governments of Member States. It also provided for the dissolution of ICCICA and the transfer to the Secretary-General of its function with regard to the convening of study groups and commodity conferences.

204. The observers for Brazil, Chile, Indonesia and Mexico, Governments not members of the Council, supported the creation of the Commission and referred particularly to the assistance which stabilized commodity markets could bring to under-developed countries.

205. Various delegations called attention to the three principal fields of ICCICA activities, namely the submission of periodic reports to the Council on the commodity situation, the co-ordination of the work of the study groups and other international bodies active in the commodity field, and the convening of study groups and commodity conferences. Under the terms of reference of the Commission as set out in resolution 512 A (XVII) the first function would be undertaken by the Commission. The view was expressed that ICCICA should retain its other functions.

Recommendations of the Council regarding the Commission on International Commodity Trade

206. At the close of the discussion the Council adopted resolution 557 F (XVIII). The preamble to this resolution took note of the comments of Governments made both in their written replies and in their statements during the Council debates and notes specifically the fact that while a majority of Governments wished the Commission to begin work as soon as possible, several others had expressed the view that an opportunity should first be given to the Contracting Parties to GATT to consider to what extent the problem of instability in primary commodities should be dealt with under the auspices of that Agreement. The preamble also took note of the views communicated on behalf of the FAO Committee on Commodity Problems.

207. Provision was made in the operative part of the resolution for the immediate constitution of the Commission with eighteen members to be elected by the Council bearing in mind the need to ensure adequate representation of all geographical regions and of countries in various stages of development which participate to an important extent in international commodity trade and/or are closely dependent thereon. A term of office of three years was provided; arrangements were included for terms of different lengths for those appointed at the first election, which would take place at the resumed eighteenth session of the Council with subsequent elections being conducted in accordance with the usual procedure for elections to functional commissions of the Council, retiring members being eligible for re-election. The resolution provided for the appointment, by the Member States elected to the Commission, of representatives who should be qualified experts familiar with the technical and practical problems of international commodity trade. Member States not on the Commission would be able to bring to the attention of the Commission any problem considered to be of special importance with international commodity trade within the Commission's terms of reference, and also to participate in debate on problems in which it had a direct concern. Subject to prior authorization by the Council, the Commission would be able to invite States which were not Members of the United Nations to take part in its discussions when their presence appeared advisable for further clarification of the problems under study. In addition, under certain conditions the Commission was authorized to seek information through the Secretary-General from Member and non-member States of the United Nations; it was also authorized to inform Members of the conclusion of its studies and to send its reports to them.

208. Provision was also made for the Commission to establish and maintain relationships through the Secretary-General with various international agencies, study groups and other bodies concerned with the problem of primary commodities or with related questions; particular reference was made to the need for consultation with certain other international bodies having responsibilities in the field of international commodity trade, including the FAO Committee on Commodity Problems, to prevent duplication and overlapping of activities.

209. It was provided that the Commission should meet as frequently as considered necessary to discharge its work efficiently but that it should only meet when

specific items were proposed for discussion. It was authorized to hold private meetings when considered necessary. At the same time it was made clear that neither travel nor subsistence expenses of the representatives of members of the Commission should be paid out of United Nations funds.

210. In order that the meetings of the Commission away from Headquarters might be related to the general programme of United Nations meetings, the resolution included a provision that such meetings should be subject to prior authorization by the Council and in accordance with the decisions of the General Assembly. Provision was made for the first meeting of the Commission to be held as early as possible in 1955 when it would include on its agenda a survey of the current situation in international commodity trade, a consideration of proposals by Governments regarding international commodity problems, and a consideration of the terms of reference, rules of procedure and programme of work of the Commission.

211. It was also provided that the Council should consider the status and functions of the Commission in the future in the light of any important development in its field, including the results of the discussions by the Contracting Parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade which should be taken into account as soon as possible after these results are known.

212. The Commission would submit reports to the Council on its activities, which might include recommendations; its first report on its specific activities concerning international trade should present its observations, taking into account the record of the Council's discussions on the subject, concerning its terms of reference, organization, rules of procedure and work programme, and is to be submitted to the twentieth session. At that session the Council would also consider, in consultation with the Secretary-General, the status and functions of the Interim Co-ordinating Committee for International Commodity Arrangements which, for the present, would continue its functions of convening intergovernmental study groups, of making recommendations to the Secretary-General on the convening of commodity conferences and of co-ordinating the activities of the individual commodity study groups and councils. All other responsibilities hitherto assumed by ICCICA would be assumed by the Commission.

Section V. Production and distribution of newsprint and printing paper

213. The Council, at its seventeenth session³³ had before it a report (E/2543)³⁴ on the production and distribution of newsprint and printing paper, prepared by the Secretary-General in accordance with Council resolution 423 (XIV). This report, which formed part of the documentation of the Council in connexion with the general debate on freedom of information,³⁵ summarized the activities of the various organizations in this field since July 1952, and made reference to a comprehensive survey of the world's pulp and paper prospects and resources, which FAO was preparing in collaboration with UNESCO, ECE and ECLA.

214. A number of representatives expressed their apprehensions that, although the current supplies were adequate, the demand would increase substantially over a long period while supplies were not likely to expand without special assistance. They considered, therefore, that attention should be given to the possibility of expanding production of newsprint through the use of new raw materials as well as available raw materials.

215. In resolution 522 L (XVII), the Council took into account the work being done by FAO and other interested agencies, in co-operation with the United Nations, in seeking a long-term solution of the newsprint problem and noted with satisfaction the studies being undertaken with a view to the development of the paper and pulp industry in Latin America. It recommended to FAO that it continue to pay due attention to Governments' requests for services and advice on pulp and newsprint and further recommended that the United Nations and other interested agencies continue their co-operation in seeking new measures to deal with the newsprint problem.

Section VI. Question of a study group on steel: report of the Interim Co-ordinating Committee for International Commodity Arrangements

216. In accordance with Council resolution 462 B (XV) which requested the Interim Co-ordinating Committee for International Commodity Arrangements to consult with Governments on the desirability and usefulness of convening an inter-governmental study group on steel, the Council had before it at its seventeenth session³⁶ the report of ICCICA (E/2537)³⁷ recording the action taken by the Committee and summarizing the replies received from Governments.

217. In its report, ICCICA referred to recent studies on problems relating to steel made by various international organizations and also examined the possibility of inter-governmental negotiations regarding an agreement on steel.

218. In the course of the Council's discussion a number of representatives expressed satisfaction with the report and general agreement with the views of those Governments which had opposed the formation of a study group. Some representatives, however, expressed disagreement with the reasons given by Governments for opposing the proposal.

219. After discussion the Council, taking into account the view that no decision should be reached until the Council had dealt with the report on *Commodity Trade and Economic Development*³⁸ prepared by a group of experts, adopted resolution 519 (XVII) in which it took note of the report of ICCICA on the question of a study group of steel.

Section VII. Question of a convention on the enforcement of international arbitral awards

220. The Council, at its seventeenth session, considered³⁹ international action to be taken towards the conclusion of a convention on the enforcement of inter-

³³ E/SR.769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774 and 788.

³⁴ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Seventeenth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 12(c).

³⁵ See Chapter V, Section VI.

³⁶ E/AC.6/SR.141 and 142; E/SR.791.

³⁷ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Seventeenth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 9.

³⁸ United Nations Publication, Sales No. 1954.II.B.1.

³⁹ E/SR.761 and 763.

national arbitral awards. The subject had been raised by the International Chamber of Commerce and had been placed on the Council's agenda at the request of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/2552).⁴⁰ The supporting documentation (E/C.2/373 and Add.1) submitted by the ICC included a preliminary draft convention adopted on 13 March 1953 by the Chamber's Committee on International Commercial Arbitration. The purpose of the draft convention was to facilitate the recognition and enforcement of international arbitral awards and thereby increase the effectiveness of international commercial arbitration.

221. In view of the complexity of the question and the limited time that had been available to governments, the discussion in the Council was confined to the procedural aspects of the matter. In the course of the discussion the representative of ICC expressed the hope that an *ad hoc* committee would be set up to study the draft convention. A proposal (E/L.586)⁴⁰ for the establishment of a committee composed of representatives of eight Member States was submitted. It was suggested that the question might be referred to the International Law Commission but in view of the Commission's heavy work schedule it was thought preferable to refer the matter to an *ad hoc* committee. Some members of the Council stressed the desirability of obtaining the opinion of Governments on the draft convention before taking further action; it was pointed out, however, that in circulating the resolution, the Secretary-General should inform Member States that they could make their views available to the proposed committee.

222. The Council adopted resolution 520 (XVII) establishing an *ad hoc* committee composed of representatives of eight Member States to be designated by the President of the Council. It invited each of the Governments represented on the *ad hoc* Committee to designate as its representative a person having special qualifications in that field; and instructed the Committee to study the matter raised by the ICC in the light of all the relevant considerations and to report its conclusions to the Council, submitting such proposals as it might deem appropriate, including, if it saw fit, a draft convention.

223. The following Member States were subsequently designated by the President of the Council to be represented on the *ad hoc* Committee: Australia, Belgium, Ecuador, Egypt, India, Sweden, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (E/2640).

Section VIII. Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

224. The Council, at its eighteenth session, considered⁴¹ the annual report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (E/2591 and Add. 1-3).⁴²

⁴⁰ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Seventeenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 27.

⁴¹ E/SR.809, 811, 814 and 815.

⁴² Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eighteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 19 (E/2591); Report of the Seventeenth Session of the Conference 23 November-11 December 1953, Rome, 1954 (E/2591/Add.1); The work of the FAO 1952/53: Report of the Director-General - Rome 1953 (E/2591/Add.2); The State of Food and Agriculture 1953, Part II - Longer Term Prospects, FAO, Rome, January 1954 (E/2591/Add.3).

225. The representative of FAO, in presenting the report, pointed out that improvements in world food supplies, although encouraging, fell short of what was needed. Moreover, a grave discrepancy remained between the trends in the richer and poorer countries. Thus, estimates of food production up to 1956-1957, drawn up on the basis of examinations made at regional meetings of FAO, showed that even if governmental schemes were fully carried out, they would only slightly decrease the great disparities in the amount of food available per head of population in different parts of the world.

226. In view of substantial surpluses in certain commodities since 1951, particularly in North America, the 1953 FAO Conference, modifying earlier recommendations in favour of the maximum increase of agricultural production had urged greater selectivity in the increase of production, recommending that market, as well as technical factors, should be taken into account. The existence of surpluses also called attention to the need for increasing the demand for agricultural products by speeding up plans for general economic development and by the achievement and maintenance of full employment. Conversely, as agricultural producers represented fully one half of the world population, they were, given satisfactory market conditions, highly important consumers of the products of other sectors of the economy.

227. The representative of FAO also noted certain developments since the submission of the current report; he referred in particular to the establishment of a sub-committee of the Committee on Commodity Problems, to keep international problems of surplus disposal under constant supervision, and to decisions by the Co-ordinating Committee of the FAO Council concerning the evaluation of FAO technical assistance activities and the longer term assessment of world capacity and needs.

228. Council members expressed appreciation of the work done by FAO, of its reports and of its technical assistance activities. The improving trend of agricultural production was also noted with satisfaction; however, concern at the unevenness of the progress in world agricultural production, and at the potentially dangerous effects of accumulating surpluses, were also generally shared by delegations. A number of delegations emphasized the need for joint international action to solve the problem of the growing surpluses appearing in some areas while under-developed countries, generally, were short of foodstuffs. The priorities in FAO's work, namely, the problems of the under-developed countries, the selective expansion of production and the problems of marketing surpluses, were generally supported by the Council members.

229. A number of delegations commented on the technical assistance activities of FAO and described the benefits which their countries had derived from it. Suggestions were made that the duration of individual experts' service on missions might be extended, that collaboration between FAO and the national technical assistance committees might be strengthened. It was also thought that the reports of FAO should deal separately with assistance work coming within FAO's regular programme and that falling under the expanded Programme. Representatives supported the regional nature of some of FAO's technical assistance activities. FAO was generally commended for its co-operation

with other agencies in rendering technical assistance. One member drew attention to the importance of avoiding the convening of meetings on the same subject at different places. FAO was also commended for the efficient internal review procedures of its technical assistance programme.

230. With regard to surpluses, the work of the Committee on Commodity Problems was praised by several delegations, and the view was expressed that FAO's action on the international plane should be directed to the correction of maladjustments in distribution rather than to research and technical assistance. One representative felt, however, that the principles embodied in resolution No. 14 adopted by the FAO Conference at its seventh session on the subject of surpluses were too general and should be couched in more specific terms, in order to achieve more effective results in practice. Several delegations emphasized that existing surpluses indicated a need for greater attention to problems of marketing and distribution, with particular reference to methods of reducing distribution costs.

231. A number of delegations referred to the shortage of capital as an obstacle to achieving the desired increase in agricultural productivity. On the other hand, it was stated that in the past undue emphasis had been placed on the need for international investment in agriculture, while the importance of domestic investment had been neglected.

232. Several delegations discussed their agricultural policies and progress. One delegation expressed the wish for more meetings on land reform problems. Other delegations suggested that special emphasis be placed on agricultural extension, education and research.

233. Replying to the observations made, the representative of FAO stated that his organization fully appreciated the importance, especially for under-developed countries, of considering the problems of surplus disposal and economic development together, and the Director-General of FAO was seeking the co-operation of IBRD, the IMF and the United Nations Secretariat in the matter. He expressed his gratification that FAO's work priorities were in line with the views expressed by the Council members. Dealing with the technical assistance programme, he emphasized that the regular budget of FAO provided a narrower basis for expanding the technical assistance programme than was the case in other organizations. He announced the holding of two further seminars dealing with the reform of agrarian structures, but also pointed out that comparatively few requests for technical assistance in connexion with land reform had been received.

234. The Council adopted resolution 534 (XVIII) which took note with satisfaction of the report of FAO. It recommended to Member States that they promote better national facilities for rural credit and other financial measures for agricultural development and devote a reasonable proportion of domestic and international capital to agriculture and agriculturally based industries; it recommended that FAO should continue to make available to countries in which agricultural productivity is low all possible facilities for promoting improved techniques in agriculture, better control of pests and more advanced husbandry, and recommended to the Governments concerned to make the fullest use of such facilities so that output could increase at lower

costs. The resolution further recommended Member States to bear in mind, both in their international economic relations and in their international economic co-operation, that the important objective of increasing the demand for agricultural products also required the adoption of rapid and vigorous measures to stimulate industrial expansion, full employment and economic development. Finally, it recommended that States Members of the United Nations should observe the principles established by the Conference of States Members of FAO with regard to the disposal of agricultural surpluses in order that, recognizing the need to improve consumption levels and, in particular, to raise nutritional levels in under-developed areas, in the family and among children and other vulnerable groups, Member States possessing surpluses might adopt the necessary safeguards in disposing of them, as to avoid disruption of world markets and harmful interference with normal patterns of production and international trade.

Section IX. Annual report of the International Monetary Fund

235. The Council, at its seventeenth session considered⁴³ the annual report of the International Monetary Fund for the fiscal year ending 30 April 1953 (E/2946),⁴⁴ together with a supplement covering the period from 1 May 1953 to 31 January 1954 (E/2496/Add.1).

236. In a statement to the Council, the Managing Director of the Fund declared that in 1953 the world economy had been in a more satisfactory state than in any other since the end of the Second World War. The volume of world trade had attained the very high level of 1951. In numerous countries the balance-of-payments position had been strengthened and the gold and dollar reserves had increased, mainly as the result of transactions with the United States. The generally improved reserve position in 1953 was not due to new or tighter restrictions. The outlook for the attainment of convertibility for the main currencies had improved; in a number of countries steps were being taken to increase the area of effective convertibility. Discrimination in trade was being reduced and exchange controls relaxed.

237. Some of the factors which had contributed to the improvement of the payments and reserve position were temporary, however, and their disappearance might again create a dollar gap. Moreover, many countries still restricted imports from the dollar area. The determination of the United States and other Governments to take anti-depression measures whenever necessary would, in the view of the Fund, justify the expectation that there would be no major interruption in world economic growth, to which the United States economy had provided a strong stimulus during the past eight years.

238. An increasing number of deficit countries had used fiscal and monetary controls to reduce inflationary pressure in 1953. Existing payments difficulties were primarily the problems of individual countries and resulted most frequently from inflation and fluctuations in the demand for primary products in export markets.

⁴³ E/SR.771 and 772.

⁴⁴ *International Monetary Fund, Annual Report, 1953.* Washington, D.C.

239. The Managing Director stated that the policies governing the use of the resources of the Fund had been more fully developed and that the Fund had become better equipped to assist members in temporary balance of payments difficulties. For the first time, the Fund had waived, in two cases, the limitation of drawings by any member to 25 per cent of its quota in any twelve-month period. In the case of one member a stand-by credit of more than six months' duration had been agreed upon for the first time. The Fund had sold a greater amount of exchange in 1953 than in any other year except 1947, and it had received more gold and dollars through repurchases than in any previous year. Consultations with members that continued exchange restrictions and discriminations had also been held in 1953. A considerable number of technical assistance missions had been sent out by the Fund during the year.

240. With reference to resolution 483 C (XVI) in which the Council, after examination of the Fund's report on "The Adequacy of Monetary Reserves" (E/2544),⁴⁵ had requested the Fund to keep the question of such reserves under review, the Managing Director stated that the Fund published many of the relevant statistics every month and that it kept all the related problems under review. He also stated that the Fund's examination of the possibility of achieving exchange controls under resolution 468 H (XV) had not yet been completed but that there was, as yet, insufficient evidence that discrimination in transport insurance was a significant factor in world trade.

241. In the debate in the Council, a number of representatives, while supporting the analysis of the international economic situation in 1953 presented by the Managing Director of the Fund, stressed the precarious and uncertain nature of some of the circumstances which had accounted for the favourable development of international trade and payments during that year. It was also pointed out that there had been a decline in the monetary reserves of certain countries, in Asia and the Near East and that unemployment had increased in some parts of the world. Some representatives, emphasizing the importance of appropriate internal economic policies, expressed the belief that the currencies of the main trading countries could be rendered convertible in the near future. One representative indicated that the Fund would now be willing and able, with the help of its members, to assume the risks and take the action required to prevent any serious crisis in international payments. The opinion was expressed, however, that emergency measures should be planned in advance to meet the eventuality of a severe depression. It was pointed out that an adjustment of policies in the interest of international co-operation was required not only in countries with payments difficulties but also in countries in a more favourable situation. Some representatives drew attention to the special difficulties experienced in reconciling policies of economic development with the maintenance of equilibrium in external payments. The greater degree of flexibility introduced by the Fund with regard to the use of its resources was welcomed by the Council. Critical reference was made, however, to the voting system of the Fund and the increase in the interest rates charged for the use of the Fund's resources.

242. The Council adopted resolution 513 (XVII) taking note of the report of the Fund.

Section X. Transport and communications questions

243. In accordance with Council resolution 414 (XIII), the Transport and Communications Commission meets once every two years and, therefore, did not meet during the year covered by this report. However, the activities in progress in the field of transport and communications have continued and the preparatory work for the Commission's seventh session, to be held early in 1955, is being carried on in accordance with Council resolutions 468 (XV), 518 (XVII) and 537 (XVIII). The action taken on some specific points in the field of transport and communications, since the sixteenth session of the Council, are noted below.

ROAD SIGNS AND SIGNALS

244. At its seventeenth session⁴⁶ the Council had before it a report from the Secretary-General (E/2523 and Add.1)⁴⁷ setting forth the results of his consultations with governments in pursuance of Council resolution 468 D (XV) concerning the Protocol on a Uniform System of Road Signs and Signals. The report contained the views of 27 Governments on the Protocol. While a number of them stated their agreement with the Protocol or their readiness to sign it with or without reservations, a number of other Governments stated that, for various reasons, they were not prepared to sign it. The Council adopted resolution 518 A (XVII) noting that many Governments had not yet submitted their observations on the Protocol, and that there was a considerable divergence of views among those Governments that had already done so. The resolution consequently requested the Commission to examine the matter at its next session with a view to the preparation of appropriate recommendations as to any further action which might be deemed desirable. It also requested that Governments, which had not yet done so, submit their observations on the Protocol, as soon as possible, to the Secretary-General.

CUSTOMS FORMALITIES FOR TOURING

245. By resolution 468 F (XV), the Secretary-General had been instructed to convene, as early as possible in 1954, a conference of Governments for the conclusion on a world-wide basis of two conventions relating to customs formalities, namely (i) for the temporary importation of private road motor vehicles carrying persons and the equipment of such vehicles, and (ii) for tourism (i.e., the personal effects of tourists travelling by any means of transport).

246. The United Nations Conference on Customs Formalities for the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles and for Tourism was held at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 11 May to 4 June 1954, as reported in document E/2617. In addition to its Final Act (E/CONF.16/19), the Conference adopted the following instruments:

(a) A Convention concerning Customs Facilities for Touring (E/CONF.16/20);

⁴⁶ E/SR.757.

⁴⁵ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 2(c).*

⁴⁷ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Seventeenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 10 (a).*

(b) An additional Protocol to the Convention concerning Customs Facilities for Touring, relating to the Importation of Tourist Publicity Documents and Material (E/CONF.16/21);

(c) A Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, with five technical annexes (E/CONF.16/22).

These instruments were signed by a number of States on the closing day of the Conference. Since then there have been a few additional signatures and the total number, as of 1 August 1954, is as follows: 42 States have signed the Final Act; 29 have signed the Touring Convention; 23 the Additional Protocol; and 30 the Road Vehicles Convention. These instruments will remain open for signature until 31 December 1954, after which they may be acceded to. Each Convention will come into force when ratified or acceded to by fifteen States and the Additional Protocol after five ratifications or accessions.

247. On the basis of the Secretary-General's report on this Conference (E/2617),⁴⁸ the Council adopted⁴⁹ resolution 537 B (XVIII) which notes with appreciation the results achieved by the Conference and expresses the hope that the instruments prepared and opened for signature by it will early enter into force upon ratification by the required number of Governments.

SITUATION WITH RESPECT TO RATIFICATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL MARITIME CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION (IMCO)

248. The Council adopted⁵⁰ resolution 518 C (XVII) which took note with appreciation of the report (E/2520)⁵¹ by the fourteen Governments which have accepted the IMCO Convention, and invited the Secretary-General to consult with the Governments of those eligible States which have not hitherto ratified the Convention to ascertain how far they have advanced towards ratification, and to hasten as far as possible the entry into force of the Convention. As of 1 August 1954, fifteen States had ratified the Convention. During the period under review, three additional States signed the Convention, subject to ratification.

POLLUTION OF SEA WATER

249. In resolution 518 B (XVII) the Council took note⁵² of a report by the Secretary-General (E/2522)⁵³ stating that the Government of the United Kingdom had convened an *ad hoc* diplomatic conference in London on the subject of pollution of sea water, for 26 April 1954, at which the Secretary-General had been invited to be represented; it further noted that any convention which might be agreed upon at this conference would be brought within the scope of the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization, if and when it were set up. The Council instructed the Secretary-General to postpone further action with respect to the convening of the committee of experts foreseen in resolution 468 B (XV), pending the out-

come of the London Conference and to report on the results thereof to the Council at its eighteenth session, to enable the Council to decide whether it was any longer necessary to establish the committee of experts.

250. The London Conference met from 26 April to 12 May and adopted "The International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea by Oil, 1954", as well as a Final Act embodying eight resolutions, as reported in document E/2609.⁵⁴ In resolution No. 8, the United Nations was asked to undertake the collection, analysis and dissemination of technical information about oil pollution in various countries. Pending the coming into being of IMCO, this problem is in fact already under study by the Secretariat, as previously reported.

251. At its eighteenth session, the Council,⁵⁵ after having examined the report by the Secretary-General on the results of the London Conference (E/2609), adopted resolution 537 A (XVIII) which considered that it is no longer necessary to establish the committee of experts and instructed the Secretary-General to discontinue the action with respect to the convening of this committee. It further instructed him to give effect, in consultation with the Governments represented at the London Conference, to the request expressed by that Conference in its resolution No. 8 on the collection and dissemination by the appropriate organ of the United Nations of technical information about oil pollution, and to keep the Transport and Communications Commission informed of the performance of this task by the Secretariat, so long as the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization has not been established.

Section XI. Statistical questions

252. The Council at its eighteenth session⁵⁶ considered the report of the eighth session of the Statistical Commission (E/2569)⁵⁷ and adopted resolution 536 (XVIII) taking note of the report. The principal questions dealt with in the report are indicated below.

EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS

253. The Commission noted with satisfaction the advances in international comparability which had resulted from recommendations on external trade statistics made at its seventh and earlier sessions. Thirty-two countries (accounting for nearly 70 per cent of world trade) were currently presenting their statistics according to the United Nations Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) and twenty more were arranging to do so in the near future.

254. Most countries had signified their ability to accept the principle of "transaction value" which, on the recommendation of the seventh session of the Commission, had been approved by the Council in resolution 469 B (XV) as a basis for the valuation for statistical purposes of goods entering external trade. At its eighth session the Commission requested that a review be made of the valuation practices used in various countries and, where difficulty had been en-

⁴⁸ *Ibid*, Eighteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 6 (b).

⁴⁹ E/SR.794.

⁵⁰ E/SR.757.

⁵¹ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Seventeenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 10 (c).

⁵² E/SR.757.

⁵³ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Seventeenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 10 (b).

⁵⁴ *Ibid*, Eighteenth Session, agenda item 6 (a).

⁵⁵ E/SR.794.

⁵⁶ E/SR.793.

⁵⁷ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eighteenth Session, Supplement No. 5.

countered in adopting the transaction value, that a study be made of appropriate methods of obtaining supplementary data in terms of the transaction value. The Commission further suggested that Governments periodically provide, besides the legal definition of value, a statement of the methods used in practice for valuation.

255. At its seventh session the Commission had suggested that Member States be asked about their ability progressively to adopt additional measures approved by the Commission for improving the comparability of the statistics. On the basis of the views of Member States and specialized agencies, the Commission recommended that: (1) wherever the categories are important, fish landed by foreign fishing vessels and fish landed abroad by domestic fishing vessels be included respectively in import and export statistics; (2) statistics of bunkers and stores for ships and aircraft where important and available be recorded in a separate account supplementary to the merchandise trade account; (3) pending further study, new ships and aircraft bought or sold be included in merchandise trade statistics when possible, but that countries record independently of the trade statistics the second-hand ships and aircraft entering and leaving their registers as a result of transfer of ownership; (4) the Secretary-General study further the possibility of reaching agreement on a more uniform and precise definition and treatment of re-exports and transit trade and of attribution of imports by country of provenance.

256. At its sixth session the Commission had arranged for the preparation of a summary showing for each country the national definition of its customs area. This summary was to replace the list annexed to the International Convention relating to Economic Statistics of 1928 which had become obsolete in a number of respects, and was to be used internationally as the basis for attributing imports and exports by countries of provenance and destination. The Commission invited the Secretary-General to revise the summary taking into account observations made by members of the Commission and to circulate it to Member Governments for comment before publication.

257. Because of the wide use of the SITC for statistics of the quantity and value of goods imported and exported, the Commission recommended that its use be extended to the analysis, by commodity classes, of indexes of quantum and unit value. An analysis into the following commodity classes, based on the SITC was recommended: (a) food, beverages and tobacco; (b) manufactured goods other than food, beverages and tobacco; (c) crude materials other than fuels; (d) fuels.

258. The Commission also recommended a study of the methods periodically employed by governments to verify the reliability of their indexes.

WHOLESALE PRICE STATISTICS

259. The Commission at previous sessions had arrived at recommendations designed to improve statistics of wholesale prices. Considerable study of the views of countries and experts concerning the methods of compiling index numbers of wholesale prices had revealed a division of opinion as to the usefulness of the traditional index in which the price quotations are averaged for commodity groupings which have no

counterpart in the aggregates in use in current economic analysis. The traditional index was contrasted with sector or industrial index in which the groupings correspond with aggregates of production by different industries in industrial sectors.

260. The Commission noted that the Third Regional Meeting of European Statisticians held in June 1953 (E/CN.3/Conf.3/1 and E/CN.3/191) had been of the view that it would be desirable for countries to undertake the preparation of sector index numbers on an experimental basis. The Commission discussed various aspects of the problem and decided that no definite recommendation on the relative merits of compiling index numbers on the traditional commodity system or on the sector approach should be made until the Commission had considered the results of the experience of countries in experimenting further with sector indices. The Commission therefore drew the attention of countries which were not yet compiling price index numbers of the sector or industrial type to the usefulness of so doing, selecting first those of greatest economic significance to the country. It requested the Secretary-General to collect information on the progress of these experiments and to report to the Commission at its next session in 1956.

INDUSTRIAL STATISTICS

261. Up to the present the Commission has used the concept of the establishment or plant as the basic unit for the collection and presentation of industrial statistics. The Commission at its seventh session had requested that a study be made of the purposes which could be served by compilations of statistics on enterprises or firms as distinct from compilations based on the establishments comprised in enterprises. The Commission considered a memorandum by the Secretary-General on this problem (E/CN.3/169) and concurred in the views expressed therein, that statistics of enterprises could be regarded as a separate subject. The Commission decided that since a limited number of countries had thus far undertaken compilations of this kind, the possibilities of internationally comparable statistics were not great. Yet because of the importance of such statistics as an instrument for economic analysis the Commission requested the Secretary-General to prepare a report on the sources and uses of compilations of statistics of enterprises made by countries.

262. The Commission gave further study to statistics of stocks and consumption which had been the subject of discussion at previous sessions (E/CN.3/176). The Conference of European Statisticians had set up a special working group to examine the purposes of these statistics, country practices (especially those pertaining to data collection) and the possibilities of their improvement by the establishment of standards. The Commission noted the work of the Conference and emphasized the need for studies of the presentation of data on bases which integrated the activities of the different parts of the economic structure as a whole. The Secretary-General was therefore requested to continue work on the subjects of stocks and consumption, assigning priority to such industries as are of special interest to governments of Member States.

263. The Commission at its seventh session had requested that a further report be made upon the treatment of the industrial activities of households. A summary of the comments which had been solicited

from statisticians of different countries (E/CN.3/168) was studied by the Commission and a verbal report was received on the discussion at the Third Regional Conference of Statisticians (ECAFE) in New Delhi in March 1954 on the importance of the household as a producing unit. The Commission emphasized the importance of devising methods by which statistics of production in households could be measured and included in the appropriate categories in statistics of industrial production. This need was especially evident in the less highly industrialized countries where household production accounted for a substantial proportion of total production. The Secretary-General was requested to give attention to the development of standards in statistics relating to household activities, with special reference on national income and social accounts.

SOCIAL STATISTICS

264. The Commission considered the results of an overall survey (summarized in E/CN.3/178) dealing with the uses and stage of development of statistics in the several fields sometimes considered as comprising "social statistics": namely, population and vital statistics, social stratification and social mobility, family and household structure, distribution of income and wealth, levels of living, health statistics, nutrition, housing, education and culture, conditions of work and employment, specific aspects of rural welfare, social security, child welfare, care and rehabilitation of physically handicapped, care of the aged and the destitute, crime statistics and social expenditures. It was found that many countries were compiling some statistics under these headings, but that much remained to be done to attain greater uniformity. The United Nations and the specialized agencies could effectively collaborate on the tasks of developing statistical standards and of improving existing standards, and it was the Commission's view that suitable priorities should be assigned.

265. The Commission agreed that special attention should be given by the United Nations to building up more exact knowledge on social stratification, family and household structure and the distribution of income and wealth, more emphasis being given to income than to wealth.

266. The Commission also studied the results of an analysis of items included in recent housing censuses and a review of methods which could be used by countries to improve their statistics on housing and dwellings (E/CN.3/187). The Commission requested that the examination of national housing and dwelling statistics on the basis of data collected through censuses or sample surveys or in other ways be continued, attention being given to regional requirements and standards; it asked specifically that studies be made of methods and proposals for the development of housing and dwelling statistics; that concepts and definitions currently in use be re-examined; and that different methods such as sampling surveys or the setting up of a permanent register of houses and dwellings for the purpose of obtaining current information on occupancy, housing conditions and the deterioration of housing be also studied.

267. In respect to education statistics, the Commission considered a memorandum prepared by UNESCO on "improving the International Comparability of Statistics on Illiteracy and Education" (E/CN.3/188), which presented certain definitions, methods of meas-

urement, classification and tabulation of data relating to illiteracy and education, which were still under study and were ultimately to be communicated to its member Governments for comment. The Commission recommended that United Nations and UNESCO continue the study of means of improving the international comparability of statistics relating to illiteracy and educational levels of the population, and that the two secretariats co-operate in appraising the results of the recent population censuses so that the definition of literacy might be revised for census purposes and proposals made for standard tabulations of census results on literacy and other educational characteristics of the population. It felt that UNESCO should be encouraged in its efforts to improve the international comparability of statistics relating to educational systems and to examine the possibility of devising objective tests of literacy.

MEASUREMENTS OF LEVELS OF LIVING

268. The Commission had before it a report on *International Definition and Measurements of Standards and Levels of Living* (E/CN.3/179-E/CN.5/299), drawn up by a committee of experts convened by the Secretary-General with the participation of the International Labour Office, FAO, WHO and UNESCO. As in the case of social statistics, several different kinds of statistics are grouped under this general heading, and it was the task of the experts to differentiate and define the various elements which could be measured to show changes in the levels and standards of living. The definition of these elements, with which the Commission generally agreed, would make it possible for national Governments and international agencies to attain more unified results in studies designed for time-to-time or country-to-country comparisons.

269. The Commission was also in general agreement with the following major conclusions of the experts: (a) no single index of the level of living can be devised to measure as a whole differences in levels of living between countries; (b) no type of monetary index as a general international measure of levels of living can be recommended; (c) the problem of levels of living should be approached by analysis of many "components" representing generally recognized values (such as those in the fields of health, nutrition education, etc.) and by the use of "indicators" for the many types of components; (d) the statistical analysis of "indicators" and "components" should be accompanied by background information of a descriptive nature; (e) in addition to current efforts in the field of economic and social statistics to improve the factual basis for various inter-country comparisons, family-living studies should be undertaken for the purpose of securing more comprehensive information on the actual conditions of life and work of individuals and families. In this connexion it was noted that the International Labour Office proposed to establish an expert committee to consider statistical matters relative to family living studies.

270. The Commission approved, for general use, the following terminology and connotations which had been adopted by the expert committee: "level of living" refers to actual conditions; "standard of living" refers to the conditions people regard as fitting and proper; "norm" refers to desirable conditions as defined for specific purposes.

271. In addition it recommended that the United Nations and specialized agencies study in their own fields the adequacy of the committee's proposed indicators, and that arrangements be maintained between the several secretariats for the discussion of points of common interest in the further development of standards in these fields.

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS

272. In the field of population census statistics (E/CN.3/185) it was agreed in the light of experience that it would be desirable to revise and consolidate the methods employed in the 1950/51 censuses. This could most effectively be done by studying in detail the plans and the results of the recent censuses. It was felt that this work should be done by the Secretary-General in ample time to permit Member States to be consulted and allow review by the Statistical and Population Commissions before countries came to ask for detailed recommendations for the planning of their next round of censuses in 1960/61. The Commission felt that special attention should be given to the use of statistical sampling in all the various stages of census operations and to proposals for efficient and comparable tabulations. Technical advice on the overall planning of census tabulations would be of great assistance to many countries.

273. In the field of vital statistics (E/CN.3/186) interest was expressed in a manual of vital statistics methods which is to be published shortly by the Secretary-General. It was agreed that continued attention should be given to improving the accuracy of vital statistics especially in under-developed countries. The use of sampling surveys was suggested for checking the accuracy of vital registrations, but it was emphasized that such surveys should serve only as an auxiliary method and not as an alternative to a registration system. It was considered desirable that the study of methods and principles to be recommended to countries which are not yet in a position to implement the conventional registration system set out in the *Principles for a Vital Statistics System*⁵⁸ should be continued. It was requested that an investigation be made into the use of continuous population registers and the methods employed so that interested countries could be informed of the prevailing practices.

NATIONAL ACCOUNTS, CAPITAL FORMATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF INCOME

274. At its seventh session the Commission had given general approval to a system of national accounts drawn up by a committee of experts during 1952. The report⁵⁹ of the experts had been amended in some respects in line with suggestions made by the Commission and had been circulated to Governments with the object of encouraging the use of the system and obtaining observations upon its applicability. The Commission studied a progress report on this subject (E/CN.3/166) and also noted views expressed by the Third Regional Conference of Statisticians (ECAFE). It was felt that the Secretary-General should continue to collect information bearing upon the experiences in the use of the system of national accounts and circulate it for the information and use of governments.

275. The Commission was also seized of a progress report on developments in the field of statistics of capital formation (E/CN.3/165). Interest was expressed in the work on this subject by the Conference of European Statisticians and the Third Regional Conference of Statisticians (ECAFE). The Commission urged that the study of methods of estimating capital formation be completed and that a report on this subject be issued for the use of countries which are trying to improve their estimates.

276. At various sessions the Commission had expressed interest in statistics showing the distribution of income by size and by socio-economic groups of the population. Existing practices were described in a report to the Commission (E/CN.3/184) as well as the three principal methods employed (income tax records and other financial returns, sample surveys and population censuses). The Commission attached importance to the collection and exchange of more detailed information on the experiences of countries in the use of the various methods.

DISTRIBUTION STATISTICS

277. The International Chamber of Commerce presented a report upon its work in the field of censuses of distribution (E/CN.3/190) and a draft resolution (E/C.2/377), emphasizing the need for an international working party to study certain problems of method in statistics of distribution. The Commission expressed its approval of the work done by the ICC on this subject; it held the view that much preliminary work was needed to clarify and define the basic concepts and methods involved in distribution censuses prior to the convening of such a working party; and requested that preparatory work be continued by the United Nations and the ICC.

CLASSIFICATION OF OCCUPATIONS

278. The International Labour Office reported on the status of the work on a uniform statistical classification of occupations. The Commission was gratified to note that the classification is expected to be completed at least through the two-digit level well in advance of the 1960/61 censuses of population (E/CN.3/167). Special attention was drawn to the need for suitable indexes to the classification to facilitate its use by countries because the classification of population by occupation is one of the primary tabulations of population census data.

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS STATISTICS

279. The International Monetary Fund presented a progress report on balance of payments statistics (E/CN.3/182) to the Commission and in addition a representative of the Fund described the plans for the forthcoming (fifth) *Balance of Payments Yearbook*. It was noted that a revised edition of the *Balance of Payments Manual* was to be prepared and that this opportunity would be taken to reconcile certain concepts with those contained in the United Nations *System of National Accounts and Supporting Tables*. The Commission expressed appreciation of the work of the Fund in this connexion.

STATISTICAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

280. The Commission was gratified to note recent developments in activities directed towards the educa-

⁵⁸ United Nations Statistical Papers Series M, No. 19.

⁵⁹ *A System of National Accounts and Supporting Tables* (Studies in Methods, Series F, No. 2).

tion and training of statisticians. The United Nations and specialized agencies were continuing to organize and conduct national, regional and international training centres, seminars and conferences. In addition assistance was being provided to countries by means of fellowships, preparation of manuals and direct assistance. The International Statistical Institute and the Inter-American Statistical Institute had also been active in the training and education of statisticians. While holding the view that basic training and education in statistics was perhaps the most important activity for the long-run development and improvement of statistics, the Commission felt that the time had come to make a systematic review and evaluation of all aspects of the present programme of assistance so that future work could be directed towards the most profitable channels.

REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL STATISTICS

281. In accordance with the desire of the Commission to be kept informed of the developments in all fields of international statistics occurring in the interim period between its sessions, it considered an overall progress report on the status of work in the development and application of standard concepts, definitions and methods (E/CN.3/170).

282. The Commission again emphasized the importance it attached to receiving such reports and debated the possibilities of an even more comprehensive review, to be issued at longer intervals, in addition to the present general summary of developments. Attention was also drawn to the desirability of issuing a revised edition of the list of statistical series⁶⁰ compiled by international agencies as an aid to the work of the Commission and of national Governments.

283. The Commission also examined an annotated list of existing international standards for statistics (E/CN.3/181) and requested that it be kept up to date and circulated to national statistical offices.

PRIORITY PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE STATISTICAL COMMISSION

284. In accordance with Council resolution 497 C (XVI), the Commission reviewed its work programme (E/CN.3/183) making certain adjustments in the priorities accorded to various projects. The Commission noted the existence of satisfactory arrangements among the international agencies for the co-ordination of programmes and the concentration of effort in the statistical field.

Section XII. Economic Commission for Europe

285. The Economic Commission for Europe held its ninth session in Geneva, 9-25 March 1954. Its annual report (E/2556),⁶¹ including the programme of work for 1954-1955, was submitted to the Council at its eighteenth session.

RELATIONS WITH SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, OTHER INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

286. The co-operation of the Commission's committees and the secretariat with the specialized agencies

has continued. Co-operation with FAO was maintained primarily through the joint ECE/FAO Agriculture and Timber divisions servicing the ECE Committees on Agricultural Problems and on Timber. FAO collaborated with the ECE secretariat on a report entitled *European Agriculture—a Statement of Problems*.⁶² An ECE/FAO working party of experts was convened to examine the implications of the joint study on *European Timber Trends and Prospects*,⁶³ and its recommendations were submitted to a joint session of the ECE Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission. Co-operation with the ILO and WHO has continued to centre mainly in housing and transport matters. Collaboration with UNESCO has continued on the compilation of a "pilot machine tool glossary". There has been secretariat consultation with the Bank and the Fund in research matters, and inter-secretariat liaison has been maintained with ICAO and ICITO. Collaboration with WMO was instituted in regard to the hydrological aspects of the work of the Electric Power Committee and the influence of the weather on coal consumption.

287. The secretariat has continued its informal relations on the technical level with the staff of OEEC and with the secretariat of the Council of Europe. Similar informal relations have been maintained with the High Authority of the European Coal and Steel Community, and the Executive Secretary has been in contact with the recently established European Conference of Ministers of Transport. Several other inter-governmental organizations have co-operated with the Commission in its work, especially in regard to inland transport.

288. The active interest in, and technical contributions to, the work of the Commission by a considerable number of non-governmental organizations has become an established feature of ECE's activities, particularly in matters of coal, electric power, housing, industry and materials, and inland transport.

RELATIONS WITH ALLIED CONTROL AUTHORITIES IN GERMANY

289. Relations with the Allied Control Authorities in Germany were maintained in accordance with paragraph 10 of the Commission's terms of reference. At the Commission's ninth session, the Polish delegation introduced a draft resolution, expressing the view that it was essential to invite representatives of the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany to take part in the work of the Commission, it being understood that this form of participation should apply until Germany became unified. After discussion, in which other delegations expressed the view that the situation was adequately covered by paragraph 10 of the Commission's terms of reference and that it did not envisage the type of participation such as the draft resolution proposed, it was agreed that the draft should not be voted upon at the ninth session of the Commission but that, in accordance with past practice, a summary of the discussion and the text of the draft resolution should be included in the Commission's report to the Council⁶⁴

⁶⁰ *List of Statistical Series collected by International Organizations*, Statistical Papers, Series M, No. 11.

⁶¹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eighteenth Session, Supplement No. 3.*

⁶² United Nations Publication, Sales No. 1954.II.E.4.

⁶³ United Nations Publication, Sales No. 1953.II.E.3.

⁶⁴ See E/ECE/SR.9/3, 4 and 8.

290. The Commission, at its ninth session, reviewed the activities of its subsidiary bodies and of the secretariat, examined the work programme for 1954/55 and adopted a resolution expressing the wish that the work programme for 1954/55 should incorporate subjects related to the development and strengthening of economic relations between all countries of Europe and not subjects of no immediate significance to the Commission's activities; it invited the committees and the Executive Secretary, when reviewing the work programme and priorities, to take due account of the decisions of the Commission, of the views expressed at the session, and of the changing economic situation.

Annual Economic Survey and Economic Bulletin

291. Preparation of the annual survey of economic developments in Europe continued to be one of the major tasks of the secretariat. The *Economic Survey of Europe in 1953* (E/ECE/174⁶⁵) was discussed by the Commission at its ninth session.⁶⁶ The survey was supplemented by periodic reviews of economic developments in Europe published in the *Economic Bulletin of Europe*.

292. In regard to 1953, the Survey and subsequent Bulletins indicated that the major characteristic of the western European economy in 1953 had been the absence of strains comparable to those present in the post-war period until 1952. Intra-European and overseas trade had continued to expand, and most countries now enjoyed a favourable balance with the dollar area, which was reflected in considerable additions to convertible assets. In Europe, domestic prices were under little pressure and, almost without exception, currencies had maintained or even increased their purchasing power. Industrial production, which had shown no increase in 1952 over 1951, had been higher by 5 per cent over its 1952 levels and, by the end of the year, had been running at a rate one quarter higher than the average for 1950. By early 1954, the increase in manufacturing production which had been confined to consumer goods industries in 1953, had also spread to capital goods. The coal and steel industries, however, still showed some signs of weakness although there had been recent indications of a revival in the demand for steel. With the continued growth of agricultural production, both at home and overseas, the remaining traces of market shortages for food had virtually disappeared and in the United Kingdom food rationing had ceased.

293. In 1954, the relatively favourable balance of payments position of the Governments of Western Europe had enabled them to adopt moderately expansionary budgets and monetary policies.

294. In the planned economies of eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, 1953 had been a year of new decisions regarding the allocation of resources. While industrial production had continued to rise markedly, considerable attention was henceforth to be paid to increases in the consumer goods sectors and in agriculture. The expression of this policy was to be seen in the budgets and in the development of consumer purchasing power. By early 1954, there had been little evidence available on extent to which supplies of con-

sumer goods to meet this higher demand were increasing, but it was clear that relatively quick results from the new agricultural policies would be needed and were assumed in the plans of the Governments.

295. The shrinkage of trade between eastern and western European countries which had continued year by year since 1949, had come to a halt by the middle of 1953. In the first half of that year, exports from eastern Europe had fallen to two thirds of the already small volume of goods exported in 1949. In the second half of 1953, a notable expansion had taken place in the trade in both directions and the volume of exports from eastern to western Europe for this year as a whole was back to its 1952 level, though still appreciably lower than in 1949. The volume of exports from western Europe, on the other hand, had risen well above the level of the preceding year and equalled that of 1949.

Agricultural Problems

296. The Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Foodstuffs adopted recommendations on standards for certain fruits and vegetables, and examined what steps could be taken at an international level, to bring into general use the standards and quality controls for fresh fruit and vegetables. A text on "General Provisions to be applied in Europe for the Commercial Standardization and Quality Control of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables moving in International Traffic" was adopted and incorporated in a draft protocol for submission to Governments. Several Governments have already signified their acceptance of the draft.

297. The secretariat prepared a report jointly with the Secretariat of FAO entitled *European Agriculture—a Statement of Problems* and another on "Prices of Agricultural Products and Fertilizers, 1952/53" (AGRI/43). The Commission, at its ninth session, discussed the future work of the Committee on Agricultural Problems on the basis of the first of these reports and decided to convene the Committee on Agricultural Problems to draw up, and start work on, a specific programme. The Committee met in June 1954.

298. After a discussion of the main agricultural developments in Europe, the Committee noted forecasts, supplied by the representatives, concerning the 1954 supply and demand situation of breadgrains, coarse grains, butter and eggs, reviewed the market situation, and problems of agricultural trade in relation to facilitating East-West trade. A list of commodities to be studied at the next (November) session of the Committee was adopted and it was decided to set up an *ad hoc* working party on farm mechanization, to be composed of experts of interested Governments.

Coal

299. The Coal Committee considered half-yearly reviews, prepared by the secretariat, of developments in the European coal market. It had also devoted attention to the increasing competition with coal of other forms of energy, and the secretariat is preparing a study on post-war developments in the relationship of coal and black oils. The Committee, at the request of the Commission at its eighth session, considered the question of the restoration of European self-sufficiency in solid fuels and concluded that such shortages as still existed were mainly in those qualities of

⁶⁵ United Nations Publications, Sales Number: 1954.II.E.2.

⁶⁶ E/ECE/SR.9/10-18.

coal required for carbonization purposes. Arising from this decision, the Coal Utilization Working Party is studying the promotion of the proper use of coking coal and the widening of the range of coals used for carbonization.

300. The Coal Trade Sub-Committee met each quarter to review the situation for the following quarter on the basis of information on import requirements and export availabilities. Discrepancies were adjusted by agreement between the importing and exporting countries. Because of the easing of the market, no formal allocations by the Sub-Committee were necessary.

301. The Coal Classification Working Party agreed on a proposal for a classification of hard coals for commercial purposes and proposed a system be given a trial until the end of 1955. This proposal was endorsed by the Coal Committee and forwarded to Governments.

Electric Power

302. Promotion of transfers of electric power, especially across frontiers, has continued to be one of the principal aims of the Committee on Electric Power. At the request of the countries concerned, a group of experts was appointed to study the prospects of exporting electric power from Yugoslavia to neighbouring countries, and an inter-governmental body known as "Youngelexport" was set up to carry out the work. This body consists of experts appointed by the Governments of Austria, Italy, the Federal Republic of Germany and Yugoslavia, and is composed of four committees to study, respectively, the technical, economic, financial and legal aspects of the question. The work thus far accomplished has made it possible to determine the amount of power which could be imported by the countries concerned and to choose the main basins which would have to be equipped in Yugoslavia to supply that amount of power.

303. As a result of the work done in 1952 by a "Joint Technical Study Group on Rural Electrification," a working party was set up which has adopted a programme of work covering the main problems connected with the production, transmission and distribution of electric power, its various uses in rural areas, and its administrative, economic and financial aspects.

304. Arising from recommendations by the Committee regarding the principles of hydro-electric development of rivers of common interest, several conventions have been concluded, the most important being between Italy and Switzerland and between Austria and the Federal Republic of Germany. The Committee has continued its work on problems relating to the hydro-electric development of rivers that flow through two or more States in turn. The secretariat has continued to assist the Governments of Austria and Yugoslavia in the consideration of the difficulties arising from the development and exploitation of the hydro-power of the Drava.

305. Other work has included the preparation by the secretariat of a periodic analysis of the main factors governing the electric power situation in Europe, an enquiry concerning electric supply installations put into service or under construction, certain legal questions, and fiscal policy regarding the depreciation of electric

plant. The secretariat has completed its work on the gross hydro-potential of certain European countries and its limits.

Engineering Products

306. The *ad hoc* Working Party on Contract Practices in Engineering completed its work on the *General Conditions for the Supply of Plant and Machinery for Export* (ME/188 bis/53) and has started to prepare clauses to govern plant erection.

307. The secretariat has continued to study certain sectors of industry. Problems arising in the motor vehicle, the ship-building, the railway equipment and the container industries have been examined as part of a study of competition between steel and aluminum. These and other industries were also examined in connexion with studies on tubes and on trends in the steel market.

308. At its ninth session, the Commission adopted a resolution requesting the Executive Secretary to continue his consultations with Governments on the desirability of convening the Industry and Materials Committee in full session to examine specified questions, including the production of and trade in products of the engineering and shipbuilding industries: exchange of industrial experience, inclusion in the work programme of the *ad hoc* Working Party on Contract Practices in Engineering of a study of measures, such as after-delivery servicing and improved availability of spare parts, designed to facilitate international trade: extension of the work on general conditions of supply and on standard contracts to other commodities: and expansion of the production, consumption and rational utilization of non-ferrous metals.

Housing

309. The Housing Sub-Committee examined the first annual survey "European Housing Progress and Policies" (IM/HOU/66), including monographs submitted by seventeen countries, and expressed the wish that, in future, the survey should analyse in greater detail the social and economic trends related to housing. The Sub-Committee also considered a secretariat study on "European Rent Policies" (E/ECE/170) and made a number of recommendations. The publication of a *Quarterly Bulletin of Housing and Building Statistics for Europe* was initiated.

310. Arising from a secretariat study "The Cost of House Construction" (E/ECE/165), the Working Party on Costs of Building agreed on a series of projects to be undertaken by the secretariat with the assistance of rapporteurs. The subjects covered by these projects included: development of model building codes and regulations; methods of awarding building contracts and the placing of orders; trends in mechanization of house building; housing needs of the family; cost of various types of construction.

311. The Sub-Committee decided to initiate a study of methods and techniques of developing and expediting the housing programmes of less industrialized countries in Europe.

Inland Transport

312. The Inland Transport Committee has stated that the main aim of its current studies on the co-ordination of transport is the determination of factors

likely to lead to the use of those means of transport entailing the minimum economic and social cost to the community.

313. A study is being made of the technical conditions applicable to containers for the purpose of customs control. A group of customs experts has dealt with certain problems connected with the application in Europe of the draft road customs conventions relating to road traffic. The International Conventions to facilitate the crossing of frontiers for passengers and baggage and for goods carried by rail, which were negotiated under the Committee's auspices, entered into force on 1 April 1953.

314. A "General Agreement on Economic Regulations for International Road Transport" to which is annexed a set of rules constituting a "statute" for international carriers, has been drawn up and submitted to Governments and on 17 March 1954 it had been signed by eleven Governments.

315. The Committee's work on the prevention of road traffic accidents was directed towards co-ordinating the work of Governments and international organizations with a view to keeping the public informed of ways of preventing accidents. The Working Party on the Prevention of Road Traffic Accidents prepared an international road safety manual. Physiological and mental standards for drivers of motor vehicles have also been drawn up.

316. The Committee also dealt with the establishment of an order of priority of investments in the various transport sectors of international concern, methods of calculating costs for the various modes of transport, model tariffs for international and internal transport respectively, road transport statistics, standardized packaging and other matters relating to the transport of perishable foodstuffs, international motor coach services, in particular the establishment of an integrated programme of such services.

Manpower

317. As indicated in previous reports, in 1948 the work programme of the Committee on Manpower was referred to the ILO for action. The ECE Committee has therefore remained inactive. A progress report by the ILO on its work on manpower was submitted to the Commission's ninth session. The representative of the ILO at the session invited the assistance of ECE at the forthcoming European regional conference of the ILO at which manpower problems are to be examined.

Steel

318. The Steel Committee has examined what action might be taken to follow up the studies on the *European Steel Industry and the Wide-Strip Mill*⁶⁷ and on "European Steel Exports and Demand for Steel in non-European Countries" (E/ECE/163). Other matters considered by the Committee have included market research in respect of both domestic and foreign steel markets, and measurement of the theoretical capacity to produce iron and steel.

319. The secretariat has prepared the first issue of an annual review of trends in the steel market, dealing mainly with production, consumption, trade, prices,

raw materials, as well as with trends in the steel-using industries. It has also prepared a provisional study on *Competition between Steel and Aluminum*, the first of a series of studies on competition between steel and alternative materials. A paper has also been prepared on the principal developments in iron and steel technology during the year, and a study was started on pipes and tubes, with special emphasis on the use of these products for development purposes.

320. At its ninth session, the Commission adopted a resolution instructing the Steel Committee to examine questions relating to the expansion of steel consumption in the principal steel-consuming industries on the basis of existing and planned studies by the secretariat.

Timber

321. As a result of a recommendation of the joint meeting of the ECE Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission, a joint working party of experts was established to consider the implications of the secretariat study *European Timber Trends and Prospects*. The working party made certain proposals for reform which it recommended that the secretariat submit to Governments. These proposals covered such matters as increased production, forest inventories, revision of working plans, afforestation and reforestation, increased imports of sawn timber, and improved statistics.

322. At its second session, the joint meeting of the ECE Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission addressed a series of recommendations to Governments, to the Executive Secretary of ECE, and to the Director-General of FAO relating to the improvement and expansion of forest resources, increased trade in timber, and to the improvement of timber statistics. The joint meeting also invited the secretariat to keep the European forestry and timber situation under continuous review and to publish from time to time revised statements and appraisals of the European timber situation.

Trade

323. No meeting of the Committee on the Development of Trade took place during the period under review, but work on trade continued on the basis of decisions of the Commission.

324. At the Commission's ninth session, the discussion on trade began with a statement by the Executive Secretary on the first East-West Trade Consultation held in April 1953. All delegations attested to the value of the first Consultation and announced their intention to take part in the second Consultation. The desirability of convening the Committee on the Development of Trade was discussed and a resolution was adopted which, *inter alia*, welcomed the action taken by the Executive Secretary in the field of trade since the Commission's eighth session; approved his action in convening a second East-West Trade Consultation in April 1954; considered that a decision on the question of convening a meeting of the Committee on the Development of Trade in 1954 should be taken not later than 30 June 1954; and invited the Executive Secretary to consult with the Governments concerned, in order to ascertain their opinion on the convening in 1954 of the Committee on the Development of Trade. After having elicited a generally favourable response,

⁶⁷ United Nations Publication, Sales No.: 1953.II.E.6.

the Executive Secretary was in a position to convene the Committee for the period 11 to 16 October 1954.

325. The second East-West Trade Consultation was held in April 1954. More than 150 experts participated in the Consultation. One week was devoted to plenary multilateral discussions of East-West trade developments in Europe over the past year and of the possibilities of expanding such trade. During the second week, bilateral talks were held, in which specific trade opportunities and problems were examined. In the final phase the results of the bilateral talks were reviewed and recommendations were considered for further action within the framework of ECE. At the end of the Consultation, the Executive Secretary stated that the principal accomplishment of the Consultation had been that experts had examined in a spirit of mutual understanding concrete possibilities of increasing and stabilizing East-West trade by improvements in the structural organization of commercial and payments relations. He believed that the Consultation had been useful in overcoming important obstacles to increased trade, that further consideration should be given to structural problems in East-West trade, and that a third Consultation, to promote East-West trade in 1955-1956, should be convened at an appropriate date.

326. The Commission also considered a note by the Executive Secretary describing the increased co-operation with ECAFE and ECLA through which ECE was making a contribution to the solution of some of the problems of under-developed countries. A proposal was made that the Commission should organize, in co-operation with the Executive Secretaries of ECAFE and ECLA, trade consultations between experts from Europe and Asia and the Far East, as well as between experts from Europe and Latin America. A resolution was adopted which, after referring to the positive experience gained in the intra-European trade consultations organized by ECE, expressed the view that similar consultations, within the framework of the United Nations between countries participating in the work of ECE and countries participating in the work of ECAFE and ECLA, respectively, organized under the auspices of the regional economic commissions, might be useful in strengthening interregional trade relations and in expanding world trade. The Executive Secretary was further invited to bring the resolution to the attention of the Council at its eighteenth session and to take any action which might be appropriate in the light of any decisions taken by the Council.

Statistics

327. The Conference of European Statisticians met in Geneva in June 1954. The Conference was open to the heads of statistical offices or their designates from all countries participating in the work of ECE. It was serviced by ECE in co-operation with the United Nations Statistical Office.

328. The Conference considered reports by its Working Groups on (1) Stocks and Work in Process; (2) Manpower Statistics by Sample Surveys; and (3) Statistics of fixed capital formation. The Conference also considered the statistical activities of the Commission's technical committees and drew up a programme of work for its future activities.

329. Shortly before the Conference, a working party considered questions relating to statistics of fixed capital formation.

Economic Development of Countries of Southern Europe

330. At its ninth session the Commission considered a study by the secretariat on economic development problems in the less-developed countries of Southern Europe. This formed part of the *Economic Survey of Europe in 1953*. The Commission adopted a resolution which expressed the belief that the economic development of the countries of Southern Europe was essential to the expansion of the economy of Europe as a whole; and requested the Executive Secretary to set up, and collaborate in the work of, a group of experts, to be nominated by the Governments of Greece, Italy, Turkey and Yugoslavia, with the purpose of examining the problem further and making recommendations designed to raise the standards of living in these countries and to promote the expansion of the European economy as a whole, and of exploring specific possibilities for development action regarding production and foreign trade and the financing thereof.

ACTION OF THE COUNCIL AT ITS EIGHTEENTH SESSION

331. The Council at its eighteenth session⁶⁸ considered the annual report of ECE (E/2556). In a statement to the Council introducing the annual report, the Executive Secretary spoke of the encouraging developments which had taken place in the Commission. He referred to the now regular participation of countries from eastern Europe in the work of the Commission and in its committees, to the question of appointing a committee of experts for the economic development of Southern Europe, to the trade consultations which had taken place and to the proposal to revive the Committee on the Development of Trade. A resolution had also been adopted inviting the Council to take steps to strengthen interregional trade based on the positive experience gained by ECE through the techniques of consultations with trade experts. The Executive Secretary also referred to the decision of the Commission to resume the activities of the Committee on Agricultural Problems, and gave examples of useful work designed to facilitate inter-governmental agreement on technical matters performed by ECE's committees and working parties. He also emphasized the close relationships between the other regional economic commissions and ECE.

332. In the debate that followed, members of the Council expressed satisfaction with the Commission's work and warmly commended the Executive Secretary. Members of the Council referred to the high quality of research, particularly the work done in the preparation of the *Economic Survey of Europe*. Close interest was shown in the work being undertaken in considering measures for the development of Southern Europe and general support was given for increased efforts to promote international trade.

333. The concrete achievements of ECE's committees were also appreciated by members of the Council. Special mention was made of the value to Governments and to other interested bodies and organizations of research undertaken under the aegis of the Committees, of the international exchange of technical information, and of the standardization of economic statistics.

334. The Council in resolution 535 A (XVIII) took note with satisfaction of the annual report of ECE.

⁶⁸ E/SR.825, 826, 828 and 829.

335. A draft resolution (E/L.634)⁶⁹ which, subject to certain conditions, would extend membership in ECE to Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania, was presented. A motion for the postponement of this matter was adopted.⁷⁰

336. In considering ECE's resolution 5(IX) concerning inter-regional co-operation, some members of the Council expressed the view that it would be more appropriate for the Council to consider the proposals embodied in this resolution when it had before it the global study on obstacles to trade, requested by the Council in resolution 531 C (XVIII),⁷¹ which would be included in the next *World Economic Report*; other members of the Council felt that in the light of the positive experience gained by the ECE in its intra-European trade activities, the Secretary-General should take immediate steps to extend such activities on an inter-regional basis.⁷²

337. The Council, in resolution 535 B (XVIII), which was adopted unanimously, recalled that by resolution 531 C (XVIII) the Secretary-General had been requested to include in the next *World Economic Report* an analysis of factors tending to limit expansion of international trade, and to include in this analysis a study of the problems involved in promoting the development of trade between various geographical and currency areas, it being understood that the Secretary-General would make use of the work being done by experts under the auspices of the regional commissions, requested the Secretary-General to prepare a technical report on the practical conditions under which effect might usefully be given to ECE's resolution 5 (IX); invited the Secretary-General to secure the opinion of the regional economic commissions on this report; and decided to resume its consideration of the question of interregional trade co-operation at its twentieth session when it would have before it the next *World Economic Report*, the Secretary-General's technical report and the comments on it by the regional economic commissions.

Section XIII. Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East

338. The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East held its tenth session in Kandy, Ceylon, from 8-18 February 1954. Its annual report (E/2553),⁷³ including the programme of work and priorities for 1954 and 1955, was submitted to the Council at its seventeenth session.

RELATIONS WITH SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, OTHER INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

339. The Commission and its subsidiary bodies continued to co-operate with the specialized agencies and other inter-governmental organizations operating in the region. Co-operation with FAO was strengthened by the existence of the joint ECAFE/FAO Agriculture Division. FAO prepared special commodity studies for the joint ECAFE/ECE/FAO *Study of*

Trade between Asia and Europe. It contributed two papers in the field of water resources development for the *Manual on Water Resources Development* to be published by ECAFE. FAO also participated in the work of several subsidiary bodies of the Commission including the Inter-Secretariat Working Party on Housing and Building Materials. Co-operation with the ILO and UNESCO continued, especially in the fields of shortage of technical personnel for economic development, housing and building materials, and small-scale industries and handicrafts marketing. The ILO also prepared at the request of ECAFE a simplified instruction manual for drivers and mechanics. Collaboration with WHO continued in the field of housing and community improvement, and WHO prepared for ECAFE a paper on health problems in relation to multiple-purpose basin development. The secretariat maintained liaison with the International Bank and the International Monetary Fund. Staff members of the Bank and the Fund submitted for the use of ECAFE several papers in the field of intra-regional trade and payments, financing economic development and in other fields. ECAFE co-operated with ICAO in the project on co-ordination of transport. There has also been secretariat consultation with ICITO and with GATT.

340. Close working relations have been developed between the Commission secretariat and the Consultative Committee for Co-operative Economic Development in South and South-East Asia (Colombo Plan).

341. Co-operation has continued with a number of non-governmental organizations, particularly ICC, ICFTU, WFTU, and WFUNA.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

342. The Commission, at its tenth session, reviewed the activities of its subsidiary bodies and of the secretariat and examined the programme of work and priorities for 1954 and 1955. It recognized that its task of promoting international co-operation and helping to accelerate the economic development of countries in the region had been facilitated at the technical level by the various standing and *ad hoc* subsidiary bodies, to which the Governments concerned had sent highly qualified experts and experienced officers.

343. The Commission adopted resolution 12(X) urging the Council to reach a decision giving effect to the wishes of the Commission to admit to membership those associate members which are responsible for their own international relations. It also recommended that its terms of reference be amended in order to make it possible for the representatives of associate members to hold office in the Commission.⁷⁴

Annual Economic Survey and Economic Bulletin

344. The preparation of the annual survey of economic developments in Asia and the Far East continued to be one of the major tasks of the Secretariat. The *Economic Survey for Asia and the Far East 1953*⁷⁵ was discussed by the Commission at its tenth session. The *Survey* was supplemented by periodic reviews of economic developments and special articles published in the *Economic Bulletin of Asia and the Far East*. Volume IV, No. 3 of the *Bulletin* contained an article on economic developments in the mainland of China in 1949-1953.

⁶⁹ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eighteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 5.

⁷⁰ See Chapter I, Section X.

⁷¹ See Chapter II, section IV.

⁷² See E/L.638 and E/L.639.

⁷³ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Seventeenth Session, Supplement No. 3.

⁷⁴ See paras. 87-91.

⁷⁵ United Nations Publications, Sales Number: 1953.II.F.8.

345. In regard to 1953, the *Survey* and the *Bulletin* indicated that moderate changes and readjustments had generally been characteristic of the year. A significant development had been the general improvement of foodgrains production, which for the first time after the war had exceeded the pre-war level. Industrial production had generally been maintained. However, raw materials and agricultural commodities other than food had shown divergent but usually downward trends in output. The violent fluctuations in the prices of the region's major exports since 1951 had hampered production and trade. Although such price declines had been brought to a halt in 1953—in fact the export proceeds in 1953 had been at a slightly higher level than in early 1950—the raw material exporting countries in the region had practically used up the foreign balances they had accumulated during the Korean war. These countries, therefore, had to adjust themselves to a lower level of export earnings.

346. The fall in export earnings in several countries necessitated curtailment of expenditure on development. In 1953, however, a number of countries had added to their industrial productive capacities notably Japan, India, and China. Yet the rate of economic growth of countries of the region remained at a low level.

347. Changes in the balance of payments situation were smaller in 1953 than in previous years although prices and total value of both imports and exports declined. Many countries, however, had to resort to import restrictions to meet the balance of payments difficulties arising from the severe decline in export earnings of the last two years.

348. With import and export prices declining, the trend in domestic prices and cost of living indicated an upward movement in most countries of the region. On the whole, however, there was a general abatement of inflationary pressures, except in Japan and the Philippines. If export earnings should continue to be relatively low, the countries in the region would have to choose between maintaining monetary stability and continuing of expenditure for development even at the present level.

Industry and Trade

349. At its tenth session, the Commission reviewed and approved the report (E/CN.11/383) and recommendations of the sixth session of the Committee on Industry and Trade.

350. In the field of industrial development and planning, this Committee had reviewed the secretariat report on the techniques of material resources budgeting (E/CN.11/I&T/97) and stated that it attached importance to a study of various techniques of economic planning. It recommended that a working party on economic development planning be convened in 1955. In accordance with the recommendation of the Committee at its earlier sessions, a Seminar on the Organization and Administration of Public Enterprises in the Industrial Field, jointly organized by the Commission secretariat, TAA, and the International Institute for Administrative Sciences, was convened in Rangoon, in March 1954. The Seminar recommended the convening of similar seminars or working parties on certain selected problems of commercial aspects of public enterprises and emphasized the need for the establishment of national institutes of management.

351. The Committee approved the report of the Sub-Committee on Electric Power (E/CN.11/I&T/91). The Sub-Committee had recommended, *inter alia*, that measures be taken to integrate power systems as far as possible in order to secure the optimum exploitation and utilization of hydropower sites and thermal-power sites, including interchange of electric power across national frontiers. The Sub-Committee also dealt with problems of rural electrification, the use of lignite in thermo-power generation and the use of heavy bunker fuel in diesel electric sets.

352. The Sub-Committee on Iron and Steel at its fifth session had before it the report (ST/TAA/SER. C/5) of the Study Group of Iron and Steel Experts from Asia and the Far East on Japanese Iron and Steel Production Techniques, which was organized jointly by ECAFE and TAA. The Sub-Committee concentrated its attention on the applicability of Japanese techniques to countries of the region. The report of the Sub-Committee (E/CN.11/I&T/86) was approved by the Committee at its sixth session.

353. In the field of mineral resources, the Committee reviewed the mineral development in the region in the years 1952-1953 and considered the report of the Regional Conference on Mineral Resources Development (E/CN.11/I&T/85), which was held in Tokyo, Japan. As recommended by the Conference, the Committee decided to establish a Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development and to convene a working party of senior geologists for the preparation of a regional geological map in co-operation with the International Geological Congress and the United Nations Cartographic Office. The Committee also had before it a report of the joint ECAFE/TAA group of experts which had studied lignite in Australia (ECAFE/I&T/14) and generally endorsed its recommendations on the organization and administration of lignite mining concerns, lignite prospecting, analysis, processing, mining and utilization.

354. Both the Commission and the Committee on Industry and Trade felt that while great importance should be attached to industrialization, due prominence should be given to the expansion of production of primary commodities and to the development of cottage and small-scale industries. The Commission at its tenth session emphasized the need for increased and diversified employment opportunities in the rural sector.

355. The Working Party on Small-Scale Industries and Handicraft Marketing, at its third session, had considered the results of research experiments in the field of cottage and small-scale industries carried out by the countries of the region. The Working Party considered that better incomes could be secured for handicraft industries by (a) increasing the productivity of the workers, and (b) improving and simplifying the marketing organization so as to reduce the number of charges by middlemen, without neglecting any of the essential marketing functions. It suggested the establishment of a system of inspection to ensure quality. It also noted the possibilities of improving the marketing organization through co-operatives. The Working Party decided to select the ceramics industry for intensive study at its next meeting. The Committee on Industry and Trade approved the report of the Working Party (E/CN.11/I&T/90).

356. In accordance with a recommendation by the Working Party, the Commission secretariat and TAA,

in May 1954, jointly organized a study tour of cottage and small-scale industry directors and experts of Asian and Far Eastern countries to Japan, to study managerial, technical, organizational, and marketing aspects of some 16 types of Japanese cottage and small-scale industries.

357. A Seminar on Housing and Community Improvement was organized jointly by the Commission secretariat, the United Nations Department of Social Affairs and TAA; it met in New Delhi in January/February 1954. The main problems considered by the seminar were building techniques, housing programmes and physical planning. The Commission secretariat was represented at the regional conference of the International Federation of Housing and Town and Country Planning, held in New Delhi in conjunction with the seminar. The Inter-Secretariat Working Party on Housing and Building Materials held its second meeting in February 1954 in New Delhi to consider further work on housing in the light of the recommendations of the Seminar. The Working Party also considered the second report by the ECAFE secretariat on "Housing and Building Material in Asia and the Far East." (ECAFE/I&T/HBWP.2/1).

358. The ECAFE/ILO/UNESCO Inter-Secretariat Working Party on Trained Personnel for Economic Development held its third session in September 1953. It discussed problems relating to manpower surveys, manpower planning and budgeting, training facilities for engineers, managerial personnel as well as skilled and semi-skilled personnel at lower levels. The Working Party's report (E/CN.11/I&T/76) and recommendations were approved by the Committee at its sixth session.

359. The Committee on Industry and Trade emphasized the importance of the financing of economic development. The Working Party of Experts on Financing Economic Development, at its first session in September 1953, considered problems relating to measures for mobilizing savings, taxation and related measures, and taxation in relation to individual development projects. The Working Party recommended, *inter alia*, that additional incentives be considered in order to increase savings, that tax yields be increased to provide larger public savings as a supplement to private savings, and that tax structures be modified to support a steady rate of economic development. The Working Party also felt that greater attention should be paid to rural taxation and that foreign exchange reserves should be built up during periods of buoyant activity in order to maintain stable development. The report of the working party (E/CN.11/I&T/89) was approved by the Committee at its sixth session. The Committee expressed the view that the need for foreign capital was evident because domestic resources were extremely limited and it urged both the capital-receiving and the capital-exporting countries to encourage the flow of private foreign investment. The Commission instructed its secretariat to continue its study on the legal and economic aspects of foreign investment.

360. The Committee on Industry and Trade decided to establish a Sub-Committee on Trade, a standing subsidiary body for the periodic examination of trade problems at a technical level. The *Study on Trade between Asia and Europe*,⁷⁶ jointly undertaken by ECAFE, ECE and FAO, had been published, and the suggestions contained therein were endorsed by the

Committee. The Commission emphasized the advantages that would accrue to the region and to the world as a result of increased intraregional and interregional trade. The secretariat of the Commission continued its trade promotion activities, including dissemination of information, assistance to Governments in improving trade promotion machinery and methods, and commercial arbitration facilities. The Commission's work programme also includes a project on intraregional trade and payments and a working group on payments was convened in July 1954.

Inland Transport

361. The Commission reviewed and approved the report (E/CN.11/377) and recommendations of the third session of the Inland Transport Committee.

362. The second session of the Highway Sub-Committee had approved a standard form of highway bridge register (E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.2/14), a standard form for the preparation and presentation of highway project schemes (E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.2/16), a standard form of register for recording data on cement road pavements (E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.2/13) and procedure recommended by the secretariat for cost estimates and economics of highway engineering (E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.2/18) and suggested their adoption by countries in the region. It also dealt with questions of highway safety, vehicle maintenance and repair, training of mechanics, and on instruction manual for drivers. Both the Committee and the Commission considered that the interests of the countries of the region would be better served by having a large mileage of low-cost roads rather than a small mileage of very good roads.

363. The Regional Training Centre in Railway Operations and Signalling, jointly organized by ECAFE and TAA, opened in Lahore, Pakistan, on 3 April 1954. The second session of the Railway Sub-Committee, held in Paris, in October 1953, made detailed recommendations regarding methods of track construction and maintenance. It also considered questions relating to the use of diesel locomotives and railcars, and the prevention of and speedy settlement of freight claims. The session was followed by an inspection tour of experts visiting France, the Federal German Republic, the Netherlands, Switzerland and the United Kingdom to observe modern practices and equipment.

364. A working party was held in January 1954 to prepare a draft convention for the measurement and registration of vessels employed in inland navigation. The Inland Waterway Sub-Committee, at its second session in May 1954, approved the draft in principle and requested the secretariat to finalize it before the end of 1954 in the light of the comments received from Governments. Both the Committee and the Commission expressed their support of the proposed demonstration pilot projects in India and Pakistan for determining the most efficient and economic type of watercraft and the application of modern methods of towing, and the plan for the establishment of a training centre for diesel marine mechanics in Rangoon, Burma.

Food and Agriculture

365. The Agriculture Division, jointly set up by ECAFE and FAO, continues to review developments

⁷⁶ United Nations Publication, Sales Number: 1953.II.F.3.

in the field of food and agriculture in the region, to study agricultural prices and price policies, and to deal with other economic problems of food and agriculture. The Division also collects and studies selected successful regulations and practices relating to the marketing of major agricultural products. Its work also covers agrarian reform, agricultural development planning, and assistance to FAO in the holding of the Seminar on Agricultural Development Financing and Credit planned for 1955.

Flood Control and Water Resources Development

366. Increasing attention has been paid to water resources development by the Bureau of Flood Control and Water Resources Development. The first Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development was held in May 1954. The Conference considered criteria for project justification, methods to measure benefits and costs and cost allocation, selection of types of hydraulic structures with reference to the availability of labour and material and local conditions, planning of sediment control works, and hydraulic problems, including standards of methods, records and terminology of hydrological measurements.

367. The Commission approved the annual report of the Bureau of Flood Control and Water Resources Development (E/CN.11/376) and again emphasized the importance of the proposed training centre for water resources development. The secretariat completed its studies on the sediment problem, and on river training and river bank protection. It continues to issue the *Flood Control Journal*. The 1954 work programme covers a study of methods employed for earthwork construction.

368. The secretariat completed country studies of water resources development in Burma, Ceylon, China (Taiwan), India, Japan, Laos, the Philippines and Thailand. It also completed a preliminary draft manual on methods of planning water resources development.

Statistics

369. The third Regional Conference of Statisticians,⁷⁷ jointly organized by ECAFE and the United Nations Statistical Office, was held in March 1954, to consider national income estimation, including the contribution of national income statistics to the formulation of public policy and their application for both short-term planning and long term development. Particular attention was drawn to problems relating to the estimation of capital formation.

370. The Commission continued its study of statistical methods and its survey of statistical organization and activities in ECAFE countries. The secretariat continued in 1954 an index of economic statistics in Asia and the Far East, which will be issued as a supplement of the quarterly *Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Far East*.

Research and planning

371. In addition to the preparation of the annual *Economic Survey* and the quarterly *Economic Bulletin*, the Commission's work programme also includes planning for economic development, the relation between population growth and economic development,

and intra-regional trade and payments. With regard to planning for economic development, the Commission undertakes periodic review of programmes and the progress of their execution throughout the region, and it studies problems and techniques of economic development planning. The Commission decided to convene a working party on economic development in late 1955.

Advisory services

372. In accordance with paragraph 1 (d) of its terms of reference, the Commission, within the resources of its secretariat, continues to perform advisory services to Governments at their request and in agreement with TAA. In the year under review, such services related to flood control and water resources development, industrial development, development of iron and steel industries, development of lignite resources, design and use of building materials, handicraft marketing and commercial arbitration, and inland transport.

ACTION BY THE COUNCIL AT ITS SEVENTEETH SESSION

373. The Council at its seventeenth session⁷⁸ considered the annual report of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (E/2553).⁷⁹ Members of the Council expressed their appreciation of the contribution the Commission had been making as an effective instrument of international co-operation. They felt that the Council should give due weight to the work of the regional commissions as one means of carrying out the functions entrusted to it by the Charter.

374. Many members reviewed the economic situation of Asia and the Far East. Attention was drawn to the violent fluctuation in commodity prices in the last few years, which affected not only export earnings but also the tempo of economic activity; and to the Commission's observation favouring the adoption of all practicable measures making for the stability of prices of primary products. Several members noted the limitation of domestic financing and endorsed the Commission's view that a greater flow of foreign capital should be encouraged. Members of the Council felt that the under-developed countries of Asia and the Far East needed the technical assistance of the more developed countries. They reaffirmed the importance of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance, but some members were of the opinion that the amount of assistance received by the countries of the region did not meet the needs of their economic development, even at the present low rate. Attention was drawn to the resolution 11 (X) adopted by the Commission pertaining to the regional projects of technical assistance. Members of the Council in general supported this resolution and hoped that the regional economic commissions would be able to co-operate more actively with TAA in the planning and execution of regional projects. Some members, while supporting the resolution, expressed the view that co-operation between ECAFE and TAA should be applied to specific projects and that the independence of TAB in the allocation of funds should not be prejudiced.

375. A number of representatives expressed their interest in various projects of the Commission. Members of the Council noted with satisfaction that priority

⁷⁸ E/SR.776 and 777.

⁷⁹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Seventeenth Session, Supplement No. 3.*

⁷⁷ See para. 274.

had been given by the Commission to increasing agricultural production, developing water resources, electric power and transport, industrialization, iron and steel, mineral resources, and the development of cottage and small-scale industries. Some representatives expressed keen interest in the work of the Commission in expanding trade.

376. The Council decided in resolution 517 (XVII) to amend paragraph 3 of ECAFE's terms of reference so that certain associate members might be admitted to membership in the Commission,⁸⁰ but it took no action on the Commission's recommendation to amend its terms of reference in order to enable the amendment of rules 13 and 15 of its rules of procedure to permit a representative of an associate member to hold office in the Commission.

377. The Commission had been informed of the desire of the Government of Afghanistan, which is already a member of ECAFE, to be included in the Commission's geographical scope. The Commission at its tenth session had expressed support for that desire, and the Council in its turn endorsed it.

378. The Council, in resolution 516 A (XVII) took note of the Commission's annual report and of the programme of work and priorities contained therein. In part B of the resolution, it decided to amend paragraph 2 of the Commission's terms of reference by adding Afghanistan to the list of territories included therein.

Section XIV. Economic Commission for Latin America

379. The Committee of the Whole of the Economic Commission for Latin America met in Santiago, Chile, from 8-10 February 1954. The annual report of the Commission (E/2536)⁸¹ covering the period from 26 April 1953 to 10 February 1954, was submitted to the Council at its seventeenth session.

RELATIONS WITH SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, OTHER INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

380. The Commission has co-ordinated its work with that of other intergovernmental bodies operating in related fields in Latin America. Co-operation has taken the form of consultation and exchange of ideas and material on specific projects, joint projects, and working parties involving several organizations.

381. The Commission, in co-operation with TAA, FAO, the ILO and UNESCO, have consulted and collaborated with Governments in the area and have created a working party to advise and assist the ECLA Committee on Economic Co-operation in Central America. FAO has sent to Central America technical missions on forest products, pulp and paper, and on cattle and dairy products. It has also contributed to the study on the pulp and paper industry in Latin America prepared by ECLA and, together with ECLA and TAA, is co-sponsoring a meeting of experts on this subject to be held late in 1954. The co-ordination of agricultural statistics has been continued and FAO has contributed a chapter on forestry to ECLA's *Eco-*

nomie Survey of Latin America, 1953. The Fund has continued its collaboration with ECLA in the preparation of studies for the proposed meeting of experts on monetary and fiscal policies in relation to economic development. The two secretariats maintain close contact on problems of statistical data on trade and balance of payments. The Bank has been consulted in connexion with several projects in the programme of economic integration and reciprocity in Central America, mainly in regard to transport projects, the Institute for Industrial Technological Research, and electric energy. Collaboration with the ILO has continued in the Inter-Agency Regional Co-ordination Committee on Migration. ILO and UNESCO have both provided experts on technical training in industry and management for Central America. UNESCO is also actively assisting in the preparation for the meeting of experts on the pulp and paper industry. ICAO lent its collaboration in the study of transport in Central America and in the subsequent seminar held on that subject. There has also been secretariat consultation with ICITO and with GAIT.

382. Collaboration with the Inter-American Economic and Social Council has continued and, at the meeting of the Committee of the Whole, the Executive Secretaries of ECLA and IA-ECOSOC submitted a joint statement (E/CN.12/AC.24/7) reviewing the projects in which the two secretariats are collaborating and outlining possible collaboration on other projects. The Committee of the Whole expressed its appreciation of the manner in which the two secretariats had collaborated so as to ensure that their respective programmes would complement and benefit each other, and also took note, with satisfaction, of the position taken by the Executive Secretary in regard to co-ordination between ECLA and IA-ECOSOC at the governmental level, which was based on an opinion of the United Nations Legal Department (E/CN.12/AC.24/6 and Add.1). Subsequently, the Tenth Inter-American Conference, with a view to the definitive solution of the question of co-ordination at the governmental level between ECLA and the IA-ECOSOC, adopted a resolution recommending, in terms similar to those of ECLA resolution 70 (V) that adequate intervals be ensured between major sessions of these two bodies. In a separate resolution the Conference decided to give a vote of acknowledgment to ECLA for its valuable work. The Tenth Inter-American Conference also adopted a resolution requesting the collaboration of ECLA in the meeting of Ministers of Finance or Economy of the Organization of American States, which is to be held in Rio de Janeiro late in 1954. In June 1954, the Executive Secretary made preliminary arrangements with IA-ECOSOC with a view to such collaboration.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

383. The Committee of the Whole reviewed the activities of the Commission and of the secretariat, and decided to continue the existing programme of work and priorities into 1955. The resources of ECLA have been centered principally on problems related to the technique of programming economic growth, industrial development, improvements in agricultural production and the promotion of inter-Latin-American and international trade.

Annual economic survey

384. The preparation of the annual survey of economic developments in Latin America continues to be

⁸⁰ See para. 37-38.

⁸¹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Seventeenth Session, Supplement No. 2.*

a major responsibility of the Secretariat. The *Economic Survey of Latin America, 1953* (E/CN.12/358)⁸², issued in June 1954, consists of two parts. The first deals with problems of income, investment and consumption and examines the effects of the world economic situation on Latin America, the question of balance of payments and the most important developments in Latin-American trade — with particular reference to exports. It also analyses in detail the monetary situation for the year 1947 up to 1953. The second part consists of a review of the different sectors of production: agriculture, mining, industry, energy and petroleum. Coal-mining and sulphur which are becoming increasingly important to the economy of Latin America are also discussed.

385. The *Survey* reveals that during 1953 there was a lull in the rate of growth of the gross product which had occurred in Latin America since the end of the Second World War. While *per capita* gross product in Latin America had increased at an average annual rate of 4.2 per cent during the period 1945-1951, the increase in 1953 had amounted to less than one per cent. The terms of trade in 1953 were still favourable to Latin America as a whole though this did not apply to all countries or all commodities. Prices of coffee and cocoa, which are important factors in the terms of trade had improved, whereas most of the other Latin American primary products had been greatly affected by declining prices. The *Survey* also points out that Latin America as a whole had for some years been confronted by a stationary situation in the quantum of exports although there was a marked improvement in 1953. The decline in price coupled with a stationary or weakening demand for certain Latin-American export products had resulted in a tendency for producing countries to accumulate surpluses. This disequilibrium between supply and demand had particularly affected minerals, sugar, cotton and hides. A severe reduction of imports had taken place in 1953 due mainly to import restrictions; and since exports had actually been higher than during the previous year, Latin America as a whole had recorded an increase in monetary reserves. Particularly significant in view of its role in the economic development of Latin America, had been the substantial decline in the imports of capital goods, which in 1953 had been 21 per cent below the previous year. That factor, in addition to reduced imports of raw materials and the decline in the rate of investment, had contributed to the slackening of the rate of industrialization, which the *Survey* considered the most significant trend during 1953. Whereas industrial output in 1953 had increased only 1.3 per cent as compared with an average increase of 7.7 per cent in the period 1945-1951, agricultural production had increased 9.2 per cent during 1953 as compared to 3.5 per cent during the period 1945-1951. The improvement in agricultural production during 1953 reflected exceptionally favourable climatic conditions, stimulus from official sources and the spectacular recovery of Argentina's agriculture. Mining production had dropped, following the decline in world demand and prices for most metals. Petroleum output had also been reduced on account of the falling off in world demand.

Economic development and technical assistance

386. The Commission, at its fifth session, specifically requested the continuation and extension of studies on

the techniques of programming economic development, taking into account the objective of a balanced development. Studies are being undertaken of the economic growth of selected countries in Latin America with a view to measuring the rate of economic growth in the recent past, and in order to prepare projections of economic data designed to assist governments in formulating programmes for integrated economic development. The country studies are being made with the collaboration of the respective Governments. Other work in this field includes long-term estimates of the balance of payments, of foreign investment, of the national income, of the supply of manpower and the occupational composition of the labour force. The role of monetary and fiscal policies in the economic development of several Latin-American countries is being examined from the standpoint of their efficacy in maximizing the rate of investment and affecting the distribution of investment among various sectors of the economy.

387. A technical meeting on budgetary management was held in Mexico City in September 1953 under the auspices of the Commission, TAA and the United Nations Department of Economic Affairs. Experts from Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and the United States of America attended the meeting. The main purpose of the meeting was to examine problems of classification, presentation and analysis of accounts in the public sectors, as well as the preliminary draft of a classification manual drawn up by the United Nations Secretariat. The discussion dealt with concepts and procedures which would enable Governments to present their budget accounts so as to enhance their usefulness for economic analysis, particularly in regard to economic development.

388. The programme of training Latin-American economists in the problems of economic development continued during 1953 and the second course which had begun in April 1953 was concluded in December of that year. Twelve trainees from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico and Nicaragua participated. The third course began in April 1954.

389. The second meeting of the Committee for Economic Co-operation of Ministers of Economy of Central America was held from 13 to 16 October 1953 at San José, Costa Rica. The Committee had before it a report by the ECLA secretariat containing an account of the work done since the first meeting and of the collaboration of TAB and some of its participating agencies. It was noted that in 1953 TAB had approved the appointment of six technical missions to undertake studies on possibilities for the development of electric energy, the establishment of an institute for industrial technological research, the processing of forest products such as pulp and paper, the establishment of livestock and dairy products industries, the creation of an advanced school of public administration, and an examination of problems related to technical and administrative training. The Committee expressed its appreciation of this technical assistance and resolved to make a further request to TAB to ensure that previous requests not yet approved, as well as any new requests which may be made, receive attention in 1954. New requests for 1954 thus far include transport, tariff nomenclature and customs regulations,

⁸² United Nations Publication, Sales No.: 1954.II.G.1.

cotton and textile industries, and vegetable oils and fats.

390. The Committee approved the report of the Sub-Committee on the Unification of Central American Tariff Nomenclature which met from October 1952 to March 1953. This Sub-Committee had drawn up the Uniform Central American Customs Nomenclature and had recommended its adoption to the Governments concerned. The Committee was gratified to note that definite steps had been taken by the five Governments for the implementation of this project. The Committee recommended that Governments should take measures to standardize tariff nomenclature for export products, to unify customs regulations and procedures, and to study means to overcome the differences in duties and other taxes on imported products which might give rise to illicit trading. In order to carry out these recommendations the Committee established the Central American Sub-Committee on Trade. The Committee also emphasized the importance of bilateral free trade treaties and requested the secretariat to study the possibility of concluding a multilateral agreement.

391. The Committee had before it the report on *Transport in Central America* (E/CN.12/356), prepared by a joint ECLA/TAA mission which contained the views of the Seminar on Transport in Central America, held in June 1953 in San José, Costa Rica. The report, the first comprehensive study to be made of transport problems in Central America, covers railways, highways, road transport, ports and maritime shipping, river and air transport. The Committee expressed its appreciation of the report and called on member Governments to give careful consideration to the recommendations contained therein. It requested the secretariat to submit preliminary plans for implementing the recommendations and drew attention to the following points of special interest: co-ordination of inland transport; regulation of international road traffic; unification and improvement of shipping and port services; joint action to reduce maritime freight rates and insurance; regulation and expansion of Central American air services; and co-ordination and improvement of transport statistics. The Committee gave high priority to a study to determine whether an economic basis exists for the establishment of a Central American merchant shipping line, and expressed interest in a similar study on a possible Central American air transport company.

392. The Committee also considered a report on the financing of economic development (E/CN.12/AC.17/30) which reviewed the different aspects of the channelling of savings in Central America. The Committee suggested that, pending the emergence of concrete financing requirements, in connexion with development programmes, the study was of interest to the Central Banks of the Central American countries and should be sent to them for their consideration. The Committee also approved the establishment of the Advanced School of Public Administration, which opened early in 1954 at San José, Costa Rica. The School will fill an urgent need in Central America for improving the technical training of high officials in public administration, and will provide theoretical and practical instruction for an initial group of twenty-five fellows from the Central American republics. Finally, owing to the diversity of the fields covered by the integration programme and the fact that some

of them are not entirely within the competence of the Ministers of Economy, the Committee decided to change its rules of procedure to provide for the inclusion in the Committee of other ministers and to change its name to "Committee on Economic Co-operation in Central America". The functions of the Committee, which is a standing committee of the Commission, remain unaltered.

393. The Committee of the Whole took note with satisfaction of the annual report of the Committee on Economic Co-operation in Central America and recommended to the secretariat that it continue studies and activities necessary for the implementation of the programme of economic integration in Central America.

394. During the meeting of the Committee of the Whole, several delegations expressed their appreciation of the United Nations technical assistance programme and noted that in order to achieve the maximum results for the development of Latin-American countries close co-operation between ECLA and the agencies rendering technical assistance was necessary. In noting the excellent results obtained in Central America by concentrating on and co-ordinating technical assistance for a group of countries having common social and economic interests and problems, several delegations proposed that the co-ordination of the allocation and administration of technical assistance funds be extended to other regions in Latin America. In this connexion they suggested the possibility of setting up regional committees for programming technical assistance for groups of countries. The Committee of the Whole also felt it advisable to obtain information on the results of the United Nations technical assistance programmes in Latin America, and adopted a resolution calling on the Council to carry out such a study and, for this purpose, to request detailed information from the governments concerned, taking into account also any suggestions they might make for the improvement of the programmes.

Industry and trade

395. Following the recommendations of the Commission at its fifth session a study has been initiated on the iron and steel transforming industries in Latin America. It will present a general description of the steel transforming industries in selected Latin-American countries in terms of the origin and use of raw materials, technological knowledge, skilled labour, existing equipment and the means and possibilities of acquiring or improving it, the relation of investment and production costs to production processes, and the output and size of the market. Consideration is also being given to the effects which these industries and the industries which would use their products might have on the balance of payments and on the economy of the countries. Knowledge of those factors will be valuable to government and industries which are considering the establishment of plants and the possible substitution of domestic products for imports of essential goods. Collaboration with ECE is being maintained on several aspects of the project.

396. Research has continued on the possibilities of developing the paper and pulp industry in Latin America. A preliminary study, carried out in collaboration with FAO, has been issued (E/CN.12/294/Rev.2). It indicates that the growing demand for newsprint and all forms of pulp and paper increasingly strains the

foreign exchange resources of the Latin-American countries and that due to limited foreign exchange, consumption of paper is restricted in many of these countries. Furthermore a comparison between future estimated consumption of paper and the prospective supply shows that, even if imports were to remain at the present level and all the projects to expand production facilities, which are now envisaged were carried to completion, Latin America would still show a substantial deficit of pulp and paper in 1965. One solution to these problems lies in producing sufficient pulp and paper in the region to meet present and potential needs. It is planned to discuss all aspects of the pulp and paper industry in Latin America at a meeting of experts which is to be held in Buenos Aires in October/November 1954. Experts from Latin America, North America and Europe will present technical papers dealing primarily with the utilization of assorted tropical and temperate zone hardwoods and bagasse, as raw material for pulp and paper. The meeting is sponsored jointly by the Commission, TAA and FAO. The secretariats of ECLA and FAO, with the collaboration of UNESCO and ECE, are preparing papers covering principally the economic aspects of pulp and paper industry on the basis of Latin-American raw materials.

397. A study on the technical and economic aspects of the chemical industries is being undertaken and it is expected to present a preliminary report to the sixth session of the Commission. Work so far undertaken includes an analysis of imports of chemical products into selected countries of Latin America, and special consideration is being given to the relationship between consumption of heavy chemicals and national income, with a view to determining their role in the consumption of the Latin-American countries.

398. The failure of the production of energy to keep pace with the rapid industrial development of the Latin-American countries, is recognized by Governments as a factor limiting industrialization, and an urgent problem to be considered within the framework of the economic development of the region. In response to a recommendation made by the Commission at its fifth session, preparatory work has begun on a study in which special consideration will be given to the examination of existing and potential energy resources, exports, imports and consumption of fuels and energy derived from different sources, with particular attention to better utilization of installed capacity. The consumption of energy by different sectors of industry, including geographic distribution, sources of hydro-electric power, including those so situated on the frontiers of different countries that they might be utilized to the mutual benefit of two or more countries, installed electric plants, transmission services, oil refineries, and production costs are also being studied. The report is expected to be submitted to the sixth session of the Commission.

399. A preliminary study on the possibility of expanding trade between the Latin-American countries (E/CN.12/304/Rev.2) was discussed at the fifth session of the Commission, and work is continuing on problems of intraregional trade. Since the preliminary study was confined to the seven countries of South America, the analysis at present being undertaken includes the flow of trade between the greater Colombian countries (Colombia, Ecuador, Venezuela and Panama) and between Mexico, Central America and the Antilles.

Recent developments in trade between the seven southern countries are also being studied and special consideration is being given to the problem arising from the disparity of trade between countries which are exporters and those which are importers of raw materials and particularly foodstuffs, and to the possibilities of fostering exports in order to pay for essential imports of foodstuffs. Inter-Latin-American trade in specific raw materials and manufactured products and the effects of inter-Latin-American trade on GATT, are also being examined in connexion with this project. In view of the importance of transportation problems as a factor in inter-Latin-American trade, several aspects of maritime shipping are being dealt with in some detail and it is planned to discuss a preliminary report with shipping experts from the Governments concerned and the managers of the principal Latin-American shipping companies at a meeting to be held in August 1954 in Santiago.

400. Recent developments in Latin America's trade with Europe and the United States are analyzed in the foreign trade section of the *Economic Survey of Latin America, 1953*. At the meeting of the Committee of the Whole it was agreed that the secretariat should consult with Governments of member States to ascertain whether they favoured the visit of a proposed ECLA/ECE technical mission to investigate the technical and commercial conditions necessary for the expansion of certain imports from Europe. At that meeting, several delegations showed considerable concern regarding recent fluctuations in the prices and the demand for Latin-American raw materials, pointing out that a deterioration in the balance of payments as a result of declining demand and prices would seriously influence the level of investments and foster policies directed to restricting imports. At present, a paper on theoretical aspects of this problem is in progress. The study on the economic and legal status of foreign investment in the Latin-American countries is being revised and brought up to date and it is expected that it will be published late in 1954.

ACTION BY THE COUNCIL AT ITS SEVENTEENTH SESSION

401. The Council at its seventeenth session⁸³ considered the annual report of the Economic Commission for Latin America (E/2536 and Corr.1). Members of the Council expressed their appreciation for the effective contribution the Commission had been making in its work on basic problems of economic development in Latin America.

402. A number of representatives expressed their interest in the studies on different industries which the Commission is undertaking, such as on the iron and steel transforming industry, pulp and paper, chemicals and energy. Some representatives of the industrialized countries indicated the keen interest of their Governments in the technical meetings planned by the Commission. The representative of the USSR invited representatives of the Latin-American countries and senior officers of the ECLA secretariat to visit his country to familiarize themselves with the development of its industry and agriculture. Other representatives felt that in view of the important part played by agriculture in the economic development of Latin America, high priority should be given to work on economic problems of agriculture. Delegations from Latin-American coun-

⁸³ E/SR.790 and 791.

tries considered the studies on trade, the terms of trade and their impact on the national income of great value. Several delegations stressed the importance of the continuation of studies on Latin America's trade with Europe and the United States, similar to the *Study of Trade between Latin America and Europe* (E/CN.12/225) prepared by the secretariats of ECLA, ECE and FAO. Some delegations pointing to the serious decline in trade between Europe and Latin America, shown in that study, favoured the proposed ECLA/ECE technical mission which would visit the various countries of the region and investigate the technical and commercial conditions necessary for the expansion of certain imports from Europe. One delegation, while favouring such a mission, felt that it should have clearly defined terms of reference, to avoid activities properly belonging to the partners in actual trade negotiations. Delegations commented on the value of the ECLA/TAA training programme for economists

and hoped that it would be continued and expanded to the fullest extent possible. The Central American economic integration programme and its accomplishments were praised by several representatives.

403. The Council in resolution 515 A (XVII) took note of the annual report of the Commission; considered the work programme of the Commission as established by the Committee of the Whole of primary importance for the economic development of Latin America; and endorsed the order of priorities allocated by the Committee of the Whole to the individual work projects. The Council, in part B of the same resolution, requested the Secretary-General to authorize the Executive Secretary of the Commission to invite Italy to attend sessions of the Commission on a basis similar to that provided in paragraph 6 of the terms of reference of the Commission for Members of the United Nations not members of the Commission.

Annex I

RESOLUTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

Seventeenth session

Resolutions

- 513 (XVII) Report of the International Monetary Fund.
- 515 (XVII) Annual report of the Economic Commission for Latin America, resolutions A and B.
- 516 (XVII) Annual report of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East, resolutions A and B.
- 518 (XVII) Transport and Communications
 - A. Uniform system of road signs and signals.
 - B. Pollution of sea-water.
 - C. Situation with respect to ratification of the Convention on the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization.
- 519 (XVII) Report of the Interim Co-ordinating Committee for International Commodity Arrangements on the question of a study group on steel.
- 520 (XVII) Draft convention on the enforcement of international arbitral awards.

Eighteenth session

Resolutions

- 531 (XVIII) World economic situation
 - A. Consideration of the world economic situation.
 - B. Full employment.
 - C. Removal of obstacles to international trade and means of developing international economic relations.
- 534 (XVIII) Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- 535 (XVIII) Annual report of the Economic Commission for Europe
 - A. Annual Report of the Commission.
 - B. Interregional co-operation.
- 536 (XVIII) Report of the Statistical Commission (eighth session)
- 537 (XVIII) Transport and Communications
 - A. Pollution of sea-water.
 - B. Customs formalities for the temporary importation of private road vehicles and for tourism.
- 557 (XVIII) Organization and Operation of the Council and its Commissions
 - F. Commission on International Commodity Trade.

Annex II

SUMMARY RECORDS OF THE COUNCIL AND ITS COMMITTEES

The summary records of the meetings of the Council and its committees relevant to the various sections of this chapter are indicated below:

Section I. World economic situation

Plenary meetings 799-805, 827.

Economic Committee meetings 160, 163-5.

Section II. Full employment

Plenary meetings 799-805, 827.

Economic Committee meetings 160-163.

Section III. Removal of obstacles to international trade and means of developing international economic relations

Plenary meetings 756, 799-805, 827.

Economic Committee meetings 163-167.

Section IV. International commodity trade

Plenary meetings 762, 764-9, 791, 796-798, 829.

Economic Committee meetings 142-145, 149-151, 156.

Co-ordination Committee meetings 125, 127, 132.

Section V. Production and distribution of newsprint and printing paper

Plenary meetings 769-772, 774, 789.

Economic Committee meetings 156-158.

Section VI. Question of a study group on steel: report of the Interim Co-ordinating Committee for International Commodity Arrangements

Plenary meetings 791, 796-798, 829.

Co-ordination Committee meetings 125, 127, 132.

Economic Committee meetings 141, 142.

Section VII. Question of a convention on the enforcement of international arbitral awards

Plenary meetings 761, 763.

Section VIII. Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Plenary meetings 809, 811, 814, 815.

Section IX. Annual report of the international monetary fund

Plenary meetings 771, 772.

Section X. Transport and communications questions

Plenary meetings 757, 794, 795.

Section XI. Statistical questions

Plenary meeting 793.

Section XII. Economic Commission for Europe

Plenary meetings 825, 826, 828, 829.

Section XIII. Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East

Plenary meetings 776, 777.

Section XIV. Economic Commission for Latin America

Plenary meetings 790, 791.

Annex III

STATEMENTS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

ORAL STATEMENTS BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO THE COUNCIL OR ITS COMMITTEES UNDER RULE 86 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

Seventeenth session

International Chamber of Commerce

Draft Convention on the Enforcement of International Arbitral Awards

Plenary meeting 761.

Eighteenth session

International Confederation of Free Trade Unions

World Economic Situation. Plenary meetings 800 and 804.

World Federation of Trade Unions

World Economic Situation. Plenary meeting 804.

World Federation of United Nations Associations

World Economic Situation. Plenary meeting 804.

ORAL STATEMENTS BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO THE COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS UNDER RULE 85 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

Seventeenth session

International Law Association

Draft Convention on the Enforcement of International Arbitral Awards.

NGO Committee meeting 139.

Eighteenth session

Chamber of Commerce of the United States of America

World Economic Situation: Consideration of the World Economic Situation. NGO Committee meeting 143.

WRITTEN STATEMENTS BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO THE COUNCIL

International Chamber of Commerce

E/C.2/367 Statistics for the Retailer.

International Chamber of Commerce

E/C.2/368 Controls and Freedom in the Distributive Trades

International Chamber of Commerce

E/C.2/369 Resale Price Maintenance.

International Chamber of Commerce

E/C.2/370 The Two Freedoms of the Transport User.

International Chamber of Commerce

E/C.2/371 General Transport Policy and User-Carrier Co-operation.

International Chamber of Commerce

E/C.2/372 Red Tape in Travel.

International Chamber of Commerce

E/C.2/373 Enforcement of International Arbitral Awards.

International Chamber of Commerce

E/C.2/373/Add.1 Enforcement of International Arbitral Awards.

International Chamber of Commerce

E/C.2/377 Distribution Statistics.

International Confederation of Free Trade Unions

E/C.2/393 Full Employment.

Chamber of Commerce of the United States of America

E/C.2/396 World economic situation: Removal of obstacles to international trade and means of developing international economic relations.

World Federation of Trade Unions

E/C.2/405 Full Employment.

National Association of Manufacturers

E/C.2/406 World economic situation.

National Association of Manufacturers

E/C.2/407 Foreign travel.

National Association of Manufacturers

E/C.2/409 Conclusions of the second International Conference of Manufacturers.

WRITTEN STATEMENT BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO THE FISCAL COMMISSION

International Fiscal Association

E/CN.8/NGO/5 Resolutions adopted at the 1952 and 1953 Congresses

WRITTEN STATEMENTS BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO THE STATISTICAL COMMISSION

International Chamber of Commerce

E/CN.3/190 Study on Distribution Censuses

Catholic International Union for Social Service

E/CN.3/NGO/4 Work Programme in Social Statistics and Reports of Work in Progress: Population Census Activities

WRITTEN STATEMENTS BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE FAR EAST

International Confederation of Free Trade Unions

E/CN.11/NGO/7 Economic Survey for Asia and the Far East, 1953

World Federation of Trade Unions

E/CN.11/NGO/8 Economic Situation in Asia

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF UNDER-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES*

Section I. Financing of economic development

404. During its seventeenth and eighteenth sessions the Council continued to devote close attention to the possibilities of accelerating the economic development of under-developed countries by expanding the international flow of both private and public capital. At its seventh and eighth sessions the General Assembly considered four possible methods of increasing the flow of capital and in resolution 724 (VIII) laid down or amplified a programme of work the results of which have constituted a significant part of the Council's work in this field in 1954. These four possibilities are: (a) the stimulation of the international flow of private capital; (b) the establishment of an international finance corporation intended to facilitate the financing of productive private enterprise in under-developed countries; (c) the establishment of a special United Nations fund for grants-in-aid and for low-interest, long-term loans; and (d) the improvement, stabilization and improved utilization of the exports proceeds of under-developed countries.

405. It has already been noted¹ that the Council placed considerable emphasis in its debate on the world economic situation upon the great importance of an increased rate of economic development of under-developed countries and this note of urgency was still more in evidence in the discussion of economic development. Although the reports presented to the Council gave evidence of widespread governmental support, in principle, it was nevertheless clear that neither the proposal for an international finance corporation nor the proposed special United Nations fund for economic development had in fact the support of those leading countries—being the major capital exporters of the world—without whose wholehearted backing neither of these institutions could be brought into existence.

406. The Council's examination of the problems of financing economic development made it very clear that despite the loans made by the International Bank, the flow of public funds remained limited while the flow from private sources continued at the low levels of post-war years. The factors affecting the international flow of private capital were examined in the Secretariat's report (E/2531)² which the Council considered at its seventeenth session³; while an expansion of the flow might be facilitated by many measures within the power of individual capital-importing and capital-exporting countries, it was manifest—as the Council's resolution 512 B (XVII) on the subject recognizes—that a greater flow of capital requires “expanding international trade and continued progress towards wider convertibility of currencies.”

407. With regard to international price relations, after having considered the experts' report on *Commodity Trade and Economic Development*⁴ and other reports by the Secretary-General on the subject of terms of trade, the Council in resolution 512 A (XVII) indicated its concern to find a solution of the “grave and persistent problem” of the instability of primary commodity markets, and the consequent inadequacy and instability of the export proceeds of countries in process of development.

SPECIAL UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

408. The General Assembly at its eighth session received from the Council the report of the Committee of Nine on a Special United Nations Fund for Economic Development (E/2381)⁵, with the Council's request that the General Assembly should consider what other preparatory steps might usefully be taken toward the establishment, when circumstances permit, of an international fund designed to assist development and reconstruction of the under-developed countries.

409. In its resolution 724 B (VIII) the Assembly, concluding that it should “in particular, be attentive to any changes either in world conditions or in the attitudes of the Governments of Member States, which might be propitious to the establishment of such a fund in the near future”, took certain decisions intended to ensure a thorough canvass of government views and comments upon the report of the Committee of Nine. This was secured by the appointment of the then President of the Economic and Social Council, Mr. Raymond Scheyven, to collate and examine the comments of Governments and also to request elaboration, if desirable, in direct consultation with Governments. Mr. Scheyven's interim report (E/2599 and Corr.1)⁶ was before the Council at its eighteenth session.

410. In resolution 724 B (VIII) the Assembly had also asked the Secretary-General to prepare a working paper on the extend and methods of co-ordination between the proposed special fund, TAB and specialized agencies engaged in economic development work. This report (E/2618), prepared after consultation with the Executive Chairman of TAB and the secretariats of the Bank and the Fund, was, at the General Assembly's request, submitted to the Council at its eighteenth session. The report adumbrated the opportunities, which might exist for collaboration, based on an examination of the main areas and functions common to the proposed special fund and the other organizations studied. The paper concluded that while many op-

* Separate item on the provisional agenda of the General Assembly at its ninth session.

¹ See Chapter II, section I.

² United Nations Publication, Sales No.: 1954.II.D.1.

³ See paragraphs 456-471.

** Sub-item on the provisional agenda of the General Assembly at its ninth session.

⁴ United Nations Publication, Sales No.: 1954.II.B.1.

⁵ United Nations Publication, Sales No.: 1953.II.B.1.

⁶ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eighteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 3(a).

opportunities for fruitful collaboration might be foreseen, specific proposals in respect to co-ordination measures must await a further stage when certain fundamental elements of the constitution and character of the special fund would be established.

411. Although questions related to the co-ordination and constitution of a special fund, and the more detailed proposals in the report of the Committee of Nine were discussed, the debate and action of the Council at the eighteenth session⁷ related mainly to the question of the degree of support which Governments would, at this stage, be willing to give to the proposal of establishing SUNFED as presented in the interim report of Mr. Scheyven.

412. In his report, Mr. Scheyven had emphasized the existence of three groups among the replies of Governments to the invitation of the General Assembly in paragraph 2 of resolution 724 B (VIII). The first of these coming from under-developed countries expressed the view that SUNFED should be set up as soon as possible, whether or not disarmament had been achieved and it might be set up even with modest financial resources on the basis of the actual preparatory work already done.

These countries at the same time stated their willingness to contribute to the financing of the special fund to the extent that their means permitted. The second group of replies, largely from industrial countries, expressed reservations concerning the advisability and feasibility of setting up a special fund at the present time and referred to the danger of diverting funds from other types of assistance and to the heavy financial burdens already carried by many countries. These countries also held that the establishment of a special fund should be conditional upon internationally supervised world-wide disarmament. The third group of replies, coming from industrialized countries, agreed with the first group in believing that a fund should be set up without waiting for world-wide disarmament. This group stressed, in particular, the complementary nature of the fund to other types of assistance available and the interest of the industrialized countries themselves in accelerated economic development.

413. Although Mr. Scheyven's interim report did not include an analysis of the comments by Governments on the report of the Committee of Nine, it noted the concern expressed by some governments that the establishment of the fund must not lead to the creation of an international bureaucracy.

414. In addition to these reports, the Council was also aware of the replies of 38 Governments presenting their comments to the General Assembly⁸ and stating the degree of support they would give the special fund together with their views on the report of the Committee of Nine.

Discussion in the Council

415. Mr. Scheyven presented and amplified his interim report at the opening of the Council's general debate⁹. He believed, he said, that the existence and increasing membership of a third group, i.e., of de-

veloped countries which no longer made internationally supervised world-wide disarmament an essential condition of their own participation in a fund, constituted a significant new fact which had emerged since the eighth session of the General Assembly. He also emphasized that many countries in this group insisted that wide participation (including that of the leading industrialized countries) was essential and that the size of contributions would be determined by their defence burdens and the degree to which this burden could be reduced. He hoped that more Governments would feel able to follow the example of the countries in this third group, but he also hoped that under-developed countries would appreciate the magnitude of the financial and economic problems confronting many of the industrialized countries, and the magnitude of the manifold contributions they are already making for the benefit of under-developed countries.

416. He had arrived at the conviction that assistance to the under-developed countries was essential on compelling humanitarian, political and economic grounds; he believed that it was necessary to rouse public opinion to the fact that almost two-thirds of mankind were still living in conditions of great poverty. The interest of the under-developed countries required the long-term prospect of new markets and increased employment which is opened up by their economic development. This would create a need for capital goods which could constitute a major factor in the reconversion of the economies of the industrialized countries from armament production to civilian production.

417. The special fund would meet both an economic and an institutional need. Economically, the need of the under-developed countries was for basic investment of a non-self-liquidating character, essential for the subsequent implementation of projects yielding normal returns. Institutionally, this need was not provided for by the existing forms of private capital, nor by the Bank operating within its present terms of agreement, nor by technical assistance alone. Yet all these forms of assistance were interlocking. The special fund should, perhaps, enjoy a certain priority in time since basic investments must come first. However, once basic investments are successfully financed, technical assistance, private capital, the International Bank, and, possibly, an international finance corporation should all be in a position to play their full part.

418. Without entering into details concerning the report of the Committee of Nine, he felt that most Governments accepted the general principle of that report and many of the suggestions contained in it. The one point about which he felt Governments were particularly concerned, as he had already stressed in his interim report, was the need to provide for the fullest possible co-ordination with TAB, the Bank and the specialized agencies, and thus minimize the growth of a new international bureaucracy.

419. Finally Mr. Scheyven emphasized that he was still in the midst of his mission for the General Assembly, and that the debate and decisions of the Council would assist him greatly in the fulfilment of his mission.

420. In the ensuing debate, Council members expressed their warm appreciation and gratitude to Mr. Scheyven for the zeal with which he had undertaken his mission; his statement to the Council was greatly

⁷ E/AC.6/SR.166, 167, 168; E/SR.810, 812, 813, 816, 818, 827.

⁸ A/2646 Add. 1-2. The second addendum containing replies and comments from 14 governments was issued during the eighteenth session of the Council.

⁹ E/SR.810.

appreciated and it was requested that the public information services of the United Nations should give it wide circulation.

421. The observers from Brazil and Chile as well as the representatives of several non-governmental organizations participated in the debate.

422. Several Council members thought the time had come to request the General Assembly to take more decisive steps towards the establishment of a special fund, such as the drafting of a statute of the fund, or to propose that the General Assembly ask Governments of Member States to pledge contributions towards such a special fund. Some representatives, in support of this idea, emphasized that the earlier debate in the Council on the world economic situation¹⁰ had shown a favourable economic situation on the one hand, but a continued widening of the gap between the developed and under-developed countries on the other hand. While the first of these two factors indicated more favourable circumstances for the establishment of a special fund, the second emphasized the urgency of establishing it. Mr. Scheyven's interim report and his statement to the Council had shown growing support of Governments and growing willingness to participate. It was further argued in support of this position, that many Governments in their replies and comments had emphasized the complementary relationship of the proposed special fund with other sources of assistance which there was a general desire to maintain and strengthen.

423. Other delegations, however, questioned the existence and significance of growing support for the establishment of the special fund. It was pointed out that most of those countries which had been placed by Mr. Scheyven in the third group had made their own participation conditional upon participation by a few key countries who were expected to become but who had not yet indicated any intention of becoming the main contributors. Moreover, the willingness of these Governments to participate was known to be subject to other serious qualifications, including heavy prior economic and defence commitments. These delegations also emphasized that while it might be possible to initiate a fund, for it to become permanent would require the regular annual replenishment of its resources. Unless some certainty of continuity existed on this point no under-developed country would feel secure in embarking on a major project on the basis of resources only from the special fund. Such continued support could not conceivably be forthcoming, these representatives maintained, except after the achievement of internationally controlled world-wide disarmament. The position of these Governments was firmly based upon the declaration contained in resolution 724 A (VIII).

424. To this last point, a number of delegations replied that the creation of the special fund would itself reduce international tension, thus hastening the day when the condition of internationally supervised world-wide disarmament could be achieved. One member urged that even from a defence point of view it was not wise to place all reliance on armaments alone. It was also maintained that there was a great disparity if not a contradiction in the simultaneous insistence on how much was already being done on behalf of

under-developed countries and the evident willingness to expand assistance through existing channels on the one hand, and the declaration of inability to assume further burdens through a new United Nations operation on the other hand.

425. On this point, however, it was stated by other representatives that no inconsistency was involved. The special fund was a new and untried method of providing assistance. It might be possible to start it now, but only at the risk of diverting resources from established and proven methods of rendering assistance. On the other hand, when internationally supervised world-wide disarmament had set free really substantial resources, this new method could be tried with much less risk that it would lead to a net decline in the total amount of assistance to under-developed countries.

426. Different views were expressed concerning the initial size of the proposed special fund. While some members thought that substantial sums would be required to achieve significant results — some delegations linking this to the precondition of internationally supervised world-wide disarmament — other delegations emphasized that even a comparatively small fund might do useful work and attract further support. Some delegations also emphasized the appreciable reduction of actual defence burdens which had already occurred, even though not constituting conditions of internationally supervised world-wide disarmament, and noted the minimal size of the proposed special fund in comparison with current armament expenditures. However the pressure of domestic needs and the desire for reduced fiscal burdens in these countries were put forward to justify a cautious attitude and delay pending the achievement of really substantial economies.

427. Some other delegations thought that the need of under-developed countries was not capital transfer, but the promotion of international trade on an equitable basis, and the industrialization of under-developed countries through the mobilization of their internal resources. These representatives maintained that the key positions which foreign capital had established had not been to the benefit of the under-developed countries, nor were the trade policies of many of the more-developed countries beneficial. They thought that the detailed operations of the proposed special fund were still too unknown to be certain that they would actually benefit under-developed countries.

428. Several members welcomed the emphasis given by Mr. Scheyven to the need for gaining the support of parliamentary and public opinion for the idea of a special fund and one representative suggested the publication of parliamentary papers on the subject. They also endorsed Mr. Scheyven's views on the importance of avoiding the growth of bureaucracy and ensuring proper co-ordination. Few comments were made concerning the problems of co-ordination and liaison raised by the proposed special fund with which the Secretary-General's working paper dealt.

429. The representative of Brazil, speaking as an observer, felt that a revision of the working methods of the Bank was needed rather than the establishment of a special fund. It was also suggested that the use of public funds from all sources in a given country might be co-ordinated by groups of engineers and bankers under the auspices of TAB.

430. Although the debate centred largely on questions concerning the degree of support for the special

¹⁰ See Chapter II, Section I.

fund and the timing of its establishment, some comments were also made on the provisions in the report of the Committee of Nine. Among the main suggestions were the following: the required number of participating countries might be reduced below the minimum of thirty suggested in the report. The repayment conditions for loans should be stricter than had been suggested in the report and repayment in domestic currency, at least, should be strictly adhered to. On the other hand, the principle that the special fund should be a lender of last resort should not be carried to the point where it would finance only those schemes which had already been rejected by other lending agencies, since, unjustifiably, such schemes might have acquired a bad reputation.

431. A representative found objection to the principle elaborated by one Government in its reply (A/2646) that the fund should have power to prevent the adoption by countries receiving investment assistance of an exaggerated protectionist policy for their incipient industries as this view would constitute intervention in the internal affairs of Member States. Another member was concerned at the possibility that the operations of the special fund might aggravate the problem of surpluses in under-developed countries.

432. The representatives of a number of non-governmental organizations also participated in the debate. The representative of the World Federation of United Nations Associations stated that in response to the efforts of WFUNA to create greater awareness of the needs of under-developed countries and to urge government action, there had been encouraging support in a number of countries, including large potential contributors. There was increasing evidence of sentiment in favour of the establishment of the special fund and WFUNA was convinced that if Governments sought funds for economic development with conviction they would find the necessary sums and the peoples of the industrialized countries would be prepared to make sacrifices.

433. The representative of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions also was in favour of establishing the special fund without waiting for world-wide disarmament. He drew attention to the fact that armament expenditures had already levelled off or actually declined and thus the opportunity for sparing the resources for a special fund existed. He repeated the appeal made by the ICFTU in a message to all delegations to the eighth session of the General Assembly urging them to declare their readiness to establish the special fund, and suggested that the Council should examine the possibility of initiating a United Nations publicity campaign to win over public opinion to policies which Governments perhaps hesitated to pursue.

434. The representative of the World Federation of Trade Unions suggested intensified concerted action in favour of the under-developed countries, including social measures to raise the people's standards of living, emphasis on industrialization based on utilization of domestic resources and agrarian reform, and the obtaining of favourable markets for their export products. He advocated the setting up of SUNFED without waiting for general disarmament since the situation of the under-developed countries must be improved if international tension was to be eased.

435. The representative of the International Federation of Christian Trade Unions was also in favour of

the establishment of SUNFED, and stressed particularly the social and human aspects of economic development. In that connexion, the collaboration of the non-governmental organizations, particularly the trade unions and welfare organizations, was especially important.

436. Mr. Scheyven spoke again at the end of the general debate. He said that the views expressed in the Council would be very useful to him in drawing up his final report to the General Assembly. In reply to doubts expressed in the debate, he emphasized that he was firmly convinced that since the eighth session of the General Assembly, some progress had been made in the question of establishing a special fund, and that the attitudes of a number of Governments had evolved, otherwise he would certainly have frankly told the Council since it would be wrong to deceive the under-developed countries. At the same time, he wished to make it quite clear that the attitude of Governments concerning the special fund had nothing to do with the question of generosity or lack of it. Some of the countries, which he had placed in the second group, had an outstanding international record of generous and disinterested behaviour. He supported what had been said about the importance of informing public opinion of the unhappy situation in the under-developed countries. He hoped that the Council would achieve a unanimous resolution as a result of its discussion, since he judged it was essential to his mission that he should be known to have the confidence of all countries represented on the Council.

437. Five draft resolutions having many features in common were before the Council. These drafts were subsequently merged into a single text which the Council adopted as resolution 532 A (XVIII). This resolution noted an increasing moral and an increased degree of material support for the establishment of a "Special United Nations Fund for Economic Development"; it expressed its great appreciation of Mr. Scheyven's work and his interim report; it recommended that the General Assembly urge Governments to review their respective positions with respect to extending their material support, in accordance with changes in the international situation and other relevant factors. Finally, it recommended that the General Assembly extend the appointment of Mr. Scheyven in order that he might continue his consultation with Governments.

PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CORPORATION*

438. The Council, at its eighteenth session¹¹ had before it a report by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development entitled "A Second Report on the Status of the Proposal for an International Finance Corporation", (E/2616)¹² submitted in response to a request by the General Assembly. The General Assembly in resolution 724 C (VIII) had asked IBRD to analyse in detail the questions raised and the views expressed by Governments and non-

* Sub-item on the provisional agenda of the General Assembly at its ninth session.

¹¹ E/AC.6/SR.168 and 169; E/SR.816 and 828.

¹² The first report had been presented in May 1953 (E/2441). For a summary of this report and for the subsequent action by the Council at its sixteenth session, as well as for the earlier history concerning this proposal, see *Report of the Economic and Social Council covering the period from 2 August 1952 to 5 August 1953*, para. 484-490.

governmental institutions concerning the methods of furnishing the capital for an international finance corporation, its functions and operations; to conduct its consultations in a more intensive manner on the question of the creation of an international finance corporation and on the prospects of financial support for it; and to report on both these matters to the Council at its eighteenth session.

439. As to the prospects of financial support, the Bank reported that the countries on which an international finance corporation would necessarily have to depend for the greater part of its funds were not at the present time ready to commit themselves to subscribe to its capital and that some of them doubted the soundness of the idea in principle. In that respect, the situation had remained unchanged from the time of the Bank's first report in May 1953.

440. With regard to the availability of private capital to an international finance corporation, the Bank's report stated that the contribution of capital by participating Governments was the only practical approach. The report also suggested that the voting powers among the directors of the proposed corporation—who, in the original proposal for the corporation were to be identical with those of the Executive Directors of the Bank serving *ex-officio*—might be related to the capital subscriptions made to the proposed corporation, rather than to the subscriptions to the Bank, as previously suggested. Two alternative ways of providing further resources required by the international finance corporation are suggested, after the initial proposed subscriptions of \$50 to \$100 million. The first method would leave the calling up of further subscriptions to subsequent decisions by the participating Governments; the second method would provide immediately for a larger capital subscription, but further calls, after the initial \$50 to \$100 million, would require approval of a designated substantial majority of the total voting powers.

441. As to membership and allocation of capital subscriptions, the report suggested that it would be logical to provide that membership in the Bank should be a prerequisite to membership in the international finance corporation, if the corporation was to be affiliated with and managed by the Bank. The countries' subscriptions to the capital to the Bank could provide a guide for the allocation of the corporation's capital. Finally, the suggestion that the corporation be restricted to loan financing was opposed on the ground that this would considerably weaken its effectiveness.

442. During the debate in the Council, some delegations repeated their doubts as to whether the establishment of an international finance corporation was necessary or desirable, or whether its establishment might not do more harm than good by deterring the flow of private capital for economic development. Others, while sharing in some measure those doubts, thought that a corporation, through its association with the Bank might help to mobilize additional private capital by guaranteeing loans to the Governments of under-developed countries. There was, however, general support for continued exploration and consultations in this matter.

443. On the other hand, a number of delegations expressed their continued support for the prompt establishment of an international finance corporation. It was suggested that because of its smaller initial capital

requirements and its more rapid turnover of funds, the establishment of an international finance corporation might receive priority over efforts directed towards establishing the special fund for economic development. Some representatives expressed their regret at the lack of detail in the report of the Bank concerning further consultations, and also at the fact that the Executive Directors of the Bank had not expressed their opinions on the policy issues raised in the report which had been submitted by the management of the Bank. These representatives wished the Bank, in accordance with its statutory purpose, to intensify its efforts to stimulate the flow of private capital to under-developed countries. The view was expressed that more could be done to tap sources of private capital. One member suggested that some well-known person of international reputation should be asked to study this question

444. The representatives of the ICFTU and IFCTU both supported the establishment of an international finance corporation. The former argued that the corporation might help to avoid some of the abuses and friction which had impeded the flow of private capital to under-developed countries.

445. The Council adopted a resolution 532 B (XVIII) in which it expressed its thanks to the Bank for its continued interest in the project and for its suggestions on the structure organization, financing and functions of an international finance corporation. It recommended the General Assembly to request Member States who might be in a position to provide capital for an international finance corporation to keep the matter under review; and requested the Bank to continue to consult such countries and to report to the Council upon its consultations and on any further suggestions the Bank might have regarding the provision of capital and the structure and functions of a corporation.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

446. The Council at its seventeenth session¹³ considered the annual report of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (E/2511),¹⁴ together with a supplement outlining the principal activities of the Bank from 1 July 1953 to 1 February 1954 (E/2511/Add.1).

447. In his supporting statement before the Council,¹⁵ the President of the Bank pointed to the increase in its activities. During the nine months ending 31 March 1954, the Bank had granted loans exceeding \$302 million, bringing the total of its loans to approximately \$1,892 million. The rate at which loans were being disbursed to borrowers was also accelerating. During the calendar year 1953, the disbursements equalled \$240 million, bringing the total of disbursements to about \$1,250 million by the end of that year. The Bank had been able to make increasing use of currencies other than United States dollars, and as productive capacity grew outside the United States, the proceeds of the loans were being expended more and more elsewhere. Resources available for lending had been augmented by the sale of the equivalent of more than \$200 million of IBRD bonds in the previous year,

¹³ E/SR.775, 778 and 779.

¹⁴ International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, *Eighth Annual Report, 1952-1953*, Washington, D.C.

¹⁵ E/SR.775.

including United States dollar bonds to the value of \$175 million and Swiss franc bonds to the value of 150 million Swiss francs. The Bank had also continued to sell securities from its own loan portfolio to private investors in the United States and in other countries. Since 1 July 1953, the Bank had sold the equivalent of about \$16 million of such obligations, including approximately \$5 million with, and \$11 million without, the Bank's guarantee. Additional loan funds had been obtained by further release by member countries of their 18 per cent local currency subscriptions to the Bank's capital. The amounts thus released and used or allocated for loans had increased to \$757 million, from \$710 million at the beginning of 1953. In addition, the equivalent of about \$436 million had been released subject to various conditions of limitations.

448. In the field of technical assistance, general survey missions had, during the preceding months, been sent by the IBRD to Nigeria, Malaya and Syria. Reports of all previous survey missions had been presented to the governments concerned and were being widely used for constructive action by governments. In line with its policy of encouraging the flow of private capital into productive enterprise, the Bank had recently sent two specialized missions to India and Ceylon to explore the possibility of establishing privately-owned and operated development corporations to help finance the expansion and modernization of domestic industry.

449. The President of the Bank believed that the successful solution of the problem of economic development would require a high degree of realism and of political farsightedness on the part of the under-developed and the industrialized countries alike. The under-developed countries, he thought, tended to over-emphasize the financial aspects of development and their low levels to income and of saving as the principal obstacle to progress, and to imply that the only solution to their problems would be large investments by the advanced countries. No less important were such factors as the character and initiative of the people, the confidence they had in themselves and in the future of their country, and the nature of the government administration and of the country's social institutions. On the other hand, he said, advanced countries had not yet grasped the extent to which their own long run economic and political interest could be served by contributing to the economic growth of under-developed areas.

450. Several representatives expressed their satisfaction with the progress made by the Bank in carrying out its tasks. Others, however, criticized it for having devoted too small a proportion of its loans to meeting the needs of under-developed countries. The Bank was urged to liberalize its lending policies, particularly with respect to the financing by the Bank of non-self-liquidating projects, to seek greater flexibility in its procedures, and to speed up decisions on economic development loans.

451. Some representatives expressed the view that the Bank should not confine its lending to the financing of specific projects or limit its loans to the foreign exchange requirements of projects which had been financed. Favourable reference was made to the practice, followed in some cases by the Bank, of taking into account not only direct but also indirect foreign exchange costs of development programmes. Transitional balance of payments difficulties should be acknowledged as a natural accompaniment of certain

phases of economic development. Regret was expressed that the Bank had failed to support member countries in their efforts to overcome such temporary occurrences, and had tended to act solely from motives of profit.

452. Emphasizing the part played by the flow of United States investment funds in narrowing the dollar gap, one representative expressed the hope that the forthcoming year would witness an upward trend in the rate of dollar disbursements by the Bank. Other representatives drew attention to the need for increasing the Bank's supply of non-dollar funds in view of the increased production in western Europe which had favoured procurement by under-developed countries in European markets. The Bank's existing procedure was bound to result in the assumption by Bank borrowers of dollar liabilities for non-dollar expenditure. This would increase the dollar deficit of borrowing countries and restrict the amount of loans that under-developed countries could obtain from the Bank. Unless European countries released more of their 18 per cent capital subscription, the Bank was urged to revise its lending procedures so as to relieve its borrowers from the hardship of assuming dollar liabilities for non-dollar expenditure.

453. Stress was placed on the need for a more balanced regional distribution of loans granted by the Bank and on the unduly small proportion of loans granted to under-developed countries of Asia and the Middle East. The hope was expressed that the interest rates charged by the Bank could be lowered and that the statutory commission of not less than 1 per cent *per annum*, which the Bank is required to charge on the amount of its loans during the first ten years of its operation, could be discontinued or reduced.

454. In reply, the President of the Bank readily admitted the inadequacy of the Bank's resources to satisfy the world's development needs. In granting loans, he emphasized, the Bank was not guided solely by motives of profit. Nor was the self-liquidating character of the financed projects of primary importance. Loans were made to countries which, in the Bank's opinion, were capable of repaying them. Again, countries were not denied loans on grounds of their unfavourable balance of payments position alone, but the Bank had insisted that the balance of payments prospects should be such that repayment of the loan appeared probable. The rate of interest the Bank charged on its loans was determined by the rate it had to pay for its own borrowing. He was hopeful, however, that the Bank would be able in the future to borrow on even better terms and to lower its rate of interest accordingly. The Bank's slowness in granting loans was due to the great care it had taken in determining the soundness of the projects submitted to it. Such care was believed to be in the interest of the borrowing country.

455. After the conclusion of the debate, the Council adopted resolution 514 (XVII) taking note of the report of the Bank.

INTERNATIONAL FLOW OF PRIVATE CAPITAL FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF UNDER-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES*

456. In accordance with General Assembly resolutions 622 C (VII) and 724 (VIII), the Council at its

* Sub-item on the provisional agenda of the General Assembly at its ninth session.

seventeenth session considered,¹⁶ in connexion with the question of financing economic development, "... the steps which the United Nations, the specialized agencies and the Governments of Member States might take to stimulate the steady flow into under-developed countries of private capital in adequate amounts".

457. The Council had before it the following reports prepared by the Secretary-General in response to resolution 622 C (VII):

(i) *The International Flow of Private Capital, 1946-1952* (E/2531).¹⁷ This study contained an analysis of the volume and direction of the international flow of private capital, of the types and fields of application of such capital and of the main factors limiting the flow of private capital during the post-war period; in addition, it set out certain conclusions relevant to the formulation of policies for promoting economic development with the aid of private foreign capital.

(ii) "Memorandum by the Secretary-General on Action Taken to Stimulate the International Flow of Private Capital" (E/2546). This study summarized the action taken by the United Nations and certain Governments of Member States, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to stimulate the international flow of private capital for economic development.

458. The Council also had before it a resolution adopted by the Asian Regional Conference of the International Labour Organisation (E/2554) on this subject.

459. The role of private foreign capital in financing economic development and the stimulation of such capital was the subject of extended debate in the Council. There was a considerable difference of views concerning the extent to which foreign private capital, particularly in the form of direct investments, could be relied upon to meet the needs of under-developed countries. Views also differed as to the relative importance of particular impediments to the flow of such capital and the extent to which such impediments could be removed by action taken by the capital-importing countries.

460. Representatives of certain developed and under-developed countries expressed the view that foreign direct investment in private business enterprises had made a major contribution to economic progress in the past and should in the future serve as a means whereby technicians and skills as well as financial resources would be supplied to under-developed countries. It was held by these representatives that an increase in the flow of funds for such investment was contingent upon encouragement by capital-importing countries. One representative stressed the complementary nature of public and private investment in the economic development of many countries and the importance in the past of international loans from private sources to governments. The importance of reviving the international market for portfolio investments should, therefore, not be overlooked. Certain representatives, while agreeing that private external financing might, under certain conditions, contribute to economic development asserted that private foreign capital had in the main been prejudicial to the economic growth of under-developed countries. Certain representatives, referring to the tendency for direct investments to be attracted

to extractive industries, held that such investments would make a most only a limited contribution to the development of countries in which natural resources were relatively scarce, even if these countries took all feasible or appropriate steps to improve the climate for private investments. Other representatives of under-developed countries expressed the view that basic internal and international economic conditions affecting countries seeking to stimulate their development had necessitated the imposition of various types of controls which, while perhaps prejudicial to the inflow of private capital, could not be relaxed without affecting national economic programmes. Several representatives of under-developed countries stressed the importance of expanded lending by the Bank and also advocated the establishment of an international finance corporation and a special United Nations fund for economic development. Certain representatives held that further consideration should be given to devising new legal forms and institutional arrangements whereby private foreign capital could be made available to under-developed countries under conditions mutually satisfactory to these countries and to the investors.

461. The representative of the International Chamber of Commerce welcomed the growing recognition of the importance of an expansion of international private investment. He drew attention to recent legislation and administrative action by certain capital-importing countries with a view to removing impediments and creating greater security for foreign investments. Recalling the draft code of fair practice drawn up in 1949 by ICC,¹⁸ he requested the Council to commence work on a draft code and expressed the hope that such a code might serve as the basis for unilateral, bilateral or multilateral action.

462. The representative of the World Federation of Trade Unions stated that the investment of private foreign capital in under-developed countries prejudiced their economic development by tending to depress the standard of living of the working population. Too little of such capital was invested in manufacturing. The concentration of foreign investments in the production of raw materials prevented the under-developed countries from freely disposing of their natural resources, hampered their economic development and infringed their sovereignty.

463. The representative of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions stated that private foreign capital had not been attracted to investments that helped to increase food production in densely populated countries. International loans at low rates of interest were needed for this purpose. Under-developed countries should realize, however, that the attraction of private foreign capital required a favourable investment climate. Capital-exporting countries should encourage private investment by governmental guarantees and suitable fiscal measures.

464. The representative of the International Federation of Christian Trade Unions expressed concern over the tendency of foreign direct investments to be made in countries possessing abundant natural resources rather in countries with a plentiful supply of labour. IFCTU felt that strong efforts should be made to stimulate the development of manufacturing in under-developed countries, including action by the under-developed countries themselves to create an atmosphere of security that would attract foreign investments.

¹⁶ E/AC.6/SR.146-149, 151-153, 157; E/SR.762, 764-769 and 791.

¹⁷ United Nations Publication, Sales No.: 1954.II.D.1.

¹⁸ E/C.2/229.

465. The Council's discussion of measures that might stimulate the international flow of private capital centered on a joint draft resolution sponsored by the representatives of four countries (E/AC.6/L.79) and a number of amendments thereto.¹⁹ A recommendation to the effect that capital-importing countries should "protect all foreign investments against discrimination in any form" was criticized as too unqualified. Some members wished to avoid the implication that existing taxation in certain capital-importing countries was unduly burdensome to foreign investments. Objection was also raised to a recommendation that capital-importing countries should undertake the revision of legislation and administrative practices affecting foreign investment, since such revision was not less incumbent upon capital-exporting countries. Some members also thought that a recommendation for revision of domestic legislation would infringe the sovereignty of States. An Amendment dealt with the effect of foreign investments on the situation of established enterprises in capital-importing countries, while another stressed the fact that the expansion of international trade and wider convertibility of currencies would be conducive to an increased flow of private international investment.

466. The Council adopted resolution 512 B (XVII) in the form of a resolution for adoption by the General Assembly. The resolution recognized that the international flow of private investment for productive activities contributes to the raising of living standards in various ways; that the international flow of such investment had not been commensurate with the needs in those areas where rapid development is essential for economic progress; and that the expansion of international trade and continued progress towards wider convertibility of currencies would be conducive to a greater flow of such investment. Three sets of recommendations were included—to countries seeking to attract foreign private capital, to countries able to export capital, and to both these groups of countries for joint action.

467. The countries seeking to attract foreign capital, it was recommended, should re-examine their domestic policies, legislation and administrative practices with the view to improving the investment climate. A number of steps to this effect were mentioned, including the making of adequate provision for the remission of earnings and repatriation of capital. It was recommended, further, that these countries should establish services to inform potential foreign investors of opportunities for investment and conditions affecting investment in the countries concerned. In this connexion, it was recommended that these countries should consider requesting technical advice and assistance for economic surveys to identify specific investment opportunities, for the preparation of material regarding specific projects in a manner commanding the attention of private investors and for the establishment of channels for the presentation of specific projects to potential investors in capital-exporting countries.

468. The capital-exporting countries, it was recommended, should also re-examine their domestic policies, legislation and administrative practices, with a view to encouraging the outflow of private investment capital; they should render information on foreign investment opportunities available to investors as well as

information on the investment desires of investors to the capital-importing countries. Moreover, they should impress on investors the importance of securing local capital participation in their foreign enterprises, and adopt measures that would progressively reduce international double taxation.

469. Joint action by capital-exporting and capital-importing countries in the form of treaties, agreements and other arrangements was recommended, special mention being made of treaties on double taxation and agreements providing for the insurability of certain non-business risks. It was also recommended that capital-importing and capital-exporting countries consider the establishment of investment corporations in individual countries designed to encourage the participation of private investments.

470. The Council also declared that in order for foreign investment to be an effective contribution to economic development it is advisable to take into account the situation with regard to previously established enterprises, so as not to affect their normal development, provided that this is in harmony with the national interest.

471. Finally, the resolution requested the Secretary-General to prepare annually a report on the international flow of private capital and its contribution to economic development, and on the measures taken by Governments affecting such flow.

INTERNATIONAL PRICE RELATIONS²⁰

472. The General Assembly, in resolution 623 (VII) had formulated certain broad recommendations for the financing of economic development through the establishment of fair and equitable international prices for primary commodities and through the execution of national programmes of integrated economic development.

473. In accordance with that resolution the Secretary-General had appointed the group of experts which met from 15 September to 9 November 1953, and prepared a unanimous report entitled *Commodity Trade and Economic Development* (E/2519).²¹

474. The Council at its fifteenth session considering the procedures for the convening of study groups and international commodity conferences had recommended in resolution 462 (XV) that the group of experts appointed under General Assembly resolution 623 (VII) "should devote attention to the question of the use of study groups and international commodity conferences." It had referred to the group of experts for its consideration a draft resolution (E/L.497)²² concerning the effect of fluctuations in shipping rates in connexion with measures of price control.²³

¹⁹ An extended statement of the Council's discussion of the experts' report on "Commodity Trade and Economic Development" (E/2919) is given in chapter II (para. 175-181). As this subject arose in connexion with the Council's examination of aspects of the problem of financing economic development, this sub-section contains a short account of the documentation before the Council relating specifically to problems of economic development.

²¹ United Nations Publication, Sales No.: 1954.II.B.1.

²² *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifteenth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 3.

²³ This question was considered by the Committee of experts in a separate document E/2516, submitted to the Council's seventeenth session.

¹⁹ Documents E/AC.6/L.81, E/AC.6/L.87, E/AC.6/L.88 and E/AC.6/L.88/Rev.1, and E/AC.6/L.89.

475. The General Assembly by resolution 724 C.III (VIII) had then requested the Council to consider at its seventeenth session the report prepared by the group of experts and to make such recommendations as it might deem appropriate for consideration by the General Assembly at its ninth session.

476. The experts in their report considered the concept of "fair" or "reasonable" prices in relation to the problems of the under-developed countries. In developing this concept they emphasized the importance of the terms of trade and of greater stability of price relations for the economic development of under-developed countries. They also offered an explanation of why the international bargaining position of under-developed countries may tend to be unfavourable. The report concluded that with respect to the position of the under-developed countries "the instability of the balance of trade of some of the poorer countries thus means that, in the absence of large foreign exchange reserves, they are in no position to plan a continuing development programme involving imports".

477. Since the experts had been specifically directed to pay attention to the effects of severe fluctuations in primary commodity prices on the economic development of those producing countries which are as yet economically under-developed, they included in their report a section on "Commodity instability and economic growth." The conclusions reached in this section were that capital inflows have not been able to compensate for the effect of commodity instability; that under-developed countries are particularly vulnerable to the inflationary or deflationary pressures arising from the marked instability of primary commodity markets; that they also experience, paradoxically, inflationary pressure when foreign demand for their exports is in severe decline, due to the ensuing budget deficits; that their capacity for compensatory action is more limited, both for administrative reasons and because of their resource inflexibility; and that even a continuing improvement in terms of trade does not absolve an under-developed country from the necessity to finance its economic development through domestic savings, except to the extent that foreign grants or loans are forthcoming.

478. The experts' report also devoted a chapter to the national measures which under-developed countries could take for stabilization. It emphasized that when boom conditions prevailed inflationary prices had to be kept in check and reiterated that favourable terms of trade alone were not sufficient to assure financing for economic development but that favourable terms must be accompanied by domestic savings for investment in productive projects. The report emphasized that if the under-developed countries themselves could increase productivity and achieve economic progress, they would then be able to increase their real rewards from trade even though their barter terms of trade might remain unchanged or even deteriorate.

479. The Council at its seventeenth session²⁴ considered the expert's report concurrently with the following reports prepared by the Secretary-General, consideration of which had been postponed from the sixteenth session:

(i) "Relative prices of primary products and manufactures in international trade" (E/2455). This report

was prepared under resolution 427 (XIV) and contained an analysis of the relative price movements of various groups of primary products, producers goods and consumers goods from 1948 through mid-1952, a period of market price fluctuations in international trade. The analysis confirmed the extreme instability in the export prices of many primary products and also demonstrated the wide divergencies in the price behaviour of various individual commodities, both primary and manufactured.

(ii) "Repercussions of changes in terms of trade on the economies of countries in process of development" (E/2456 and Add.1). This study prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution 623 (VII) analysed the financial repercussions of changes in the terms of trade between primary commodities and capital goods on the national incomes of countries in the process of development. The report showed the primary and secondary effects of the changes which occurred in the terms of trade from 1948 to 1952 on the economies of primary-producing countries, and discussed the contribution of gains or losses arising from changes in terms of trade to the gross geographical product of those countries.

(iii) "Impact of selected synthetics on demand for natural products in international trade" (E/2438). This study prepared under the same Assembly resolution, dealt briefly with the influence of rayon and synthetic rubber on the production, consumption, price and international trade of the natural products concerned.

480. Considerations relating to financing of development played a part in the debate and in resolution 512 (XVII) subsequently adopted by the Council, the preamble of which stated that all reports on the subject emphasized the need for effective measures of international co-operation to solve the grave problem of the inadequacy and instability of the export proceeds of countries in the process of development. The resolution also indicated that it was necessary to create an international machinery for the examination of such problems, the solution of which was urgent and essential specifically for the under-developed countries, as well as for the international economy as a whole.

481. In the preceding debate, some delegations criticized the experts for concentrating on the achievement of price stability rather than favourable price levels or price relations for under-developed countries. Others, however, pointed out that a solution of the problems of under-developed countries should not be sought in the field of trade measures or price manipulation but rather in the context of an expanding world economy. A number of delegations referred to the fall of commodity prices in the year preceding the seventeenth session of the Council, and to the data contained in the Secretary-General's report on the subject, to emphasize the urgency of a solution.

482. The debate centered mainly on problems of commodity policies and international machinery, and is accordingly reported in chapter II, section IV.

Section II. Land reform

483. In pursuance of Council resolution 370 (XIII) and General Assembly resolution 625 (VII), the Council, at its seventeenth session,²⁵ had before it two

²⁴ E/AC.6/SR.142-145, 149-151, 156; E/SR.762, 764-769, 791.

²⁵ E/AC.6/SR.154-156, 158, 159; E/SR.762, 764-769 and 791.

reports prepared by the Secretary-General, in co-operation with FAO and the ILO, on *Progress in Land Reform* (E/2526)²⁶ and *Rural Progress through Co-operatives* (E/2524).²⁷

484. The first report, which was based on replies furnished by Governments in response to a questionnaire and a supplementary request, described the main features of the agrarian structure of the various regions of the world and the general reform policies pursued by different governments. It analysed various measures taken to promote land reform including the provision of opportunities of ownership, land settlement schemes, security of tenure, rent control, the improvement of living and working conditions of hired workers, the establishment of rural industries, the protection of cultivators under tribal and communal tenures, the organization of farms of economic size, land registration, agricultural credit, promotion of co-operatives, organizations to provide machine service and fiscal policy as related to land reform. The report then described the extent of progress achieved in various regions and the nature of obstacles to further progress, and quoted the recommendations for further international action suggested by certain Governments; the replies pointed to the existence of further opportunities for action in land reform aimed at improving systems of land tenure as well as farming methods; it reviewed the possibilities of action in the technical, social and economic fields and stated that land reform measures must be integrated in general development programmes and could also be aided by concurrent international action.

485. The second report assessed the contribution which co-operatives can make to technical, economic and social progress. It described the principles and purposes of voluntary co-operatives, the conditions required for their successful operation, and the various fields in which co-operatives have been active. Among these are the improvement of land tenure arrangements, the procurement and dissemination of technical knowledge, the securing and administration of credit, the purchase of goods and services, the processing and marketing of agricultural produce, the provision of insurance and the reduction of other uncertainties confronting farmers, the improvement of health and the provision of education and vocational training. The report also discussed the relative advantages and difficulties of such forms of co-operative farming as grouped, collective and communal farms. It concluded by discussing the part played by co-operatives among other institutions and the forms of assistance which Governments can render to co-operatives, namely an appropriate legal basis, inspection, dissemination of information, training of staff, special status for tax purposes and direct or indirect financial aid. In underdeveloped countries, it concluded, some government help, both technical and financial, is needed if co-operatives are to achieve their full potentialities.

486. During the debate²⁸ several delegations described the various measures taken by their respective Governments in the field of land reform and the success achieved.

487. The representative of FAO described the work carried out by his organization, stressing the need for

integrating land reform measures in general economic development plans designed to raise productivity and expressing the willingness of FAO to extend technical assistance to governments requesting such aid.

488. The representative of UNESCO stated that the policy of his organization was to assist the organizations primarily responsible for land reform, namely, the United Nations, FAO and the ILO. Programmes for training rural teachers had been expanded and research projects relating to law, sociology and co-operatives had been initiated.

489. It was generally recognized that no general economic development could be achieved as long as agriculture remained backward. It was also noted that defective agrarian structures, including maldistribution of land, prevented the full utilization of land resources and the improvement of agricultural methods. Stress was therefore laid on the need for a wide variety of measures to bring about a more equitable distribution of land, and to increase agricultural output and productivity. Certain representatives emphasized that land reform involved more than the question of land distribution, and stressed that, for maximum results, land reform measures must be integrated in broader economic development plans.

490. The Council felt that co-operatives could play an important part in implementing various land reform measures and in promoting agricultural development and production.

491. There was general agreement that the impact of land reform measures on employment, output and the pattern of production should be appraised; and further study should be given to the question of government aid to co-operatives.

492. As regards measures which the United Nations and the specialized agencies could take to assist Governments desirous of carrying out land reforms, it was stated that aid should be given only at the request of Governments and only when practical programmes had been drawn up. Several representatives emphasized the great diversity of conditions prevailing in different countries and the consequent need to take local circumstances into account.

493. It was generally agreed that the United Nations and the specialized agencies could assist Governments by making studies of land reform problems, providing a repository of information on measures taken in various parts of the world and diffusing such information to interested Governments. Certain representatives stated that the greatest obstacles to land reform in their countries were shortage of qualified personnel and lack of funds. It was generally agreed that the United Nations could, through the technical assistance programme, help in removing the first obstacle, but some diversity of opinion was evident on the question of lack of funds.

494. The Council adopted resolution 512 C I (XVII) in which it took note of the Secretary-General's report (E/2526); it further noted the fact that, although considerable progress has been made in a number of countries, there still existed an urgent need and further opportunities for action in respect of institutional reforms and measures of agricultural development in terms of recommendation contained in Council resolution 370 (XIII) and General Assembly resolution 625 (VII). It stated that in many countries plans and programmes of economic development had

²⁶ United Nations Publication Sales No. 1954.II.B.3.

²⁷ United Nations Publication Sales No. 1954.II.B.2.

²⁸ See also draft resolution E/AC.6/L.94 and Rev. 1 and 2, and amendments E/AC.6/L.97 to E/AC.6/L.100.

been launched requiring an integrated approach, detailed quantitative and qualitative assessment of the results of economic measures taken and large financial outlays; it recognized that information concerning experiences of individual countries with national measures of land reform might be helpful to a number of other countries in charting their future course of action in that field; and that in many cases development projects designed to implement programmes of agrarian reform might require a substantial amount of financing. The Council urged Governments to continue their efforts to implement Council resolution 370 (XIII) and General Assembly resolution 625 (VII) as expeditiously as possible; it recommended that the International Bank, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 524 (VI) and 625 (VII), give sympathetic consideration to loan applications from under-developed countries for development projects designed to implement their programmes of agrarian reform, including projects designed to bring new lands under agricultural cultivation, and invited the Bank, consistent with its maintenance as a self-supporting entity, to consider making any such loans on terms of interest and amortization designed to place the smallest feasible burden on the borrowing countries. It requested the Secretary-General, in collaboration with FAO and the ILO to prepare for submission to the Council at its twenty-second session a report on the impact of land reform measures already undertaken; to report periodically on work in this field by the United Nations and the specialized agencies concerned; and to strengthen the central repository of information on land reform. It recommended that FAO in consultation with the Secretary-General take steps to set up working parties for on-the-spot studies of special problems, and arrange conferences for the exchange of information. Finally, the resolution requested the General Assembly to continue its interest in land reform, giving particular attention to financing.

495. In resolution 513 C. II (XVII) the Council took note of the report on *Rural Progress through Co-operatives* (E/2524) and stated that co-operatives contribute to the process of agricultural development; that help from Governments and other bodies is required in this field; and that, particularly in under-developed countries, the division of functions between co-operative and other groups merited further study. The Council then invited governments to extend all appropriate assistance towards the formation and development of co-operatives. It requested the Secretary-General, in collaboration with FAO and the ILO, to prepare for the Council a report dealing with the various forms of help that Governments and other bodies could provide for the achievement of the full potentialities of co-operatives, and with the demarcation of sectors in which co-operative organization might be considered suitable.

Section III. Processes and problems of industrialization and methods to increase productivity

496. The Council, in resolution 461 (XV), had invited the Secretary-General to prepare: (a) a bibliography of the studies undertaken by the organs of the United Nations and the specialized agencies on the subject of industrialization of under-developed countries; (b) a similar bibliography of important books and documents otherwise published on the subject. The

Council had also requested the Secretary-General to submit a study on the processes and problems of industrialization which may assist the under-developed countries in preparing practical programmes of rapid industrialization.

497. The Council, at its eighteenth session,²⁹ had before it the bibliographies requested entitled "Bibliography on the Processes and Problems of Industrialization" (E/2538) and a progress report (E/2613) by the Secretary-General. The latter informed the Council that the study was completed in preliminary form, but that the Secretary-General had deemed it premature to place it before the Council in that form. It was his intention to subject it to such revision as might be found desirable and to present the finished product in printed form for the Council's consideration at the appropriate session in 1955.

498. Taking note of the progress report, the Council, in resolution 532 C (XVIII), decided to resume consideration of the question of industrialization at its nineteenth session. Furthermore, in view of the close relationship between industrialization and methods to increase productivity, the Council decided to postpone its consideration of the latter subject and to take it up simultaneously with the former at its nineteenth session.

499. On the question of productivity, the Council had before it a working paper by the Secretary-General, "Efforts towards Raising Productivity in Industry" (E/2604 and Corr.1) prepared in response to Council resolution 416 (XIV). The paper was, in part, an interim report on action by United Nations agencies bearing on the improvement of productivity in industry, bringing up to date the information contained in the working paper circulated two years ago (E/2265); in its major part, the working paper presented an analytical review, based on field reports by United Nations technical assistance experts, of relevant lessons and experience obtained in the operation of the technical assistance programme. The paper concluded that in many cases productivity could be increased without substantial amounts of new investments, but that in other cases capital shortages set limits to the practical results of policies designed to raise productivity. Opportunities for government action and inter-governmental co-operation, as well as international action through United Nations agencies, were suggested.

500. The representatives of the ILO and of FAO made statements on this subject. Both these agencies had presented to the sixteenth session of the Council working papers dealing with problems of raising productivity in their respective fields (E/2435 and E/2440).³⁰ The representative of the ILO described that agency's practical work in raising productivity of labour in industry, through studies, field missions and national productivity centres. He described in some detail the work and experience of the productivity missions and of the productivity centres in different countries and pointed out that the attitudes of managements and workers were vital and that productivity drives should be co-ordinated with national development programmes and industrial expansion. The representative of FAO emphasized the close connexion between agricultural and industrial productivity. He reminded the

²⁹ E/AC.6/SR.168 and 169; E/SR.816 and 828.

³⁰ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 3 (c).*

Council of FAO's previous working paper (E/2435) which discussed the means of raising productivity in agriculture; of these means, the increase in the skill and understanding of human beings was the most difficult to achieve in the agricultural field.

501. In adopting resolution 532 C (XVIII) postponing the consideration of the two items of industrialization and productivity to its nineteenth session, the Council emphasized the close relationship between these two problems and their intimate relationship to the broader problems of economic development, and requested the Secretary-General to complete his studies as early as possible.

Section IV. Conservation and utilization of non-agricultural resources

502. The Council, at its seventeenth and eighteenth sessions, had before it, for its information, the Secretary-General's fifth and sixth reports (E/2545 and E/2615) on action taken under Council resolution 345 (XII). In response to this resolution, the Secretary-General furnishes each session of the Council with a statement on specific plans and action taken with respect to a programme designed to promote a systematic survey and inventory of non-agricultural natural resources and on the results of any explorations with respect to the desirability of holding international conferences on particular resources or resource problems.

503. In the report for the eighteenth session (E/2615), the Secretary-General informed the Council that the *ad hoc* Committee of Experts established to study and prepare recommendations on standard concepts and terminology for use in surveys and inventories of iron-ore resources had held its final meeting in March 1954. Technical papers contributed by the individual experts had been reviewed at that meeting and had served as the basis for the Committee's report, "Survey of World Iron Ore Resources, Occurrence, Appraisal and Use", to be published, in due course, including the individual contributions. The standards agreed upon have been applied by the Committee in a tentative appraisal of the world's known iron ore resources, according to information at present available. Recommendations have also been formulated by the Committee regarding measures for achieving fuller and more effective utilization of the reserves and for detecting presently unknown iron ore resources believed to exist.

504. The Secretary-General further reported that attention was being given to the possibility of setting up, under the terms of Council resolution 345 (XII), an *ad hoc* committee of experts on non-ferrous metals to survey the resources situation and related industry programmes in this field. Finally, the report contained a synopsis of information on the technical assistance furnished to Member States by the United Nations during 1953 in connexion with the development of resources, as well as on related meetings of experts and technical conferences arranged by the regional economic commissions.

Section V. Development and utilization of water resources

505. In accordance with Council resolution 417 (XIV) and in the light of preliminary consultations

undertaken with the specialized agencies most immediately concerned and of exploratory discussions with specialists attached to other organizations in the water resource sphere, an interim report entitled "Development and Utilization of Water Resources" (E/2603)³¹ was prepared by the Secretary-General and submitted to the Council for consideration at its eighteenth session.³²

506. Noting that in many areas water supplies are presently proving inadequate to meet the growing demand, the report laid stress on the tendency for water requirements in many instances to increase even faster than the growth of population, a phenomenon which is in part a reflection of the shifts of population from rural to urban areas but also reflects the expanding needs for irrigation and spectacular increases in the industrial use of water. These trends towards sharpened inadequacy of water which acts as a deterrent to economic growth call for full knowledge of all water resources, surface and underground, and for management thereof to derive maximum benefit from available supplies.

507. With two criteria in mind, namely, which are the most vital tasks to be done, and which among them are most feasible under existing conditions, the report singled out for broad priority consideration three areas in which it was felt that action could and should be taken as soon as circumstances would permit, areas in which international action can be of assistance to the Governments concerned and in which it is at present largely lacking, these areas being: (i) the gathering and co-ordination of hydrological data, (ii) the extension of knowledge of the techniques of watershed management, and (iii) the necessity for considering industrial needs in any overall water planning that might be undertaken.

508. The report proceeded to examine ways and means for the integration and co-ordination of activities at different levels. At the country level it suggested the organization of comprehensive and authoritative national water boards, at the regional level it stressed the helpful role of the regional economic commissions of the United Nations; on the international plane it exemplified various urgent tasks—largely in the nature of technical assistance—appropriate for the United Nations Secretariat and the specialized agencies to shoulder in consultation with other interested technical and scientific organizations. With a view to a flexible and continuous co-ordination at the Secretariat level of all relevant activities of the organizations within the United Nations family, it suggested the holding of inter-agency meetings at regular intervals.³³ Finally the organization of rarer but wider technical conferences attended and contributed to by experts in all the various aspects of the water development and utilization work was also proposed.

509. Wide agreement with the Secretary-General's analysis of the problem, the conclusions drawn and the suggestions made for action on the national, regional and international levels was voiced in the Council's discussion.

510. The great economic importance of water resource development and utilization to developed and

³¹ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eighteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 4.

³² E/SR.820, 822 and 823.

³³ A first meeting of this nature was held during the eighteenth session of the Council.

under-developed countries were stressed by representatives of the two categories of nations alike. Even in highly developed regions knowledge of the water resources was far from complete, and elsewhere it was largely lacking; and, in numerous instances, threatened inadequacy of a ready supply of water presently proved a serious obstacle to nation-wide economic development. Hence the participants in the discussion placed strong though varying emphasis on each of the three substantive aspects (i) the provision of hydrological data, (ii) the promotion of rational watershed management with attention to the problems of land use, soil erosion, drainage and irrigation, (iii) study, research and appraisal of domestic, municipal and industrial water use with attendant safeguards against pollution, as well as on the need for assistance in organizational endeavours to that end.

511. Some delegations stressed the importance of interrelated substantive fields such as forestry and inland fisheries, and attention was drawn to the danger to fish that might be caused by construction works for flood control, hydroelectric and other schemes without due consultation with the fisheries authorities and the provision, where necessary, of properly designed fish ladders.

512. Most delegations supported the Secretary-General's suggestion for the establishment of national water boards (where not already provided) to promote, on the country level, water resource regulation and development in all its ramifications and its full integration with overall economic and social development programmes. The active association of the regional economic commissions with water development activities, promotional and other was widely advocated, and representatives of countries in one of these regions said they thought further strengthening of such association would benefit regional economic co-operation in general.

513. It was recognized that, apart from the varied functions of review and co-ordination entrusted to the Secretary-General by resolution 417 (XIV) of the Council, primary responsibility on the international plane devolved on the United Nations Secretariat in close consultation and co-operation, as appropriate, with the Bank and WHO, in particular, and with other specialized agencies concerned in respect of the study and appraisal of industrial and other non-agricultural water use. With reference to international activities in watershed management and related problems, the responsibility was similarly recognized as falling primarily on FAO in co-operation especially with UNESCO whose activities in matters concerning arid zones were viewed with express appreciation by the participants in the debate. Several delegations stated their opinion that WMO was the appropriate body to assume primary international responsibility, in consultation with the International Association of Hydrology, regarding the assembly, analysis and exchange of hydrological data. One representative said his delegation would be satisfied if the International Association of Hydrology assumed this responsibility. Consultation and co-operation with interested non-governmental organizations—including scientific and technical societies—in the varied field of water technology and utilization likewise found wide support.

514. Pooling of technical information and international exchange of experience gained in work on water problems for the benefit of both the developed and the under-developed countries, were favoured generally and

emphasis was placed on the help in training and technical assistance in other forms which the United Nations organizations could render. The representative of one well-developed country said his government stood ready to assume part of the subsistence costs of water technicians on study tours in that country.

515. The representatives of some less-developed countries drew the particular attention of the Bank to the need of these countries for financial assistance in the utilization of their water resources and the development of arid lands.

516. In the course of the discussion statements were made by representatives of FAO, UNESCO and WMO. They welcomed the opportunity which the interagency meeting arranged in conjunction with the eighteenth session of the Council would provide to consider, in the light of the Council's discussion, the co-operation in and co-ordination of their activities concerned in this matter.

517. The representative of FAO said that in the view of his organization the question of utilization of water resources was among the most important before the Council, as throughout the world there were instances of gross misuse of water. While concurring, in general, with the report and the importance it attached to watershed management, he questioned whether the industrial use of water was not somewhat over-emphasized. He also felt that some of the suggestions made in the report might benefit from further discussion. FAO shared the view that the appropriate organization to assume the main international responsibility with regard to the assemblage of hydrological data was WMO.

518. The representative of UNESCO in commenting on the work of his organization with reference to arid zones said it viewed watershed management as of particular importance for the development of such areas. UNESCO of late had paid special attention to research concerning the utilization of subterranean waters. He stressed the work relations UNESCO maintained with international, scientific and technical organizations interested in water resource problems.

519. The representative of WMO gave a summary account of that agency's interest in water questions and its related organizational structure and stressed its readiness, within the limits set by its financial resources, to co-operate actively in these questions with the United Nations and other organizations concerned.

520. After the discussion of the Secretary-General's report and of a draft resolution (E/L.629 and Rev.1)³⁴ and proposed amendments (E/L.630)³⁴ the Council unanimously adopted resolution 533 (XVIII). In this resolution the Council called to the attention of Governments the urgent problems raised by the heavy demands upon the world's water supply as a result of population pressure and the need for water for both agricultural and industrial development; it recommended that Governments study the Secretary-General's report with a view to utilizing, as appropriate, the suggestions contained therein, and that Governments and the United Nations organizations concerned give particular attention to the problems of (a) assembly of hydrological data, (b) technique of watershed management in its broadest sense and (c) domestic, urban, agricultural and industrial use of water and related con-

³⁴ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eighteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 4.*

ervation thereof through pollution abatement. Further, it invited the Secretary-General, the regional economic commissions and the specialized agencies concerned to take, within the limits of their present budgets and in co-operation with Governments, all practical steps, including the arrangement of visits by experts, the convening of technical conferences, and other means suggested in the Secretary-General's report, that would help strengthen international technical co-operation in the development and utilization of water resources. It also invited TAB and TAC to give special attention to requests for technical assistance for that purpose. Finally, it requested the Secretary-General (a) to pursue along the lines suggested in his report the endeavours towards strengthening international technical co-operation in water matters and improving the co-ordination of the related activities of all concerned; (b) to consult with governments having special experience in these matters, with the inter-governmental bodies concerned and with interested non-governmental organizations on ways and means of achieving this objective; and (c) to report to the Council on the results of these consultations, and formulate recommendations on appropriate further action by the United Nations organizations, not later than in 1956.

Section VI. Activities of the United Nations Regional Economic Commissions relating to the economic development of under-developed countries³⁶

521. The regional economic commissions, *inter alia*, have the responsibility to facilitate concerted action for the economic development of less-developed countries in their respective regions and to make relevant studies and investigations. ECAFE and ECLA, by the nature of problems in their respective regions, have continued to be much more extensively concerned than ECE with questions of economic development. In the past year, however, ECE has devoted increasing attention to problems of economic development of less-developed countries in southern Europe, and has also co-operated with the other regional commissions in their activities related to economic development.

522. Considerable attention has also been paid by the regional commissions and their secretariats to general problems of economic development. Thus ECLA has further advanced its analysis of the techniques of programming economic development, and has applied its methods to the analysis of the economic growth in selected countries of the region; and ECAFE has pursued the study of problems of economic development planning, material resources budgeting, and methods to estimate material coefficients for specific industries.

523. In regard to problems relating to population and labour, ECAFE has included in its work programme as a high priority project an analysis of the relationship between population growth and economic development. ECLA is making a study of the present and prospective supply of manpower and the occupational composition of the labour force. ECE is co-operating with the ILO in the study of manpower problems arising in connexion with its work.

524. The regional commissions have also devoted special attention to the problems of investment and the financing of economic development with particular ref-

erence to the international flow of capital. Both ECAFE and ECLA have been making studies of the role of monetary and fiscal policies in economic development. They have analysed domestic investment and the mobilization and productive channelling of savings and made studies on the economic and legal status of foreign investment in their respective regions.

525. In addition to the activities of a more general character referred to above, the regional commissions, in their work on furthering economic development in their regions, have undertaken numerous research projects in specific fields, notably studies of cottage and small-scale industries, of other individual industries, of water resources development, electric power and other sources of energy, mineral resources development, iron and steel, intraregional and interregional trade, agricultural development and inland transport. Close co-operation has been maintained with TAA, especially in the planning and execution of regional technical assistance projects, as well as with the specialized agencies regarding topics within their competence which are of importance in the different regions. The ECAFE secretariat has rendered to Governments at their request advisory services bearing on economic development. In the programme of economic integration of Central America, the ECLA secretariat has co-operated with the inter-governmental Committee set up at cabinet level and with TAB and its participating agencies. ECE has assisted in the establishment of a special group of experts nominated by the Governments of Greece, Italy, Turkey and Yugoslavia to examine development programs of southern Europe with a view to formulating recommendations to help raise the standards of living in these countries, and to exploring specific possibilities for economic development through individual and joint governmental action under the auspices of the Commission and with the assistance of its secretariat.

B

Section VII. United Nations Programme of Technical Assistance

526. The Council, at its eighteenth session³⁸ had before it a report submitted by the Secretary-General (E/2575)³⁷ entitled "United Nations Programme of Technical Assistance" describing the work undertaken during 1953 under General Assembly resolutions 200 (III), 246 (III), 418 (V), 723 (VIII) and Council resolution 222 A (IX).

527. In his introduction to the report, the Secretary-General drew attention to the fact that, in accordance with Council resolution 492 B (XVI), the General Assembly had adopted resolution 723 (VIII) to supersede its resolution 246 (III), thus widening the scope of technical assistance in the field of public administration. The report gave an account, country by country and region by region, of technical assistance in economic development, public administration and social welfare. In the case of projects financed from funds provided under the General Assembly resolutions (usually referred to as "the regular programme") brief descriptions were given of the progress made during the year under review. It was explained that since in practice the

³⁶ E/SR.793.

³⁷ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eighteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 8 (a).*

³⁸ See also chapter II, sections XII, XIII and XIV.

United Nations technical assistance programme is integrated with the Expanded Programme, which is described in the Sixth Report of TAB to TAC (E/2566)³⁸, cross references to the latter document were made in the report on the regular programme to avoid duplication of reporting.

528. The report on the regular programme also contained analytical tables listing experts by country of assignment, by nationality and field of study, as well as a financial statement for the year 1953. During 1953, 494 experts had been working under the programme, 627 fellowships and scholarships had been taken up, and a large number of special projects had been organized. The total expenditure had been a little over 7 million dollars.

529. General satisfaction was expressed with the development of the programme during the year and a tribute was paid to the staff concerned. In particular appreciation was expressed for the technical assistance, in the form of the services of experts and of fellowships, given to Non-Self-Governing Territories. As the Expanded Programme was to be discussed later in the session, and the two programmes were so closely inter-related, some representatives preferred to reserve their comments until the debate on the entire technical assistance programme took place.

530. It was noted with general approval that a more concise form of reporting had been adopted than in previous years.

531. The Council adopted resolution 542 A (XVIII) in which it took note with satisfaction of the report by the Secretary-General.

Section VIII. Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance*

SEVENTEENTH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL

532. The Council at its seventeenth session³⁹ had before it a report submitted by the Technical Assistance Committee (E/2558 and Corr.1)⁴⁰ which dealt in full with the financial procedures of the Expanded Programme, and some minor changes in the requirements laid down for the regular report of TAB to TAC. The Council also considered the system of allocation of funds under the programme.

Financial procedures for the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance

533. Over a period of months, TAC, on the basis of study by a working party of its own members, had reviewed and analysed the financial arrangements of the programme in order to introduce any changes necessary to further the objectives of the programme on a sound financial basis. As a result of this work and of proposals submitted by TAB (E/TAC.31), the Committee believed that the following considerations should govern the financial arrangements of the programme: (a) the programme should be administered in such a way that delays in the payment of pledged contributions would not entail the withdrawal or suspension of

authorizations for projects to be carried out, (b) the programme should at all times be in a position to meet its full contractual liabilities and not only, as at present, its potential liquidation charges.

534. Moreover, the Committee believed that, normally, the programme should be in a position to assure the fulfilment of projects concerning which commitments had been made to recipient Governments. It therefore considered that certain measures should be taken to ensure to the programme, by means of an appropriate reserve fund, greater financial stability than in the past. It realized, however, that the sudden adoption of the necessary measures might give rise to an undue slowing down of the programme and, therefore, was of the opinion that the necessary reserve fund should be constituted over a transitional period of three years.

535. The Committee took account of the fact that the technical assistance programmes had reached different stages in the various recipient countries. The present size of the programme did not necessarily reflect the needs of the countries concerned or their capacity to absorb technical assistance. It also noted that the average duration of the projects of which the technical assistance programmes consisted varied considerably from one country to another.

536. In the light of these considerations, the Committee adopted the following measures to increase the financial stability of the programme: (a) it decided to increase the existing Special Reserve Fund of \$3 million by an additional amount of \$3 million, from contributions paid during 1954; (b) it recommended that the Special Reserve Fund be reconstituted as a "Working Capital and Reserve Fund", that it should be increased to a normal level of 50 per cent of total pledges for the preceding year and that the necessary funds should be retained for this purpose from contributions to be received in 1955 and 1956 towards a target level provisionally fixed at \$12 million; and (c) it approved certain financial procedures also aimed at increased stability in the programme, namely that: (i) each participating organization should keep its obligations at all times within the limit of funds "earmarked" for it by TAB; (ii) in each financial period, "earmarkings" shall initially be based on the most conservative estimates of contributions likely to be available during the programme year in order that withdrawal of programme authorizations should not become necessary because of shortages of funds. Supplementary earmarkings should be made as and when the receipt of contributions justifies them; (iii) each participating organization should limit its forward contractual commitments and residual liquidating liabilities to its *pro rata* share of the Working Capital and Reserve Fund when that fund is fully established; (iv) pending the full establishment of the Working Capital and Reserve Fund, each participating organization should limit its forward contractual commitments and residual liquidating liabilities to its *pro rata* share of \$12 million.

537. These decisions and recommendations of TAC were noted by the Council in resolution 521 A (XVII). The Council also noted that TAB intended to keep under review the possibility of introducing a rule that contracts would not be entered into until such time as sufficient income had been received to cover in full the liability arising from them.

538. Furthermore, in the light of the decisions and recommendations of TAC, the Council recommended

*Separate item on the agenda of the General Assembly at its ninth session.

³⁸ *Ibid*, Supplement No. 4.

³⁹ E/TAC/SR.38-66; E/SR.760 and 761.

⁴⁰ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Seventeenth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 11.

to the General Assembly that it approve the following arrangements:

"(a) The Special Fund shall be reconstituted as a Working Capital and Reserve Fund, which will serve as a continuing operating reserve and which may be used for the following purposes:

"(i) To make advances to participating organizations pending the receipt of contributions from Governments, for the purpose of initiating or continuing approved programmes within an organization's approved earmarkings;

"(ii) To improve and facilitate currency management, by making currencies available for exchange with organizations' allocated currencies, for the purchase of needed currencies pending collection of particular contributions, and for advances of currencies which would otherwise have to be purchased by agencies with dollars;

"(iii) For such other purposes as may be approved by the Technical Assistance Committee from time to time;

"(b) The size of the Working Capital and Reserve Fund shall be determined from time to time by the Technical Assistance Committee;

"(c) Withdrawals from the Working Capital and Reserve Fund shall be replaced before the end of the financial period in which they are made."

539. In drawing up those measures, TAC agreed with the view of TAB that they would mean some curtailment of projects which had already been planned; but that the participating organizations should, however, be able to carry out well-balanced programmes even though in a total amount below the level of operations in 1952 and 1953. It was understood that whatever adjustments would have to be made in the programme, TAB would give full consideration on the basis of merit to all requests for technical assistance. It was not the practice of TAB to withhold approval for the continuation of a project in operation if the requesting country and the participating organization concerned were willing and able to carry it out.

540. The decision to build up the Working Capital and Reserve Fund to its optimum level over a period of years was considered open to modification if there were substantial fluctuations upwards or downwards in the level of contributions made to the technical assistance programme. Furthermore, the Committee was aware that the above provisions might in time have to be reviewed in the light of any decisions taken in regard to the system of allocation of funds within the Expanded Programme.

Reports of TAB to TAC

541. The Committee approved the following modifications suggested by TAB in the system of its regular reports to the Committee: the monthly lists of requests received and of agreements signed under the Expanded Programme will be discontinued, since an increasing proportion of requests for technical assistance and agreements covering projects are negotiated in an informal way over a period of months and are reflected in the annual programme which TAB approves prior to the beginning of the operation year.

542. The periodic reports circulated to TAC on the status of technical assistance activities would be distributed on a quarterly, rather than on a monthly,

basis. These modifications in the reporting system will result in administrative economy and conform with the general policy of reducing the number of reports to United Nations organs.

543. The Council's endorsement of this action in resolution 521 C (XVII) amended the reporting requirements contained in resolution 222 A (IX) by deleting paragraph 3 (c) thereof.

System of allocation of funds

544. In accordance with Council resolution 492 C (XVI) a working party reviewed the basis for the allocation of funds originally established in Council resolution 222 A (IX) with a view to drawing up recommendations for a system of allocation of funds to be applied as from 1955, taking into account the decisions of the Committee and the Council, concerning the development of technical assistance programmes at the country level.

545. The review centered on proposals (E/TAC.32 and Add.1)⁴¹ which related to (a) the elimination of automatic allocations, and (b) the setting up of an inter-governmental body to approve technical assistance programmes before they are put into effect.

546. It was recognized that there appeared to be a lack of consistency between the establishment of comprehensive country plans of technical assistance best suited to advance the development of the countries concerned and the present system of automatic allocations. The Committee considered that the total annual programme of technical assistance as finally approved should reflect, to the maximum extent compatible with the need for long-term planning by the participating organizations, the need and wishes for technical assistance of the recipient countries.

547. The Council did not reach definite conclusions but adopted a resolution 521 B (XVII) which provides that further examination of the question of allocation of funds should take into account various possible alternatives, i.e.

"*Alternative (a)*: Automatic allocations would be eliminated altogether and the programmes submitted by the Technical Assistance Board would be approved each year by the Technical Assistance Committee.

"*Alternative (b)*: The Technical Assistance Committee would determine each year, on the basis of comprehensive country plans and a careful review of existing and proposed programmes, the percentage of available funds to be allocated for the following year to each of the participating organizations, as well as the percentage to be reserved for allocation by the Technical Assistance Board.

"*Alternative (c)*: The present system of automatic allocations would be gradually modified in order to reduce the proportion which, at the date of the present resolution, is distributed among the participating organizations under the system of automatic allocations by 25 per cent each year until completely eliminated.

"*Alternative (d)*: The present system of automatic allocations would be retained in some such form as the following:

"(i) Twenty-five per cent of the available funds would be in fact at the disposal of the Executive

⁴¹ *Ibid*, agenda items 5 and 11.

Chairman and of the Technical Assistance Board, for allocation by them at their discretion in accordance with the principles established by the Technical Assistance Committee and more particularly with that of the drawing up of technical assistance programmes at the country level.

"(ii) A substantial percentage of up to 50 per cent of the available funds would be put at the disposal of the Executive Chairman and of the Technical Assistance Board, for allocation among the participating organizations in accordance with the principles established by TAC and more particularly with that of the drawing up of technical assistance programmes at the country level."

548. The Council noted the opinion of the Secretary-General and of TAC that the ACC should be given the opportunity to consider and comment on the questions relating to the basis for the allocation of funds before a final decision in that respect was taken.

549. The Council also invited TAC to resume consideration of this question in the light of the debates of the Council on this matter with a view to formulating proposals which the Council could consider at its eighteenth session.

EIGHTEENTH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL

550. The Council at its eighteenth session⁴² had before it the report of TAC (E/2637) based on the sixth Report of TAB (E/2566, Corr.1 & Add.1)⁴³ covering the development of the programme in 1953. The Executive Chairman of TAB also submitted a document on certain aspects of the system of allocation of funds under the Expanded Programme in reply to questions put to TAB by TAC (E/TAC/40) and a report on evaluation of the activities of the Programme (E/TAC/41).

551. In discussing the report of TAC, the Council dealt with the developments of the programme in 1953 and 1954, the system of allocation of funds under the Expanded Programme, the evaluation of the activities of the programme, the membership of TAC and the financial arrangements for 1955.

Developments of the programme in 1953 and 1954

552. During its discussion of the Annual Report of TAB members of TAC reaffirmed their faith in and the support of their governments for the Expanded Programme. They noted that a number of Governments had substantially increased their contributions for 1954. Views were expressed in favour of a concentration of the limited resources of the programme on projects of major importance for the economic development of recipient countries.

553. The Committee emphasized the importance of providing means for training within recipient countries and of maintaining a proper balance in the provision of technical assistance in different countries, such as expert services, the award of fellowships and provision of equipment, with due regard to the requirements of the recipient countries.

554. The Committee noted the improvement in the co-ordination efforts in the programme negotiations, to

which it attached great importance, particularly at the country level between the participating organizations and the resident representatives on the one hand, and between them and the recipient countries on the other.

555. The Committee felt that, while TAB and the participating organizations had succeeded in reducing the costs of administering the programme, the level of administrative costs was still high and further reductions should be made. On the recommendation of the Committee, the Council adopted resolution 542 B I (XVIII) which took note with satisfaction of the annual report of TAB to TAC.

System of allocation of funds under the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance

556. After considering the question of reviewing the system of allocation of funds under the Expanded Programme, and on the recommendation of TAC, the Council adopted resolution 542 B II (XVIII) in which it reaffirmed the principle that the United Nations technical assistance programme should be drawn up by Governments at the country level in accordance with their needs and in relation to their economic development plans, and that the technical resources of the various participating organizations should be used to the maximum in the preparation of those programmes.

557. The Council in this resolution decided that:

"(1) As from 1 January 1955 and in relation to the programme for 1956 and subsequent years, the funds of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance shall no longer be allocated to the organizations participating in the programme on the basis of percentages fixed in advance. The funds shall be distributed on the basis of the requests submitted by Governments and the priorities established by them, subject to the provisions of paragraph (2) below;

"(2) The planning and approval of the programmes, and the allocation of funds for their implementation, shall be subject to the following procedure and principles:

"(a) The Technical Assistance Board shall formulate early in the year as a guide in planning country and regional programmes, target figures showing the amount of expenditure on technical assistance which it may be possible to undertake during the ensuing year on the basis of an assumed financial availability. In order to ensure stable programming, sharp reductions in country target figures in any single year should normally be avoided, subject to the availability of financial resources. Country target figures including agency sub-totals for each of the participating organizations, derived from their activities during the preceding year, shall be communicated to the respective Governments. Governments shall however be at liberty to present their requests without being bound by these sub-totals.

"(b) Programmes shall be drawn up at the country level by the Governments concerned in consultation with the resident representatives, or such representatives of the Board as may be specially assigned for the purpose, due regard being paid to continuing commitments. Participating organizations shall continue to be responsible for advising and assisting the appropriate government authorities for the technical planning of individual projects. The responsibility for co-ordinating consultations between Governments

⁴² E/TAC/SR.67 to 79; E/SR 820.

⁴³ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council Eighteenth Session, Supplement No. 4.*

and participating organizations shall rest with the resident representatives or such representatives of the Board as may be specially assigned for the purpose.

"(c) The country programmes shall be forwarded by requesting Governments, with an indication of the priorities established by them, to TAB through the resident representatives. TAB shall consider the programmes, draw up the over-all programme for the following year, including estimates of administrative and indirect operational costs, and submit it, with its recommendations, to the Technical Assistance Committee. In drawing up the programme, TAB shall ensure that the ratio between the programmes to be implemented by the different participating organizations will make possible the authorization of allocations in accordance with sub-paragraph (f) below.

"(d) The Technical Assistance Committee shall review the overall programme in the light of its importance for economic development; this review should not deal with country allocations or with the technical aspects of the programme or the national development plans of the respective Governments, but it should be concerned with over-all priorities, evaluation of the projects and the programme inter-relationships. On the basis of this review, the Committee shall approve the programme and its approval shall be a prerequisite for any commitment in regard to the implementation of the programme. The preparation and review of the programme and all other necessary steps shall be carried out in such a way that the Technical Assistance Committee will be in a position to approve the overall programme and authorize allocations to the participating organizations by 30 November, at the latest.

"(e) Subject to the confirmation of the General Assembly, the Technical Assistance Committee shall authorize the allocation of funds to each of the participating organizations in proportion to their share in the approved over-all programme, subject to paragraph (f) below. These funds shall be drawn from the net financial resources, after setting aside the expenses of the Technical Assistance Board secretariat, the Reserve and Working Capital Fund, and a sum amounting to 5 per cent of the estimated resources for the financial year, which shall be allocated by the Executive Chairman of the Technical Assistance Board to meet any urgent needs which may arise during the implementation of the annual programme.

"(f) In order to avoid substantial fluctuations in the total amounts entrusted to each participating organization from year to year, the amount allocated to each of them for the coming year shall not be less than 85 per cent of the amount allocated to them under the current year's programme, except that if the estimated net financial resources for the ensuing year fall below the total allocations made during the current year, the amount allocated to each participating organization shall not be less than 85 per cent of its proportion of the allocations for the current year.

"(g) Any extraordinary requests submitted by a Government for modification of the programme received subsequent to TAC approval of the annual programme may be approved by the Technical Assistance Board and reported to the Technical Assistance Committee at its next meeting. Should it not be

possible to effect necessary increases and decreases within the programme of the country concerned, the funds available for allocation by the Executive Chairman under paragraph (e) may be used for this purpose.

"(3) The Technical Assistance Committee would continue to be under the authority of the Economic and Social Council and its decisions subject to general policy review by the Council.

"(4) The appropriate organs of the participating organizations are requested to continue to review the technical aspects of the programmes for which they assume responsibility in the same way, in so far as possible as they examine their regular programmes.

558. The Council further decided in the same resolution that its resolution 222 (IX), as revised by resolution 433 (XIV) was thereby amended to the extent necessary to give effect to the above recommendations.

559. It invited the General Assembly to give its approval at an early date during its ninth session to those financial arrangements.

560. In implementing this resolution the Council agreed with the recommendations of TAC regarding the interpretation of some of the provisions of the resolution, namely that: (a) The term "economic development" in paragraph 2 (d) should be interpreted in the light of paragraph 1 of annex I of Council resolution 222 (IX); (b) The review of the over-all programme mentioned in paragraph 2 (d) of the resolution would be concerned with the interrelationships between the different fields of activity included in the country programmes and in the regional programmes undertaken under the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance; (c) With respect to the first sentence of sub-paragraph 2 (c), as stated by the Executive Chairman of the Technical Assistance Board, while the total country programmes as established at the country level would be forwarded by the resident representatives to TAB, those segments of the programmes which concerned the participating organizations would be sent to each of them. This practice is now being followed and from the operational standpoint, it was an essential procedure; (d) As regards the last phrase in sub-paragraph 2 (e) the Executive Chairman of TAB would consult with the participating organizations, as appropriate, in the allocation of funds to meet urgent needs; (e) As regards the word "extraordinary" in sub-paragraph 2 (g), as further pointed out by the Executive Chairman, it should be understood that the programme was a dynamic one and it had been found necessary to consider requests from recipient Governments for changes in the programme so as to adapt it to their needs during the operational year. The phrase "extraordinary requests" should therefore be interpreted not in the sense of "abnormal or exceptional requests" but rather in the sense of requests made by recipient governments (with the necessary justifications) for adjustments in their programmes to take account of unforeseen developments.

Evaluation of the activities of the programme

561. The Technical Assistance Committee in discussing this question had before it a report of TAB on the methods of evaluation of technical assistance activities and on the present practices of the participating organizations in this field. It adopted a resolution in

which it recognized that, in future, further efforts to evaluate the effectiveness of the programme should be undertaken, that special attention should be given to an evaluation of the impact of the programme upon economic development, and that evaluation studies should be carried out in a practical manner and should seek primarily the views of the recipient countries. Full advantage should be taken of the efforts of TAB and the participating organizations to evaluate the programme as a whole or in part. The Committee reaffirmed the principle that the United Nations technical assistance programme should be drawn up at the country level and it decided to establish a working group, consisting of eleven members of TAC to meet in New York, and in Geneva, in conjunction with the meetings of the Committee, to evaluate the results and effectiveness of the programme and to report of TAC at its next session. The Committee agreed that the working group would not undertake any travel in the recipient countries before the next meeting of TAC and that, therefore, no additional expenditure was to be contemplated at this stage either from the funds of the United Nations or of the Expanded Programme.

Membership of the Technical Assistance Committee

562. Some members of TAC had made a proposal for the enlargement of the Committee by the annual election, in addition to the present membership, of two non-member States, and two States Members of the United Nations but not represented in the Council, such States to be participants in the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance. Other members of the Committee, however, pointed out that this proposal raised a number of difficulties and it was finally decided to adjourn the debate on the proposal.

Annex I

RESOLUTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

Seventeenth session

Resolutions

- 512 (XVII) Economic development of under-developed countries
 - A. International price relations
 - B. International flow of private capital for the economic development of under-developed countries
 - C. I. Land reform
 - II. Co-operatives
- 514 (XVII) Report of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
- 521 (XVII) Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance
 - A. Financial procedures for the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance
 - B. System of allocation of funds under the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance
 - C. Reports of the Technical Assistance Board to the Technical Assistance Committee

Eighteenth session

- 532 (XVIII) Economic development of under-developed countries
 - A. Special United Nations Fund for Economic Development
 - B. Report of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development on the question of creating an international finance corporation

Financial arrangements for 1955

563. Upon the recommendation of TAC, the Council adopted resolution 542 B III (XVIII) in which it reaffirmed its faith in the Expanded Programme as a vital force in promoting the economic development of the less-developed countries and strengthening the foundation of a peaceful world. It urged the States participating in the Expanded Programme to continue to give their support to the programme, financially and otherwise, on an expanding basis. It requested that negotiations be undertaken with Governments by the United Nations Negotiating Committee for Extra-Budgetary Funds regarding their pledges to the Special Account for 1955 as soon as possible after the close of the eighteenth session of the Council, and that the fifth Technical Assistance Conference be held as early as possible during the ninth session of the General Assembly.

564. The Council further decided that funds should be made available for projects in the field of interest of WMO and ITU by TAA, out of its share of the Special Account, in accordance with arrangements to be made between WMO, ITU and TAA. It further decided that, should the funds required be in excess of those so assigned in 1954, the necessary additional funds should be provided from those available to the Expanded Programme as a whole. The Council recommended to the General Assembly that the financial arrangements for the year 1954, be continued for the year 1955, without prejudice to the decision of the Council on the revised financial arrangements to be implemented as from 1 January 1955, in relation to the programme in 1956 and subsequent years.

C. Integrated economic development and methods to increase world productivity

533 (XVIII) International co-operation with respect to water resource development

542 (XVIII) Technical Assistance

- A. Regular programme of technical assistance
- B. Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance
 - I. Report of the Technical Assistance Board to the Technical Assistance Committee
 - II. System of allocation of funds under the Expanded Programme
 - III. Financial arrangements for 1955.

Annex II

SUMMARY RECORDS OF THE COUNCIL AND ITS COMMITTEES

A

Section I. Financing of economic development

- A. Question of establishing a special fund for grants-in-aid and for low interest long-term loans.
Plenary meetings 810, 812, 813, 816, 818, 827.
Economic Committee meeting. 166-168.
- B. Proposals for the establishment of an international finance corporation.
Plenary meetings 816, 828.
Economic Committee meetings 168, 169.

C. Annual report of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

Plenary meetings 775, 778, 779.

D. International flow of private capital for the economic development of under-developed countries.

Plenary meetings 762, 764-769, 791.

Economic Committee meetings 146-149, 151-153, 157.

E. International price relations

Plenary meetings 762, 764-769, 791.

Economic Committee meetings 142-145, 149-151, 156.

Section II. Land reform

Plenary meetings 762, 764-769, 791.

Economic Committee meetings 154-156, 158, 159.

Section III. Processes and problems of industrialization and methods to increase productivity

Plenary meetings 816 and 828.

Economic Committee meetings 168, 169.

Section V. Development and utilisation of water resources

Plenary meetings 820, 822, 823.

B

Section VII. United Nations programme of technical assistance

Plenary meeting 793.

Section VIII. Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance

Plenary meetings 760, 761, 820.

Technical Assistance Committee meetings 58-66, 67-79.

Annex III

STATEMENTS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

ORAL STATEMENTS BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO THE COUNCIL OR ITS COMMITTEES UNDER RULE 86 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

Seventeenth session

International Chamber of Commerce

Economic development of under-developed countries: International flow of private capital for the economic development of under-developed countries. Plenary meeting 766.

International Confederation of Free Trade Unions

Economic development of under-developed countries. Plenary meeting 768.

Economic development of under-developed countries: Report of the group of experts on international price relations. Economic Committee meeting 143.

International Federation of Christian Trade Unions

Economic development of under-developed countries. Plenary meeting 768.

World Federation of Trade Unions

Economic development of under-developed countries. Plenary meeting 769.

Economic development of under-developed countries: International flow of private capital for the economic development of under-developed countries. Economic Committee meeting 142.

Economic development of under-developed countries: Land reform.

Economic Committee meeting 154.

Eighteenth session

World Federation of Trade Unions

Technical Assistance. Technical Assistance Committee meeting 69.

International Confederation of Free Trade Unions

Expanded programme of technical assistance: System of allocation of funds under the expanded programme. Technical Assistance Committee Meeting 74.

World Federation of United Nations Associations

Technical Assistance. Plenary meeting 820.

World Federation of United Nations Associations

Economic development of under-developed countries: financing of economic development. Plenary meeting 812.

International Confederation of Free Trade Unions

Economic development of under-developed countries: Financing of economic development. Plenary meeting 813.

World Federation of Trade Unions

Economic development of under-developed countries. Plenary meeting 816.

International Federation of Christian Trade Unions

Economic development of under-developed countries. Plenary meeting 816.

ORAL STATEMENTS BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO THE COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS UNDER RULE 85 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

Seventeenth session

World Veterans Federation

Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance: report of the Technical Assistance Committee. NGO Committee meeting 140.

Eighteenth session

Chamber of Commerce of the United States of America

Economic development of under-developed countries: Financing of economic development. NGO Committee meeting 143.

Catholic International Union for Social Service

Technical Assistance: Expanded programme of technical assistance. NGO Committee meeting 143.

World Veterans Federation

Economic development of under-developed countries. NGO Committee meeting 144.

WRITTEN STATEMENTS BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO THE COUNCIL

International Confederation of Free Trade Unions

E/C.2/354 Economically under-developed countries

International Chamber of Commerce

E/C.2/366 Resolutions of the XIVth Congress concerning items within the scope of the Economic and Social Council

World Union for Progressive Judaism

E/C.2/379 Financing of Economic Development

International Chamber of Commerce

E/C.2/387 Economic Development of Under-Developed Countries: International Flow of Private Capital for the Economic Development of Under-Developed Countries

International Chamber of Commerce

E/C.2/388 Economic Development of Under-Developed Countries

Chamber of Commerce of the United States of America

E/C.2/394 Technical assistance

E/C.2/395 Financing of economic development: integrated economic development

International Council of Women

E/C.2/399 Technical Assistance

Confédération internationale du Crédit populaire

E/C.2/400 Proposal for the establishment of an international body to finance small and medium undertakings

SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Section I. Concerted action in the social field

565. The General Assembly, in resolution 732 (VIII), took note with appreciation of the efforts made to establish the programme of concerted practical action in the social field of the United Nations and the specialized agencies adopted in Council resolution 496 (XVI). It also invited the Secretary-General and the specialized agencies, in implementing the projects, general principles and techniques defined in Council resolution 496 (XVI), to keep in mind the special consideration being given to the under-developed countries. The General Assembly also recommended an addition to the Council resolution which would include among the projects on which the concerted programme would concentrate, such projects as would improve the situation with respect to health, education and social welfare in the Non-Self-Governing and Trust Territories.

566. Accordingly at its resumed sixteenth session¹ the Council adopted resolution 511 (XVI) amending its resolution 496 (XVI) by including in paragraph 8 a new sub-paragraph (i) recommended by the General Assembly reading as follows: "Improve the situation with respect to health, education and social welfare in the Non-Self-Governing and Trust Territories".

Section II. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

567. The Council, at its eighteenth session,² had before it two reports of the Executive Board of UNICEF (E/2518 and E/2572)³ following its sessions in September 1953 and March 1954. In addition, the Council had before it a report by the Secretary-General on "Programme Co-ordination between UNICEF, the Regular and Technical Assistance Programmes of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies" (E/2501)⁴ in accordance with a request contained in General Assembly resolution 802 (VIII) which continues the existence of UNICEF without time-limits.

568. The Council in resolution 543 (XVIII) having considered that General Assembly resolution 802 (VIII) had created new prospects for promoting UNICEF child welfare activities, noted the reports with satisfaction; considered that further efforts were desirable to familiarize the public with the needs of children and the work of UNICEF; invited all States Members and non-members of the United Nations to continue their efforts to expand the resources of UNICEF; and requested the Secretary-General to supplement not later than 1956 his report on co-ordination of the UNICEF programmes with the regular and technical assistance programmes of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, paying particular attention to the further development of co-ordinating devices to assure solution of specific problems.

EXTENT OF AID

569. Since 1950, UNICEF has apportioned almost nine-tenths of its aid to under-developed countries of Africa, Asia, the Eastern Mediterranean area, and Latin America. The target of UNICEF aid proposed for 1954 gives 44 per cent of the total to Asia; 19 per cent to Latin America; 15 per cent to Africa; 13.5 per cent to the Eastern Mediterranean area; 4.5 per cent to Europe; and 4 per cent to interregional projects.

570. The allocations target for 1954 provides 39 per cent for maternal and child welfare programmes; 30 per cent for mass health work; 16 per cent for nutrition; and 15 per cent for emergency aid. Allocations for aid to projects for the period 1951 through June 1954 totalled approximately \$44,100,000⁵ as follows:

¹ E/SR.754.

² E/SR.794 and 795.

³ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eighteenth Session, Supplements Nos. 2 and 2A respectively.*

⁴ *Ibid.*, Annexes, agenda item 9 (b).

⁵ This figure includes the cost of freight. The Executive Board, in March 1954, approved the charging of freight costs to country allocations as a means of showing a more complete statement of the value of aid to countries. Freight costs had previously been carried in a general freight account for all countries.

UNICEF project aid by area: June 1951-June 1954

(In thousands of U. S. dollars)

	1951	1952	1953	1954 (through June)	Total	Per cent Distribution
Africa	—	1,120.6	647.9	284.3	2,052.8	4.7
Asia	5,097.5	4,645.6	7,171.0	1,329.8	18,243.9	41.4
Eastern Mediterranean ..	3,164.7	5,030.9	1,416.6	750.7	10,362.9	23.5
Europe	2,495.3	1,026.2	544.5	354.1	4,420.1	10.0
Latin America	1,910.6	2,317.2	2,234.6	1,541.6	8,004.0	18.2
Benefiting more than one region	330.0	363.8	295.0	5.0	993.8	2.2
	12,998.1	14,504.3	12,309.6	4,265.5	44,077.5	100.0

571. In addition to the \$44,100,000 for project aid, the sum of \$7,500,000 (gross) was allocated for administration and operational services for the period,

bringing the total of allocations to \$51,600,000.

572. By type of assistance, the \$44,100,000 for project aid in this period was as follows:

UNICEF aid by type of project: 1951-June 1954
(In thousands of U.S. dollars)

	1951	1952	1953	1954 (through June)	Total	Per cent Distribution
<i>Maternal and child welfare</i>	1,350.2	2,837.2	3,501.9	939.3	8,628.6	22.3
<i>Mass Health</i>						
BCG vaccination and other TB control.....	1,488.1	709.6	877.6	151.7	3,227.0	8.4
Malaria/Typhus control	1,216.4	1,487.9	764.9	577.0	4,046.2	10.5
Yaws/syphilis bejel control	278.6	828.0	845.0	64.0	2,015.6	5.2
Other	1,141.0	469.0	327.4	207.0	2,144.4	5.5
TOTAL	4,124.1	3,494.5	2,814.9	999.7	11,433.2	29.6
<i>Nutrition</i>						
Child feeding	871.1	585.6	659.2	200.5	2,316.4	6.0
Food conservation ...	771.0	1,360.0	1,585.0	895.0	4,811.0	12.5
TOTAL	1,842.1	1,945.6	2,244.2	1,095.5	7,127.4	18.5
<i>Emergencies</i>	4,162.2	4,469.8	2,242.9	608.0	11,482.9	29.6
<i>Freight</i>	1,519.5	1,757.2	1,505.7	623.0	5,405.4	—
GRAND TOTAL	12,998.1	14,504.3	12,309.6	4,265.5	44,077.5	100.0

573. UNICEF is currently assisting programmes in 78 countries and territories. Of these, aid was voted for the first time in 1953 or at the March 1954 session of the Executive Board to 12 countries and territories.

Countries and territories currently assisted by UNICEF

Africa, 15: Bechuanaland, Belgian Congo, French Cameroons, French Equatorial Africa, French Togoland, French West Africa, Kenya, Liberia, Mauritius, Morocco, Nigeria, Ruanda-Urundi, Tanganyika, Tunisia, Uganda.

Asia, 20: Afghanistan, Burma, Cambodia, Ceylon, China, Fiji, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaya, North Borneo, Pakistan, Philippines, Sarawak, Singapore, Thailand, Viet-Nam, Western Samoa.

Eastern Mediterranean, 11: Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Sudan, Syria, Turkey.

Europe, 5: Austria, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Yugoslavia.

Latin America, 27: Bolivia, Brazil, British Guiana, British Honduras, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, St. Kitts, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Surinam, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay.

In addition, a limited type of aid has been provided to Palestine refugee mothers and children.

574. The number of programmes UNICEF is assisting currently totals 213. Well over half of these (114) are in the field of mass health, the largest numbers being for malaria control (34) and BCG

anti-tuberculosis vaccination campaigns (29). Somewhat over one-fifth of the programmes (45) are in the field of maternal and child welfare. In the field of child nutrition UNICEF is aiding 46 programmes, of which 27 are for long-range feeding and 19 for milk and other food processing programmes. Emergency aid is being given for eight programmes.

575. The following table summarizes the number of currently assisted countries and projects by areas.

	<i>Number of currently assisted Countries and territories</i>	<i>Projects</i>
Africa	15	21
Asia	20	67
Eastern Mediterranean	11	37
Europe	5	13
Latin America	27	75
	78	213

Beneficiaries

576. More than 25 million children and nursing and pregnant mothers will benefit from UNICEF aid in 1954. Following are data on beneficiaries from the inception of UNICEF to 30 June 1954 on some of the major categories of programmes aided by UNICEF:

BCG anti-tuberculosis campaigns: Over 90 million children tested and over 36 million children vaccinated in 58 countries and territories.

Yaws/bejel/syphilis control: Over 24 million persons examined and over 6 million treated in 23 countries and territories. Of this total, 12,400,000 tested and 3,200,000 treated were children and nursing and pregnant mothers.

Malaria/Typhus control: 23,500,000 persons protected with UNICEF DDT in 44 countries and ter-

ritories, of whom 14 million were children and nursing and pregnant mothers.

Child feeding: 15,500,000 children and mothers have received UNICEF milk and other foods through emergency and long-range programmes for varying periods of time.

577. In addition to the above, millions more have benefited from other UNICEF-aided programmes, including milk conservation programmes, maternal and child welfare services, local production plants and campaigns to control diseases such as diphtheria, whooping cough, trachoma, and mycosis. When all the projected milk conservation plants are in full operation these projects will provide free or low-cost milk to some 4 million children and nursing and pregnant mothers, and many times this number will benefit from the availability of safe milk.

TYPES OF ASSISTANCE

578. UNICEF assistance is predominantly in the form of supplies and equipment, with a primary emphasis on direct action which has a mass impact of far-reaching effect for the benefit of children.

579. Many of the programmes now being initiated with UNICEF aid may set a pattern within the countries concerned which will last for ten or twenty years or more. The Executive Board and the Executive Director have therefore been concerned with finding the most effective policies and methods of implementation through which the gains previously made possible by UNICEF aid can be increasingly integrated into village life.

580. The consolidation of the mass health campaigns which UNICEF has been aiding will, in the long run, depend on the establishment of permanent local health services in rural areas, once the mass phase of the campaigns is over. Maternal and child welfare services in the areas have great potential value in this connexion because the centres which have been established and the personnel who have been trained serve to strengthen existing local health work and often help in the initiation of broader services.

581. Early in 1954, the Executive Board, after a detailed examination of the problem, concluded that UNICEF aid, to be given under certain conditions towards some of the local costs of training of village and district workers and of local supervision, would be a way of helping to ensure that the gains already made will be developed along logical lines.

582. The Board's decision has the effect of extending to the provincial and local levels the stimulus given by UNICEF aid, which has proved successful on the national level. It recognizes that, for many of the long-range programmes to be aided by UNICEF, particularly those for maternal and child welfare, the bulk of the financial and administrative burden must necessarily rest upon the provinces and villages themselves. UNICEF aid over an initial period will help to lay a solid basis for the programmes at all levels of government, thus enabling the countries concerned to carry on entirely by themselves at a later stage.

583. Closely related to this is the interest of the UNICEF Executive Board in encouraging the trend of Governments toward longer-term planning. The Board has followed a policy of allocation on a project basis rather than of allocation for a financial year. At

its March 1954 session, the Board agreed that, when a proposed project was part of an over-all plan which envisaged successive additional stages, it would be desirable to consider the plan as a whole. If the Board approves of the plan in principle, future requests for continued aid will be given the priority which, under the existing policy of the Board, is accorded "to help complete or perfect work already undertaken".

584. The Board also agreed that it would make allocations for periods longer than the usual two or three years, in exceptional circumstances, in order to encourage longer-term planning and more comprehensive projects. It would consider allocations for periods up to five years in cases where the Government made corresponding long-term commitments; where the past experience of the Fund would indicate that there was a considerable measure of probability that the programme would be successful; and where a longer-term commitment by UNICEF would substantially strengthen the programme.

A. *Aid to maternal and child welfare services and training*

585. Aid for maternal and child welfare programmes has been given increased emphasis. In 1951, UNICEF allocations for these programmes was less than one-fifth of all long-range aid approved; in 1953, it was more than two-fifths.

586. UNICEF aid to these programmes has been primarily in the form of basic equipment and drugs and diet supplements for 5,500 maternal and child welfare centres, with some help to children's hospitals and to obstetrical wards or "maternities" where such services had previously been inadequate or non-existent.

587. *Training child care workers:* In addition to providing services for children and mothers, these centres are used for training child care workers. Much of the training is of a simple practical nature for auxiliary personnel, mainly village midwives. UNICEF provides a midwifery kit to each trainee completing the course. The kit serves as an incentive to the trainee and as a "diploma", giving community standing to the midwife. Teaching aids and equipment are provided for demonstration in midwifery and nursing schools and for hospitals that provide training in maternity and pediatrics departments. As has been noted above, the UNICEF Board in March 1954 has also agreed, under certain conditions, to provide salaries for teachers of such courses and stipends for the trainees who will later staff the maternal and child welfare centres. In addition, the International Children's Centre in Paris offers international training courses in subjects related to child care and engages in research work in the field of child health and welfare. In March 1953, the Executive Board agreed in principle to share with the French Government in the cost of operation of the International Children's Centre for the years 1954-1956.

588. *School health:* UNICEF has recently begun to provide simple types of aid for programmes centering around health and nutrition in rural schools, for example, to develop vegetable gardens, nutrition and health education, personnel hygiene, and environmental sanitation. Teachers are given special training, and community participation is encouraged in order to promote a better standard of child and community health.

589. *Environmental sanitation*: The importance of improved community hygiene or "environmental sanitation" as basic to maternal and child health work was recognized by the UNICEF Executive Board in September 1953 and a decision taken in principle to provide aid for improvement of village water supplies, sewage disposal and related community health education. Such sanitation measures bear directly on the morbidity and mortality of children, particularly with respect to parasitical and intestinal infections and trachoma. Aid to community hygiene will make maternal and child health measures more effective generally and will give additional force and meaning to community participation, particularly with respect to social and health education.

590. UNICEF's first aid for environmental sanitation was voted to Burma in March 1954 for a demonstration project to provide improved water supply, UNICEF providing the equipment for a well to produce safe water and materials for community health education, while WHO is providing expert personnel for sanitary engineering and health education. Such projects on a larger scale are foreseen for several under-developed countries in the near future.

B. *Aid to mass disease control programmes*

591. In all areas receiving UNICEF aid, communicable diseases affect great numbers of children. Control of these diseases is a prerequisite to any real improvement in standards of child health and welfare. In 1953, about one-third of all UNICEF allocations for long-range aid were for mass health campaigns, the largest being for BCG anti-tuberculosis vaccination and yaws and malaria control. As a result of several years of preparatory work in many countries, and the increasing organizational effort, funds and materials that the assisted governments put into the projects, the number of children benefited is very large and has been increasing rapidly each year and a greater number of local personnel are being trained for campaigns in an ever-widening area.

592. Nevertheless, the Executive Board is convinced that much remains to be done in this field. In Africa, south of the Sahara, UNICEF aid for campaigns against malaria and yaws is at the initial stage only; aid has not yet been started for BCG anti-tuberculosis vaccination. In Latin America, UNICEF aid for yaws control has so far been given to one country only, although the problem in a number of others is serious; aid for environmental sanitation and for leprosy control has thus far been approved to only one country. Aid for pilot projects for the control of trachoma and related eye diseases has been given in several countries but it is hoped that much more can be done in the future.

593. Due to improved organization, to simplified techniques in health campaigns, and to reduced costs of the important elements—vaccine, penicillin, DDT—the costs of mass disease control measures have been gradually reduced. UNICEF now calculates the cost of immunizing a child against tuberculosis as low as 15 cents, UNICEF paying one-third and the Government two-thirds. The cost of treatment for yaws in a large-scale campaign is approximately one dollar, UNICEF and the Government sharing equally. The penicillin to cure a child of yaws costs less than 15 cents.

594. *Malaria and typhus control*: UNICEF provides DDT, sprayers, transport, and field equipment to help in combating malaria and typhus. Thirty-four countries and territories are currently carrying on malaria control campaigns with UNICEF help: 16 in Latin America, eight in Africa, and five each in Asia and in the Eastern Mediterranean area. For three of these countries in Asia and one in the Eastern Mediterranean area, UNICEF is also providing equipment for the production of DDT. In addition, UNICEF DDT is also being used to control typhus in four countries—two in Asia and two in Latin America.

595. *BCG anti-tuberculosis vaccination*: BCG anti-tuberculosis campaigns assisted by UNICEF are currently active in 29 countries: eleven in Asia, eleven in Latin America, and seven in the Eastern Mediterranean area. The scale of operations has been increasing steadily, and the current rate of testing makes it possible to reach some 2 million children every month.

596. In seven countries in Asia and one in Latin America, UNICEF is supplementing its help to BCG campaigns by providing supplies and equipment for the diagnosis and treatment of children with active tuberculosis. The inability of most countries to maintain expensive service of this kind means, however, that UNICEF can be most effective by continuing to give the greater part of its aid for prevention rather than for treatment of the disease.

597. *Control of treponemal disease*: UNICEF is currently aiding 15 countries in campaigns against yaws, bejel, and syphilis: Africa 4, Asia 8, and 1 each in the Eastern Mediterranean, Europe, and Latin America. UNICEF generally provides penicillin, clinical and laboratory supplies, and equipment and transport at a cost of approximately 50 cents for each person treated in a large-scale campaign. The Government's costs in such a campaign are approximately equivalent to the UNICEF contribution. UNICEF has provided equipment to Chile, India and Yugoslavia for the production of penicillin so that these Governments may produce in future the penicillin necessary for continuing work against these and other diseases affecting children which respond to penicillin treatment.

Other health campaigns:

598. *Diphtheria, smallpox, and whooping cough*: UNICEF is currently helping Mauritius in a campaign against whooping cough, and Peru in a campaign against diphtheria and whooping cough. In addition, laboratory equipment for the production of sera and vaccines to combat these diseases is being provided to China (for the Province of Taiwan), Pakistan, Austria, Yugoslavia, Colombia, and Peru. From inception, UNICEF has shipped vaccines (diphtheria, smallpox, tetanus, and whooping cough) to nine countries to fight these diseases in children and has provided equipment for local production of vaccines to thirteen countries.

599. *Trachoma and related eye diseases*: In Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia, and China (in the Province of Taiwan), UNICEF is assisting in efforts to control and treat trachoma and related eye diseases. Depending on the success of the current mass campaigns, assistance in this field may be extended to other areas.

600. *Leprosy*: In March 1953, the UNICEF Board approved aid for the first time for a programme to combat leprosy. UNICEF is providing sulphone drugs

to help the Government of Nigeria in large-scale control measures against this disease, which is contracted mainly in childhood and youth.

601. *Mycosis*: UNICEF is helping Syria with a programme for the prevention and treatment of mycosis with the expectation of treating 50,000 cases in two years. A similar programme was formerly assisted in Yugoslavia.

C. Aid to improve child nutrition

602. *Milk and other food conservation*: By stimulating the construction of new milk pasteurization or drying units, and the modernization and expansion of existing plants, UNICEF aims to help governments bring milk production up to a level that will provide safe milk, free or at low cost, to large numbers of children. Milk drying equipment, in particular, makes possible the maximum use of flush season yields of milk for year-round distribution.

603. These milk processing and drying plants serve to vitalize the agricultural economy of the country by supplying steady and enlarged markets for milk and by providing focal centres for educational programmes to aid dairy farmers in the improvement of milk production and milk handling practices. Such plants also serve as a spur to national legislation and sanitary regulations for the safeguarding of the quality of milk. UNICEF aid thus far has been approved for 164 plants in 25 countries.

604. Allocations for milk and other food conservation programmes in 1953 constituted almost one-fifth of the total long-range aid voted. Aid for milk conservation in Latin America, where a number of countries produce milk in fairly large quantities, has developed relatively rapidly in the last few years. In two (Chile and Nicaragua), UNICEF-aided plants had started production by mid-1954. It is expected that more projects in this field will be developed in the future in the Eastern Mediterranean area and in Asia and possibly also in Africa.

605. Where there is little immediate prospect of developing a local milk supply, UNICEF is working with FAO and WHO to encourage the better use and development of other foods that are rich in protein and other essential nutrients. FAO and UNICEF are co-operating this year in several tests of the acceptability of fish flour as a food for children in protein-deficiency areas of the world.

606. During 1953, and at the session of the Executive Board held in March 1954, aid for supplementary child feeding programmes, to be carried out through schools, maternal and child welfare centres and other feeding centres, was voted to more than 30 countries, mainly in Latin America and Asia. The allocations were based upon the availability of low-cost milk from United States surplus production. Allocations in 1953 (including emergency feeding) involved about 100 million pounds of skim milk powder, representing approximately one-quarter of the surplus production in the United States for that year.

607. It is expected that low-cost milk will be available for purchase from the United States at least up to the end of 1956, unless a severe drought should develop. Since any milk produced in 1956 can be processed and used until the middle of 1958, it is possible to establish programmes of four years' duration.

UNICEF is therefore currently re-examining the possibilities of using skim milk where there are prospects of starting long-term projects by this means, or of securing other long-term advantages.

D. Emergency aid

608. During 1953, emergency aid, chiefly in the form of food, went to famine areas of India and Pakistan, to war-devastated Korea, to areas of Japan where crops had been destroyed by typhoon and flood, and to earthquake stricken Greek islands. In the Eastern Mediterranean area, UNICEF continued to provide certain supplies to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugee mothers and children, and gave assistance to certain destitute non-refugee groups in Egypt and Jordan.

609. In the first half of 1954, the UNICEF Executive Board responded to the following emergency requests: (a) from the Philippines, where an infestation of rats caused a crop loss of up to 90 per cent in some areas of Mindanao; (b) from India, to meet emergency needs in famine or scarcity areas or needs arising from natural disasters; and (c) from Iraq, where the Tigris flooded out many thousands of families in the area around Baghdad. By mid-1954, UNICEF milk and other foods provided under emergency allocations were going to: 170,000 in India; 1,400,000 in Japan; 2,000,000 in Korea; 25,000 in Pakistan; and 150,000 in the Philippines.

AREA DEVELOPMENTS

Africa

610. UNICEF aid totalling \$2,400,000 is currently being allocated to 15 countries and territories in Africa.⁶ Aid prior to 1951 was for BCG anti-tuberculosis vaccination in North Africa. Since 1951, about one-third of the sums allocated have been for malaria control, about one-fifth each for yaws control and child nutrition, about one-fifth for trachoma and leprosy control and about one-twentieth for maternal and child welfare (for which allocations were made for the first time in March 1954). The following table shows the total allocations that have been made to Africa to date by type of aid, and the amounts approved in 1953 and at the March 1954 session of the Board:

	Total to date \$	1953 \$	March 1954 \$
Maternal and child welfare...	85,000	—	85,000
Mass health campaigns.....	1,661,000	541,300	123,000
Malaria	573,000	100,000	53,000
BCG vaccination and other			
TB control	378,700	—	—
Yaws/syphilis control	344,000	288,000	6,000
Trachoma control	262,300	50,300	64,000
Control of other diseases..	103,000	103,000	—
Nutrition	377,000	4,000	48,000
Freight	308,500	102,600	28,300
TOTALS	\$2,431,500	\$647,900	\$284,300

Asia

611. Since its inception, UNICEF has allocated more than \$33,500,000 to 21 countries and territories in Asia. Somewhat over a third of these allocations has

⁶ Not including Egypt, Ethiopia, Libya, and Sudan, which fall within the "Eastern Mediterranean Area".

been for mass health; somewhat under a third for maternal and child welfare; about a fourth for emergency situations (including emergency feeding); and the remainder (6 per cent) for long-range feeding and food processing programmes. The following table gives allocations to Asia approved in 1953 and in March 1954 by types of programmes aided:

	1953 \$	March 1954 \$
Maternal and child welfare	2,606,700	316,000
Mass health campaigns	1,476,500	302,700
Malaria/typhus control	339,900	90,000
Yaws/syphilis control	533,000	58,000
BCG vaccination and other TB control	579,600	32,700
Control of trachoma	4,000	106,000
Control of other diseases	20,000	16,000
Nutrition	490,900	5,000
Long-range feeding	75,900	5,000
Milk and other food conservation	415,000	—
Emergency aid	1,722,000	563,000
Freight	874,900	143,100
TOTALS	\$7,171,000	\$1,329,800

Eastern Mediterranean area

612. UNICEF aid to the Eastern Mediterranean area (excluding aid for Palestine refugee mothers and children, which has amounted to \$16,500,000) has totalled over \$6,800,000. Of this amount, 39 per cent has been for mass health campaigns, 25 per cent for nutrition, 19 per cent for emergencies, and 17 per cent for maternal and child welfare. Among the mass health campaigns, the greatest sum has been allocated for BCG anti-tuberculosis vaccination campaigns (20 per cent), and malaria control including DDT production (15 per cent). The remaining amount in the mass health field (4 per cent) has been for bejel, syphilis, trachoma, and mycosis control. The following table shows allocations approved for the Eastern Mediterranean area in 1953, at the March 1954 session of the Board, and in an emergency mail poll vote in April 1954 for flood victims in Iraq:

	1953 \$	March and April 1954 \$
Maternal and child welfare	454,000	113,300
Mass health campaigns	188,400	531,000
Malaria control	—	412,000
BCG vaccination and other TB control	124,400	100,000
Bejel/syphilis control	24,000	—
Trachoma control	—	19,000
Mycosis control	40,000	—
Nutrition	289,000	—
Milk conservation	167,000	—
Long-range feeding	122,000	—
Emergency aid	320,000	45,000
Freight	165,200	61,400
TOTALS	\$1,416,600	\$750,700

Europe

613. Since the beginning of 1951 UNICEF has allocated \$4,400,000 to Europe. 38 per cent of all allocations have been for milk conservation and long-range feeding programmes; 20 per cent for maternal and child welfare; 36 per cent for emergencies; and 6 per

cent for mass health programmes. The countries currently assisted by UNICEF in Europe are Austria, Greece, Italy, Portugal, and Yugoslavia. Allocations approved for Europe in 1953 and at the March 1954 session of the Board are as follows:

	1953 \$	March 1954 \$
Maternal and child welfare	25,000	180,000
Production of sera and vaccine	30,100	2,000
Milk conservation	230,000	140,000
Emergency aid	200,900	—
Freight	58,500	32,100
TOTALS	\$544,500	\$354,100

Latin America

614. Since the first UNICEF allocation was made to Latin America in March 1949, assistance totalling \$12 million has been approved for long-range and emergency programmes to 27 countries and territories. Almost two-fifths has been for mass health, and a similar amount for long-range feeding and milk conservation programmes. Maternal and child welfare accounted for 14 per cent, and emergency aid for 8 per cent. Allocations approved for Latin America in 1953 and at the March 1954 session of the Board are as follows:

	1953 \$	March 1954 \$
Maternal and child welfare	131,200	245,000
Mass health	578,600	41,000
Malaria control	325,000	22,000
Tuberculosis prevention	173,600	19,000
Other	80,000	—
Nutrition	1,220,300	897,500
Milk conservation	763,000	755,000
Long-range feeding	457,300	142,500
Emergency aid	—	—
Freight	304,500	358,100
TOTALS	\$2,234,600	\$1,541,600

RESOURCES OF THE FUND

615. The total income of the Fund in 1953 was \$16,219,000 derived from the following sources:

	Amount	Per cent
Government contributions	\$14,267,000	88.0
Private contributions	828,000	5.1
UNRRA residual assets	428,000	2.6
Other income	696,000	4.3
	\$16,219,000	100.0

616. The general trend in support of UNICEF is encouraging. Since the low point of 1950, there has been a steady rise in the number and amount of government contributions, both increasing by over 80 per cent. The number of Governments contributing in 1953 was 55. The increase in the amount of support has been greatest in North America, and there has been an increase of over 600 per cent in support from Asia since 1950. The following table shows the trend in government support, in thousands of U.S. dollars, in the years 1950-1953, by geographic regions:

	1950		1951		1952		1953	
	Amount	No. of Govts.	Amount	No. of Govts.	Amount	No. of Govts.	Amount	No. of Govts.
Latin America	161	5	283	9	412	8	392	11
Asia	201	5	1,082	9	1,080	9	1,305	14
Africa and Eastern Mediterranean area	62	5	135	4	59	4	142	7
Europe	1,352	11	1,291	9	1,486	14	1,742	19
North America	5,301	2	6,220	2	7,177	2	10,322	2
Australasia	840	2	840	2	593	2	364	2
TOTALS	7,917	30	9,851	35	10,807	39	14,267	55

617. UNICEF's income from private sources in 1953 (apart from funds realized from the sale of greeting cards) totalled \$828,000, a little over 5 per cent of the total income for the year. Approximately three-fourths of this was from the proceeds of fund-raising campaigns and United Nations Day collections in nine countries: Afghanistan, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Pakistan, and Yugoslavia. The campaign in New Zealand netted the largest amount—\$254,000—while the Australian campaign brought \$224,000. The remaining one-fourth of the private contributions came from individuals, churches, women's and other groups and organizations, and from schools—mostly in the United States. Approximately \$70,000 was received in 1953 from children who participated in the "Tricks or Treats" Halloween project in the United States. Income from the sale of some 2 million UNICEF greeting cards brought the organization approximately \$100,000 in 1953.

618. Out of each dollar contributed to UNICEF and expended, 94 cents was used for assistance, and 6 cents for administrative overhead and operational services.

619. By July 1954, 33 countries had contributed for the year 1954 \$3,187,000. Eleven other Governments have indicated that they will make contributions to UNICEF in 1954, and it is expected that others which have made regular contributions to UNICEF in the past will make contributions again in 1954.

CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER UNITED NATIONS AGENCIES AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

620. General Assembly resolution 802 (VIII), which continued UNICEF indefinitely, requested the Secretary-General to report to the Council in 1954 on the co-ordination of programmes carried on by UNICEF with the regular and technical assistance programmes of the United Nations and the specialized agencies. A special report (E/2601) on the subject was presented to the Council at its eighteenth session, describing the methods used to effect co-ordination, both as regards over-all policy and planning and as regards aid to individual country projects. The Secretary-General expressed the view that notable progress had been made in effecting programme co-ordination.

621. Problems of some complexity have, however, developed during the year in relation to the financing of international technical personnel employed on projects jointly aided by UNICEF and WHO (and to a lesser extent FAO). Due to a shortage of funds available for the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance, both WHO and FAO in 1953 requested the Executive Board of UNICEF to finance the costs of certain international technical personnel of the agen-

cies employed on jointly-aided projects. The Board made allocations to meet these requests as a means of providing temporary financial assistance to the agencies, specifying that this was not to constitute a precedent for the future. At the March 1954 session, when it appeared that a further request might be forthcoming from WHO, the Board engaged in an extensive discussion of the principles involved, the results of which are contained in its report to the Economic and Social Council on the work of the session (E/2572, part II). The question was also discussed at the thirteenth and fourteenth sessions of the Executive Board of WHO and at the Seventh World Health Assembly.

622. The active interest and support of non-governmental organizations, international and national, have been important factors in the success of UNICEF. The organizations have helped to build up popular awareness of the significance of UNICEF, both in countries contributing to the Fund and in countries receiving assistance from it, by publicizing and explaining its aims and the character of its operations. In many countries they have also vigorously co-operated in fund-raising campaigns to procure contributions. In many countries, also, citizens have manifested a desire to assist UNICEF in this work by forming national UNICEF Committees.

623. It will be recalled that, in April 1952, the Executive Board approved the granting of consultative status to members of the Non-Governmental Organizations Committee on UNICEF. By June 1954, the Committee had a membership of over 40 organizations.

Section III. Social welfare and population

RECOGNITION AND ENFORCEMENT ABROAD OF MAINTENANCE OBLIGATIONS

624. The question of the recognition and enforcement abroad of maintenance obligations had been before the Council at its fifteenth session⁷ and postponed to its seventeenth session. At the seventeenth session, the Council had before it⁸ two draft conventions prepared by a committee of experts (E/AC.39/1). These conventions were designed to alleviate the situation of women and children abandoned by persons responsible for their support who had moved to another country. The first draft convention, entitled "Convention on the Recovery Abroad of Claims for Maintenance" was intended to make it easier for a dependant living in one country to obtain a valid and enforceable support order against a defaulter living in another country. The second draft convention, entitled "Convention on the Enforcement Abroad of Maintenance Orders" had as its purpose to facilitate the enforcement

⁷ E/SR.673.

⁸ E/AC.7/SR.257 to 260 and E/SR.784; see also E/2567.

in a foreign country of a support order issued by a court in the country of residence of the dependant. While the first draft convention would assist primarily those abandoned dependants who had not obtained a support order in their country of residence, the second draft convention would assist those who, having obtained such a support order, were seeking to have it enforced in the country of residence of the defaulter.

625. The committee of experts had reached the conclusion that the first draft could provide a solution compatible with the domestic legislation of the different countries and the constituent units of federal States. The second draft convention was submitted by the committee as a model which could be used by States for bilateral treaties or for national legislation so as to improve procedures for the enforcement abroad of family support orders.

626. The Council, in addition to the report of the committee of experts, had before it two notes by the Secretary-General (E/2364 and Add.1)⁹; resolution 734 (VIII) of the General Assembly, requesting the Council to do its utmost to complete its work on this question; and the views expressed¹⁰ by non-governmental organizations (International Social Service and International Federation of Friends of Young Women) (E/AC.39/1/Add.1)⁹. An oral statement was also made by the representative of the ICFTU¹¹.

627. There was general agreement in the Council that the draft convention on the enforcement abroad of maintenance orders should, in accordance with the opinion of the committee of experts, be recommended to serve as a guide for the preparation of bilateral treaties or uniform legislation. Some members thought that the draft convention on the recovery abroad of claims for maintenance should be transmitted to a conference of plenipotentiaries for adoption as an instrument open for general adherence; others believed that such action was undesirable at present and that the text should be transmitted to Governments for any action they might wish to undertake.

628. The Council adopted resolution 527 (XVII) in which it requested the Secretary-General to transmit the report of the Committee to Governments; to ascertain from States Members of the United Nations and States Members of any of the specialized agencies whether they deemed it desirable to convene a conference of plenipotentiaries to complete the drafting of the convention and whether they were prepared to attend such a conference; and to report to the Council not later than at its nineteenth session. It also recommended to governments to use the text of the model convention on the enforcement abroad of maintenance orders, annexed to resolution 527 (XVII), as a guide for the preparation of bilateral treaties or uniform legislation to be enacted by individual States.

MIGRATION

629. At its seventeenth session¹², the Council considered General Assembly resolution 733 (VIII) inviting the Council, in co-operation with the ILO and other interested agencies, to develop a programme of studies on internal migration. The Council had before

⁹ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Seventeenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 17.

¹⁰ E/CN.2/SR.138.

¹¹ E/AC.7/SR.257.

¹² E/SR.758.

it the summary records of the meetings and the report of the Third Committee of the General Assembly on this question¹³, which had been communicated to the Council for its guidance and information at the General Assembly's request.

630. The Secretary-General submitted a memorandum (E/2544)¹⁴, in which he suggested, after consulting the International Labour Office, that the Council refer this question to the Population Commission. The Council, without discussion, decided to do so.

POPULATION

631. The Population Commission held no session during the year under review. The continuing work carried out by the Population Division of the Secretariat is described in the Report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its ninth session.¹⁵

632. One of the principal activities of the Population Division has been the preparatory work for the World Population Conference to be held in Rome from 31 August to 10 September 1954, under the auspices of the United Nations in collaboration with the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population and the specialized agencies. The Preparatory Committee for the Conference includes representatives of FAO, the ILO, UNESCO, WHO, the Bank and the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population. An officer of the Population Division has been charged with the arrangements for the Conference and the correspondence with the organizers appointed for the meetings on the various subjects to be discussed. Nineteen papers will be submitted by individual staff members or as Division papers. Approximately 600 invitations had been issued by 1 August and more than 350 papers had been received or were expected from participants. These papers will be circulated among the interested persons prior to the Conference.

Section IV. International narcotics control

633. During its eighteenth session the Council considered¹⁶ the report of the ninth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (E/2606 and Corr.1)¹⁷ and the report of the Permanent Central Opium Board on its work in 1953 (E/OB/9 and Add.1)¹⁸. In resolution 548 A (XVIII) it took note of the report of the Commission. Other parts of this resolution deal with various aspects of the question of narcotic drugs, as indicated in the sections below.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TREATIES AND INTERNATIONAL CONTROL¹⁹

634. The Commission reviewed the situation in respect of the implementation of treaties on narcotic drugs, basing its work mainly on the annual reports,

¹³ Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighth Session, Third Committee 507th, 508th and 511th meetings and Annexes agenda item 12, document A/2573, para. 23-27.

¹⁴ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Seventeenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 18.

¹⁵ Official Records of the General Assembly, Ninth Session, Supplement No. 1.

¹⁶ E/AC.7/SR.281-282; E/SR.805.

¹⁷ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eighteenth Session, Supplement No. 8.

¹⁸ See also chapter I, para. 46-47 regarding appointment of a member to the Permanent Central Opium Board.

¹⁹ See also para. 642 and para. 693-696.

and the national legislative texts furnished by Governments; and on the analytical summaries of the annual reports and of the legislative texts prepared by the Secretariat (E/NR, 1952 Summary). During 1953 121 reports were received covering 1952 (54 for metropolitan countries and 67 for territories) and seven covering 1951 (two for metropolitan countries and five for territories). One hundred and seventy legislative texts were received, for 25 metropolitan countries and 16 territories. The Commission also discussed the Annual Report of the Permanent Central Opium Board on Statistics of Narcotics for 1952 and its work in 1953 (E/OB/9 and Add.1) and the Statement on Estimated World Requirements of Narcotic Drugs in 1954 (E/DSB/11) issued by the Drug Supervisory Body (see paragraphs 644-645 below).

635. The Commission found that drug addiction and illicit traffic were increasing, and considered that it was desirable to draw the attention of Governments to the constant need for strict application of international treaties and of national measures for the control of narcotic drugs. On the recommendation of the Commission the Council adopted resolution 548 B I (XVIII) calling upon Governments to ensure close adherence to and strict compliance with the provisions of the Conventions of 1925 and 1931 and, in particular, to carry out promptly and fully their obligations in respect of the transmission of information required under these Conventions.

636. In addition to action in connexion with particular subjects below the Commission drew the attention of Governments to the desirability of using, whenever possible, the international non-proprietary names of drugs proposed by WHO (if so desired, in conjunction with scientific or trade names). In this connexion also the Council adopted, on the recommendation of the Commission 548 B II (XVIII) noting with appreciation the work undertaken by WHO in this respect, and expressing the view that the procedure for the establishment of such names for newly developed narcotic drugs should be simplified and speeded up as much as possible.

637. Exercising its function under article 21 of the 1931 Convention, the Commission revised the form for use by Governments in preparing their annual reports for 1954, and also prepared a draft text of the form to be sent Governments for comments in order that a complete revision of the form may be carried out in 1955.²⁰

638. In considering the effect of changes in the scope of international control of narcotic drugs under the existing narcotics treaties, the Commission expressed the belief that it was essential that Governments should have legal authority to place under control drugs which at one time had been found not to be addiction-producing or convertible into addiction-producing drugs, but which in the light of subsequent experience are found to have such dangerous properties.

THE REPORT OF THE PERMANENT CENTRAL OPIUM BOARD

639. The report of the Permanent Central Opium Board (E/OB/9 and Add.1) on Statistics of Narcotics for 1952 and the work of the Board in 1953, made to the Council under the Convention of 1925 as

amended by the Protocol of 1946, presented the Board's annual survey of the legal production, manufacture and consumption of narcotic drugs throughout the world.

640. Recalling that it was established in 1928, when the 1925 Convention entered into force, the Board reviewed briefly the evolution of the narcotics problem during the last quarter of a century. The total quantity of raw opium used licitly for non-medical purposes had amounted to 1,585 tons in 1929 and to only 166 tons in 1952. In 1929 world production of morphine had amounted to 55 tons; in the light of studies made at the time, the League of Nations' Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and Other Dangerous Drugs concluded that an annual average of 15 tons of that drug had been finding its way into illicit traffic during the years 1925 to 1929. This estimate appears conservative when it is recalled that the average annual production fell by 25 tons during the years 1930 to 1935. It has since steadily increased, reaching 75 tons in 1952, practically all (90 per cent) the amount thus produced is used for the manufacture of other drugs, and mainly for codeine and dionine which are little liable to produce addiction. The production of morphine for use as such fell from 13 tons in 1929 to seven tons in 1952. Similarly, the production of cocaine, which amounted to 5,700 kg. in 1929, fell to 2,140 kg. in 1952. Another striking fall was that in the licit production of diacetylmorphine (heroin), a drug very widely used by addicts; this shrank from 3,620 kg. in 1929 to 120 kg. in 1952.

641. To the work accomplished by the League of Nations, the United Nations had successfully added new achievements in contributing to the general work of control, and in bringing about further agreements. The Board pointed out that due collaboration between international organizations and national administrations, as well as the support of world public opinion, had been and would remain necessary to bring about improvements and that the success of control measures rested essentially on the efficiency of national control systems.

642. At its ninth session, the Commission²¹ in connexion with the implementation of the treaties and international control, referred to the passages in the report to the effect that the Board was hampered in its work because some Governments either sent incomplete statistics or none at all and also because the information received on production and stocks of opium, their method of computation, their place of storage and moisture content was in some cases unsatisfactory. The Commission submitted a draft resolution (E/2606, annex B and D) on the subject to the Council.

643. The Council adopted resolution 548 B IV (XVIII) taking note with satisfaction of the report of the Board; recommending that Governments of countries producing opium indicate how they calculate the amount of their production, exports and stocks as regards the establishment of morphine content and, if possible, water content; calling upon all Governments to transmit complete statistics to the Board regularly and promptly; noting with interest the action already taken in connexion with the remuneration of members and the strengthening of the staff of the Board and Supervisory Body and expressing the hope that this would be completed at an early date.

²⁰ The revised draft form is contained in E/2606, annex C.

²¹ E/CN.7/SR.226, 227, 228, 243, and 257.

STATEMENT BY THE DRUG SUPERVISORY BODY ON
ESTIMATED WORLD REQUIREMENTS OF NARCOTIC
DRUGS IN 1954

644. The Commission also considered the statement issued to governments by the Drug Supervisory Body under Article 5 of the Convention of 1931 on "Estimated World Requirements of narcotic drugs in 1954".²² In connexion with the relation between estimated and actual requirements, the attention of the Commission was drawn to the facts that some Governments had a tendency to over-estimate their needs in narcotic drugs, while other Governments did not transmit supplementary estimates in time and did not use the appropriate methods for calculating the estimates of consumption and stocks.

645. The Council accordingly, adopted resolution 548 B V (XVIII), drawing the attention of all Governments (a) to their obligation to submit accurate estimates of drugs, and to furnish explanations of the methods employed to calculate the quantities involved; and (b) to the need for transmitting any supplementary estimates in time, and for using the appropriate methods for calculating estimates of consumption and stocks, as recommended by the Supervisory Body.

THE PROPOSED SINGLE CONVENTION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS

646. The Commission, at its ninth session, continued to consider the draft of the Single Convention (the International Drug Convention) (E/CN.7/AC.3/3) designed to replace the existing multilateral treaties in the field of narcotic drugs.

647. During the past year considerable progress was made in obtaining agreement on several basic problems, the solution of which is necessary for further progress on the draft.

648. The Opium Protocol of 1953, which on 31 December had been signed by 36 States, contains provisions for the limitation of the production of opium. The Commission decided that the provisions of the Protocol should be incorporated in the draft and that in this connexion it would consider at the same time proposals which the Permanent Central Opium Board and the Drug Supervisory Body might wish to make in respect of the statistical control system.

649. All the States principally concerned²³ stated that they had adopted or would adopt a policy of gradual suppression of coca-leaf chewing which they considered to be a harmful practice. The Commission anticipated that this agreement may enable it to include in the draft a non-controversial scheme for limiting the production of coca leaves (section 32 of the draft).

650. As a result of the view expressed by the WHO Expert Committee on Drugs Liable to Produce Addiction²⁴ the Commission agreed that the medical use of drugs derived from the resin of the cannabis (Indian hemp) plant was obsolete. An important element of uncertainty was thus removed from the considerations to be taken into account in the provisions for limiting the production of cannabis (section 33 of the draft).

651. The Commission decided to postpone until the tenth session a detailed examination of the sections of

the draft (30-33) dealing with the production of the natural raw materials (opium, poppy straw, coca leaves and cannabis) in order to give its members an opportunity to consider these provisions in the light of these new developments.

652. The Commission agreed on the need for a separate section dealing with synthetic narcotics, and requested the Secretariat to prepare for its consideration at its tenth session several alternative drafts based on various different proposals for control.

653. Experience in the field of narcotic drugs as well as in other fields of co-operation against international crime has shown that it is very difficult to establish universally acceptable principles of penal law. The Commission drafted a substitute text for section 40 of the draft dealing with penal law which it considered flexible enough to ensure general acceptance. It would also contribute substantially to the suppression of the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs by providing, *inter alia*, that serious cases of such traffic committed abroad either by nationals or foreigners be prosecuted, that preparatory acts, attempts, conspiracy and all kinds of intentional participation in the traffic be covered by penal law and that the penal sanctions be severe enough to constitute an effective deterrent. Measures of extradition would also have to be taken to prevent drug traffickers from escaping prosecution.

654. Different views are held in different countries on the best method of dealing with drug addicts, in particular on the question of the compulsory treatment of addicts in closed institutions. The Commission adopted a compromise solution and replaced the section of the draft dealing with the cure of drug addicts (section 41) by a text which, it believed, took into account the differing views of, and conditions in, various States. The new text would require parties to use their best endeavours to provide for adequate institutional treatment facilities on a compulsory basis only if they have a serious problem of drug addiction and possess sufficient economic resources.

655. The Commission also reviewed the sections of the draft (37 to 39) dealing with the control of the internal trade in, and the possession of, narcotic drugs and with certain measures of supervision to be taken on the national level. These sections, as revised by the Commission, follow generally the corresponding provisions of the International Opium Convention of 19 February 1925; they incorporate, however, certain modifications warranted by changes in social structure and in the organization of the drug industry which have taken place in many countries since 1925. The Commission also considered two procedural sections (42 and 43) dealing with the languages of the convention, the procedure for becoming a party to and the coming into force of the convention. It decided that a complete revised text would be necessary at the appropriate time and expressed its intention of making the necessary arrangements at its tenth session.

656. In the Council, it was stressed that the multiplicity of existing treaties caused difficulties in international control, and that the provisions of the existing treaties required to be adapted to existing circumstances. Accordingly, the Council adopted resolution 548 K (XVIII) calling upon the Commission to give priority at its next session to the elaboration of a single convention.

²² E/DSB/11 and /Add.1.

²³ See para. 667.

²⁴ World Health Organization: Technical Report Series No. 57, page 11.

Model Code and Commentary on the Opium Protocol of 1953

657. The Council in resolution 505 H (XVI) had requested the Commission to draw up a model code and commentary for the application of the Protocol for Limiting and Regulating the Cultivation of the Poppy Plant, the Production of, International and Wholesale Trade in, and Use of Opium which was adopted by the United Nations Opium Conference of 1953. In accordance with the desire of the Council that this project should follow the pattern of model codes prepared by the Opium Advisory Committee of the League of Nations for earlier narcotics treaties,²⁵ the Commission decided that this project should include information for and recommendations to Governments on the implementation of the Protocol (code), as well as legal interpretations of and comments on the text (commentary). The Commission felt that the project should be designed and timed so as to serve as an aid in the formulation of legislative and administrative measures to be taken in connexion with the coming into force and application of the Protocol. To this end comments on a preliminary partial draft code and commentary that had been prepared by the Secretariat were requested from members of the Commission and certain other Governments by 1 September 1954. The Commission recommended a resolution to the Council providing for the appointment of a rapporteur to prepare the draft code and commentary in consultation with the Secretariat, and providing also for consultation with the Permanent Central Opium Board and Drug Supervisory Body.

658. In the Council it was stated that in view of their other commitments, the Permanent Central Opium Board and Drug Supervisory Body might not be able to make their comments on the whole code and commentary at the time of their second session in 1954, and that the rapporteur might thus not be able to complete the whole project in time for consideration at the tenth session of the Commission. It was pointed out that the more urgent parts, relating to the preparations of Governments to bring the Protocol into force and to the mechanism of its implementation, would form a code which could be completed in advance of the commentary. The Council adopted resolution 548 C (XVIII) in which it approved the appointment of Mr. Charles Vaillat (France), who had been designated by the Commission, as rapporteur to prepare a draft of the code and commentary, in consultation with the Secretariat; and invited him to submit to the tenth session of the Commission a draft of the code and, if possible, of the commentary; it invited the Permanent Central Opium Board and the Drug Supervisory Body to communicate to the rapporteur and to the Secretary-General such comments and recommendations on the parts of the Protocol with which they were concerned as they might wish to suggest for inclusion, in time to enable the rapporteur to take this material into account in preparing his draft.

Limitation of opium production

659. The Protocol adopted by the United Nations Opium Conference of 1953 would limit the number of countries which are permitted to produce opium for

export. It contains no provision which would prevent a country from continuing or starting production of opium for licit domestic use.

660. The Commission, at its ninth session, had at its disposal information that one or two countries were planning to start the cultivation of the poppy for the production of opium. Most members thought that new opium production would impede the achievement of the Protocol's ultimate aim of limiting production of opium to the world's medical and scientific needs, and decided to propose to the Council a recommendation urging States in which there has been no production of opium in recent years to prohibit such production in the future. That, they considered, would be a useful supplement to the Protocol of 1953. Several members of the Commission held, however, that Governments should not be prevented from producing opium for domestic purposes, and that such a recommendation would be a departure from the compromise on the basis of which the Opium Conference, 1953, had arrived at article 6 of the Protocol.

661. At the eighteenth session, the same differences of opinion arose in the Council. The Council adopted resolution 548 B III (XVIII) urging the Governments of all countries (other than the seven countries named in article 6 of the Opium Protocol of 1953),²⁶ in which there has been no recent production of opium in recent years, to prohibit such production in the future.

PROGRAMME OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND THE UNITED NATIONS NARCOTIC LABORATORY*

662. The programme of opium research, undertaken in accordance with Council resolutions 159 II, C (VII), 246 F (IX) and 477 (XV), is aimed at developing methods for determining the geographical origin of opium by chemical and physical means, which would be useful in tracing the origin and movements of opium seized in the illicit traffic, and would also contribute to the suppression of illicit traffic in drugs made from diverted opium. They would also be of service in connexion with article 6 of the Opium Protocol of 1953, which provides that, in general, only opium from seven designated producing countries may become the subject of licit international trade. Most of the producing countries have provided for laboratory research a certain number of samples of known origin from important opium-producing districts within their borders. The laboratory research has been performed by 32 national scientists from fifteen countries, designated for this purpose by their Governments, and by chemists of the Secretariat working in laboratory facilities made available without charge by the Government of the United States of America.

663. The Council in resolution 477 (XV) had requested the Secretary-General to appoint a committee of three chemical experts to evaluate the progress made in this programme and to determine whether the methods were far enough advanced for practical application in the international field. Professor A. Jermstad (Norway), Mr. P. S. Krishnan (India) and Dr. L. F. Small (United States of America) were accordingly appointed, and they presented their report (E/CN.7/278) in March 1954. On the question of whether

²⁵ Bulgaria, Greece, India, Iran, Turkey, USSR, Yugoslavia.

* Action required by the General Assembly at its ninth session.

²⁶ League of Nations document C.774.M.365.1932.XI.

the methods were sufficiently advanced to permit their practical application in the international field, i.e., for the results of determinations on individual samples seized in the illicit traffic to be communicated to an international organ, two members of the Committee felt that the time had arrived for them to be tested on a small-scale practical basis; the third member held that they were not yet ready for practical application. All members of the Committee felt that further research was necessary before the methods could be given practical application in all cases. The Committee attached great importance to increasing the number and filling up gaps in the series of opium samples of known origin at the disposal of the United Nations Opium Distribution Centre. The Committee recommended unanimously (E/CN.7/278) that more extensive laboratory facilities should be made available for research by the Secretariat chemists.

664. In accordance with the request of the Council in resolution 477 (XV) the Commission in May 1954, reviewed the programme of scientific research as well as the proposal for creating a United Nations narcotics laboratory. The consensus of view in the Commission was that the opium programme had made substantial progress, but that practical application of the methods that had been developed should await general acceptance of their validity. In this connexion, however, the Commission expressed interest in recent experiments conducted by the Canadian Government laboratory in which a series of unmarked samples of known origin had been correctly identified. The Commission was concerned that there were still important producing areas for which no, or very few, samples had been made available, and felt that this situation had greatly hampered the research work. Other laboratory projects such as practical identification tests for synthetic narcotics and cannabis were likewise considered, but the Commission concluded that the resources of the Secretariat should be devoted for the present to work on the origin of opium and, in so far as this formed part of the origin studies, to research on the morphine assay. It recommended that the Secretary-General be instructed to develop the opium research as far as possible and, in particular, to increase the number of analyses. It recommended to the Council to adopt a resolution recommending that the General Assembly establish the narcotics laboratory.

665. The Council, in general, approved the recommendations of the Commission. As to the United Nations narcotics laboratory, there was general support for its establishment, but some delegations did not wish to commit themselves on the expenditure involved while the question of the location of the Division of Narcotic Drugs was pending in connexion with the Secretary-General's review of the organization of the Secretariat. The relevant provision in the draft resolution submitted by the Commission was accordingly the subject of an agreed compromise amendment.

666. The Council in resolution 548 D (XVIII) reaffirmed the importance that it attached to the programme of opium research and expressed its satisfaction with the work done thus far; it drew attention to the increased importance which that programme would have for the implementation of the Opium Protocol of 1953; requested the Governments concerned to furnish samples of opium licitly or illicitly cultivated within their borders, as well as samples of important opium seizures from the international illicit traffic;

instructed the Secretary-General to develop the opium research, so far as possible, and in particular, to increase the number of analyses, while deferring all other laboratory work except that directly connected with the problem of determining origin; it considered that it would be very useful to set up a United Nations narcotics laboratory; referred the question of the establishment of the laboratory to the General Assembly, for consideration in connexion with its review of the Secretary-General's reorganization proposals; and finally requested the Secretary-General to provide the General Assembly with all relevant information, including comparative costs and advantages of locating the laboratory in New York or Geneva.

THE PROBLEM OF THE COCA LEAF

667. At the ninth session of the Commission, the countries principally concerned with the problem of coca leaf chewing—Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia—were represented by observers, Peru being a member of the Commission. Together with the other members of the Commission they reached unanimous agreement that coca leaf chewing constituted a form of addiction and was harmful. On the other hand, it was recognized that large numbers of the aboriginal populations were addicted to the practice, and it was agreed that many difficulties would attend efforts to suppress the chewing habit and that a cautious and gradual approach was required in finding solutions. The need for profitable substitute crops to forestall the economic difficulties which might follow limitation of the production of coca leaves was also emphasized. The Commission considered that experiments under the technical assistance programme would still be valuable, although their emphasis would be shifted from a determination of the effects of chewing coca leaf to the development in pilot projects of social and administrative techniques for its gradual suppression. The Commission felt that the scope of the technical assistance which could be requested by Governments should be broadened to cover assistance in developing appropriate social measures in connexion with the problem.

668. In the Commission or later in the Council the representatives of the countries directly concerned gave accounts of the situation and the measures being taken or in contemplation in their countries to improve the situation.²⁷ Stress was laid on the need for co-ordinated measures to deal with the economic and the social effects of the practice, and for educational measures to enlist the active co-operation of the indigenous communities affected. The Commission felt that decisive progress was made.

669. The Council was in agreement with the Commission's conclusions. With drafting amendments, it adopted resolution 548 E (XVIII), the text of the resolution recommended by the Commission, taking note with satisfaction of the measures adopted by the Governments concerned, and, in particular, the statement made by the representative of Peru, and welcomed the statements by the observers from Argentina, Bolivia, and Colombia. It recommended that the Governments concerned should limit gradually (but as quickly as practicable) the cultivation and export of the coca leaf to medical, scientific and other legitimate purposes; that they continue their efforts to abolish progressively the habit of coca chewing in their countries; and to

²⁷ E/CN.7/SR.238; E/AC.7/SR.238.

this end also limit propensively importation of coca leaf; and that they should initiate, or continue their programmes of health education aimed at making known to the populations concerned the harmful effects of coca leaf chewing. The Council also recommended that the technical services of the United Nations and the specialized agencies should give due consideration to any requests they might receive from the Governments concerned for assistance in developing appropriate administrative, social, or other remedial measures for the gradual suppression of the habit and in carrying out appropriate experiments.

THE PROBLEM OF CANNABIS (INDIAN HEMP)

670. Cannabis drugs pose a difficult narcotics control problem, since they are, at least in their crude forms, easy to produce, and are also in great demand among addicts and thrill-seekers; the plant (*cannabis sativa*, L.) from which they are derived is widely cultivated in many countries for its fibre and seed, and it grows wild in many parts of the world. Although in the past the countries where the cannabis plant is grown for its fibre and seed have on the whole not been important sources of cannabis drugs, in recent years there has been a tendency for illicit production of cannabis to develop in those countries. Increased seizures of illicit cannabis have been reported from many widely-separated parts of the world, including some regions where its use is not traditional. It appears that while the situation is not alarming, it is sufficiently serious to warrant active consideration being given to steps to improve it.

671. For many years the medical profession has made less and less use of cannabis extract and tincture and the question has arisen whether the profession might not discontinue entirely the use of preparations containing cannabis.

672. The WHO Expert Committee on Drugs Liable to Produce Addiction has expressed the view that there is "no justification for the medical use of cannabis preparations", and that they are "practically obsolete."²⁸ The Commission, at its ninth session, agreed with this view. The Council adopted resolution 548 F I (XVIII) recommending that Governments of countries in which such preparations were still being used for medical purposes should explore the possibility of discontinuing their use as rapidly as possible.

673. The Commission considered the possibility of reducing the danger inherent in the cultivation of the cannabis plant for commercial purposes by making arrangements for its gradual replacement, in areas where illicit harvesting of the plant is widespread, by special varieties or other plants serving these legitimate purposes but not containing narcotic substances. Accordingly, the Council adopted, on the Commission's recommendation, resolution 548 F II (XVIII) inviting FAO, in consultation with the United Nations Secretariat, to study the possibility of making such arrangements and invited Governments to furnish the necessary information for such a study; in addition, it invited the Governments concerned to conduct experiments aimed at finding suitable alternative plants.

674. The Commission has pursued its plan for the collection of factual data on which further action may

be based. The proposed study by FAO covers one aspect of this situation; another will be covered by a study of the medical and physical effects of cannabis which WHO hopes to complete early in 1955. These special studies are being complemented by a series of country surveys covering the factual aspects of the cannabis problem, e.g., cultivation and wild growth of the cannabis plant, production of cannabis fibre, seed and drugs, the licit and illicit distribution and consumption of the drugs, and the national legislative and administrative provisions governing these processes.

THE PROHIBITION OF DIACETYLMORPHINE (HEROIN)

675. It has long been recognized that diacetylmorphine is one of the most dangerous addiction-producing drugs, and its prohibition has been repeatedly proposed during the past thirty years. The drug, however, is also a potent analgesic, and there has been an extended controversy on whether it was possible to dispense with its use in medicine. In addition to natural narcotics which can be used instead of diacetylmorphine, there are now several synthetic drugs which are being used in the treatment of conditions for which diacetylmorphine has been employed. In May 1953, the Sixth World Health Assembly, noting that a survey had shown that a large majority of States thought that the medical use of diacetylmorphine might be dispensed with, adopted a resolution recommending prohibition of manufacture and export of that substance (a proposal which would enable countries to use up existing stocks). It also decided to communicate the resolution to the United Nations for consideration and appropriate action at an early date.²⁹

676. When the question was considered by the Commission at its ninth session, one member expressed the view that diacetylmorphine could not yet be dispensed with. The Commission decided not to recommend the conclusion of an interim agreement providing for the prohibition of this drug, but to propose that suitable provisions should be embodied in the proposed single convention.³⁰ It was decided to postpone any decision on whether these provisions should be recommendatory or binding.

677. At the eighteenth session of the Council, there was general support for the position taken by the World Health Assembly and the Commission in favour of dispensing with diacetylmorphine. Several members, however, while not opposing the resolution, stated that they could not vote for immediate dispensability. The Council adopted resolution 548 G (XVIII), as recommended by the Commission, urging all Governments to prohibit the manufacture, import and export of diacetylmorphine, except for such small amounts as might be necessary for scientific purposes, and requested the Secretary-General to communicate this resolution to all Governments for such action as they might be in a position to take.

THE PROBLEM OF SYNTHETIC NARCOTIC DRUGS

678. The rate at which new narcotic drugs are being brought into general medical use poses a continuing problem of national and international narcotics control. The number of narcotic substances in use has more than doubled during the past fifteen years. Of these, by far

²⁸ World Health Organization: Technical Report Series No. 57, page 11.

²⁹ Official Records of the World Health Organization, No. 48, page 22.

³⁰ See para. 646-656.

the larger group are synthetic, i.e., they do not derive from raw materials (opium, poppy straw, coca leaf and cannabis) which used to be the sole sources of narcotics, but from raw materials such as coal tar which are widely used in industry. In face of this situation the Council in resolution 505 C (XVI) had approved a twofold programme aimed at gathering information and analysing the experience which would provide a sound basis for agreed action. As a first study, a preliminary paper entitled "Chemical Aspects of Synthetic Substances with Morphine-like Effects" (E/CN.7/268) was submitted to the Commission in April 1954. Of the twenty Governments whose comments had been requested by the Council, by May 1954 when the Commission met to discuss this question, sixteen had furnished replies.

679. The problems which chiefly occupied the Commission may be summarized as follows: (a) whether measures of prohibition should be applied to synthetic narcotic drugs, and, if so, to which categories; (b) whether it is desirable to apply stricter provisional control measures to newly-developed synthetic narcotics and to apply them at an earlier stage than at present, and if so, how the synthetic substances to which such measures would apply may be designated in advance, and (c) whether it is practicable to control to any degree the raw materials and intermediary products used in the manufacture of synthetic narcotics. Some members felt that only drugs that had particularly powerful addiction-producing qualities and no distinct therapeutic advantages over other less dangerous drugs could be dispensed with; others thought that all synthetic narcotics should be barred except those that combined substantial therapeutic advantages with weak addiction-producing effects. Many members expressed intermediate views. Economic considerations were also weighed; some members felt that they should generally be subordinated to therapeutic ones or to the dangers of addiction, while others deemed that cost factors would inevitably play a certain role in policy regarding the manufacture and use of synthetic narcotics. The Commission agreed, however, that whatever policy was adopted for the limitation of the number of synthetic narcotics, it should not be such as might impede research aimed at developing and testing new drugs, especially since the ultimate goal of such research was to discover strong analgesics which had little or no addiction-producing properties.

680. The Commission recommended to the Council, in a specific case, that it should urge Governments to prohibit the manufacture, import and export of ketobemidone, as a very strong addiction-producing drug which possessed no distinct therapeutic advantage over other, less dangerous, drugs.

681. As regards the possibility of applying stricter provisional control measures the newly-developed synthetic drugs and of applying them at an earlier stage, it was pointed out in the Commission that the Protocol of 19 November 1948, establishing a procedure for placing synthetic narcotics under international control, empowers the Commission to place such a drug under provisional control pending a decision on its status by WHO. Some members favoured the prohibition of all new synthetic drugs (except for research) until they were found to be non-addiction-producing by the Government concerned or, if addiction-producing, unless they constituted an important therapeutical advance; others felt that such measures could not be employed

in the absence of any generally-acceptable way of grouping the substances falling into this category.

682. The question of whether new drugs should be exported during the interim period was also discussed. The Commission arrived at the provisional conclusion that once a Government had concluded that a new synthetic drug was sufficiently dangerous to warrant a notification to the Secretary-General under the Protocol of 1948 and thus set in motion the international machinery for reaching a decision on its addiction-producing properties, that substance should be placed provisionally under the narcotics control régimes, and, in particular, the international trade in it should be subject to the system of import certificates and export authorizations of the International Opium Convention of 1925. It was understood that WHO would pursue its studies to define the groups of drugs likely to have addiction-producing properties.

683. The Commission was doubtful that the raw materials from which synthetic narcotics were made could be controlled, except perhaps for those in the possession of drug-manufacturers. However, it was suggested that it might be possible to exercise some measure of control over certain intermediary products such as diphenylacetonitrile which had little or no other importance in industry.

684. Some members considered that the need for more far-reaching international action on synthetic narcotics was urgent and proposed that a special control scheme for such drugs be formulated forthwith; most members of the Commission considered that further study was required before a satisfactory complete control scheme could be devised. The Commission adopted a resolution³¹ acknowledging the inadequacy of the present international provisions for the control of synthetic narcotics and reaffirming its determination to pursue as urgently as possible its quest for a more complete system of international control and to consider the question again in 1955 in the light of the studies being pursued by WHO. The Commission also decided that three different versions of a section on synthetic narcotics to be included in the new single convention³² should be prepared by the Secretariat in the light of the chief positions taken by delegations, one of them based on an additional proposal for provisions in the draft single convention submitted during the Commission.³³

685. The Council adopted the two resolutions recommended by the Commission. Resolution 548 H I (XVIII) recommended the following actions by governments: (a) accession to the 1948 Protocol by all non-parties; (b) strict control over the possession, manufacture, import and export of trade in and use of synthetic narcotics; (c) consideration of the possibility of carrying out a campaign among members of the medical profession with a view to alerting them to the danger of addiction inherent in the use of synthetic narcotics and to the necessity on their part of exercising great care in their prescription; (d) placing of a drug under provisional control as soon as it has been notified to the Secretary-General in accordance with the

³¹ E/2606, annex B, para. 27.

³² See para. 646-656.

³³ E/2606, annex E.

³⁴ As of 29 June 1954, the opening date of the eighteenth session of the Council, there were 43 parties to the 1948 Protocol.

procedure of the 1948 Protocol; and (e) consideration of the desirability of controlling or prohibiting certain intermediary products which occur in the manufacture of synthetic narcotics. Resolution 548 H II (XVIII) urged Governments to prohibit the manufacture, import and export of ketobemidone.

DRUG ADDICTION

686. The Commission, when considering the question of drug addiction, had before it a memorandum by the Secretary-General (E/CN.7/270). The view was expressed by many members that addiction must be approached from a subjective or "cause and treatment" point of view as well as from the historical "preventive or control" standpoint of the present treaties; and the Commission agreed that drug addiction should be considered at the international as well as the national level, and that it should retain a high priority on its work programme.

687. The Commission noted that the number of addicts as reported in the annual reports of Governments appeared to be increasing, and that information available about the extent of the illicit traffic indicated that the reported figures were frequently under-estimates. It also observed that large differences in the licit consumption of narcotic drugs in countries with comparable social conditions and social services, might, in some cases, indicate unrecorded addiction.

688. The Commission felt that in the formulation of suitable measures many factors, social and economic, must be taken into account, as well as the preventive measures under the existing treaties. It was felt that in addition to medical treatment the treatment of the addict should include psychotherapy and after-care. The advantages of compulsory institutional care were stressed.

689. The Commission also considered the questions of registration and reporting of drug addicts, of official prescription forms for narcotic drugs, and of the unfortunate results of spectacular news-reporting of cases concerning narcotics addiction. The Commission approved a list of topics as possible future subjects of study at national levels as well as by the Secretariat. It also adopted a revised form of annual report relating to drug addiction,³⁵ designed to give effect, so far as practicable, to the views which had been expressed, and to enable more satisfactory basic data on the subject to be made available.

690. At the eighteenth session of the Council, the desirability of a subjective and social as well as of a preventive approach was again emphasized. Several delegations, while expressing sympathy with the objects of the resolution recommended by the Commission, stated that they could not vote for it, on the grounds that drug addiction was not a serious problem in their own countries, or that some of the measures envisaged might prove unduly burdensome. Most members, however, accepted the view that the resolution, as recommended, took account in a satisfactory way of the different circumstances in various countries.

691. The Council adopted resolution 548 I (XVIII) in which it called the attention of the Governments concerned to the necessity of having as soon as possible systematic arrangements for the effective control and

registration of addicts by health authorities; invited them to give attention to the sources from which addicts derived their supplies, both licit and illicit, and in connexion with the former drew their attention to the desirability of using a system of official forms for narcotics prescriptions; it drew the attention of Governments, in connexion with surveys or inquiries being made or contemplated by them, to a scheme of topics adopted by the Commission (annexed to that resolution); stressed the importance of institutional provision for treatment and rehabilitation, on a planned and compulsory basis; requested the Secretary-General to continue his studies, within the framework of the scheme referred to, and expressed appreciation of the work carried out by WHO, and invited that organization to continue its close co-operation with the United Nations in the matter.

The abolition of opium-smoking

692. The Commission examined nine reports (E/CN.7/265) on the abolition of opium-smoking in India, Pakistan, Viet-Nam, Brunei, Hong Kong, the Federation of Malay States, North Borneo and Sarawak, covering the year 1952. It received very full oral information from the representative of India on the measures being taken in that country to reduce further the small and decreasing number of smokers, and to lower by 10 per cent each year the quantities of opium consumed for quasi-medical purposes, which are larger than those used for smoking.

ILLICIT TRAFFIC

693. The Commission undertook its annual review of the situation relating to the illicit traffic, and also considered its own procedure for handling this subject. Its review was based on the reports of seizures in the illicit traffic received from Governments, in which 1,763 seizures were reported in the period from 1 March 1953 to 28 February 1954; on the information in the annual reports of Governments; as well as on a document summarizing the trends and significant features in the illicit traffic prepared by the Secretariat (E/CN.7/272 and Corr.1), and on a report received from the International Criminal Police Commission (E/CN.7/273). The information available was considered, and certain aspects of the traffic examined in detail, by a committee on seizures of seven members, which met during the session. This Committee prepared a report for the Commission commenting on the situation by drugs and regions (E/CN.7/L.53), and the Commission organized its work on the basis of that report. It also heard an account of the work of the Permanent Anti-Narcotics Bureau of the League of Arab States, and decided to congratulate the League on the measures it had taken.

694. The Commission concluded that the extent of the illicit traffic remained highly disturbing. It felt that in view of the international character of the traffic closer international co-operation in a number of respects was called for. In addition to action taken in connexion with the general question of control and implementation of the treaties, and certain special measures such as the work on the determination of the origin of opium it took a number of specific actions.

695. With regard to statements transmitted by governments under article 23 of the Convention of 1931 regarding the origin of drugs seized in the illicit traffic,

³⁵ E/2606, annex C, chapter X.

it urged that Governments state clearly in their reports whether the origin is considered proven or merely suspected, and include a brief statement of the grounds therefor; it invited Governments to communicate to the Government of the country in which it is thought the seized drugs originated, information about such seizures. It also drew the attention of Governments to the danger of diversion for illicit purposes of acetic anhydride. The Commission recommended to the Council to adopt a resolution inviting Governments to co-ordinate further their efforts to combat the illicit traffic, and, drawing their attention to the work of the International Criminal Police Commission, requested them to furnish that organization with information of international value relating to illicit traffickers.

696. As regard its own procedure, as a result of the work of the Committee on Seizures, it approved a scheme for an analysis of the available information received from Governments to be prepared by the Secretariat. A proposal was made that a committee on seizures should be established on a standing basis to meet before the sessions of the Commission to examine the relevant material and prepare a report for the Commission. The Commission however decided to postpone the question of long-term arrangements in this respect until its session in 1955.

PROGRAMME AND PRIORITIES

697. In pursuance of Council resolution 497 (XVI) the Commission considered the programme of work and priorities in the field of narcotic drugs. It was of the opinion that the programme fell, within the system of priorities established by the Council, as should be considered in two parts:—first, the functions deriving directly from the existing treaties, which are continuing functions and must *ex hypothesi* remain functions of first priority; and, secondly, the studies, research, etc. undertaken at the direction of the Commission, in order to enable the international narcotics control system to deal with changes and developments in the situation, both in regard to the licit production and use of drugs and in regard to the illicit traffic. Some in this second group are continuous while some are an *ad hoc* character; they are closely related as regards subject matter to the responsibilities of the Commission under the existing treaties.

698. The Council requested the Commission to give priority at its 1955 session to the single convention; the Commission had already recommended a first priority for this project, and the Council made no changes in the list submitted.³⁶

Section V. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees*

699. The Council at its eighteenth session³⁷ considered the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, submitted to it for transmission to the ninth session of the General Assembly (E/2605).³⁸ This report relates to the activities of the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees from June 1953 to May 1954.

* Separate item on the provisional agenda of the General Assembly at its ninth session.

³⁶ See E/2606, para. 22.

³⁷ E/AC.7/SR.283, 284 and 285; E/SR.814.

³⁸ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eighteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 14.*

700. In the first part of his report, the High Commissioner reviewed the status of the international instruments of benefit to refugees, in particular the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees.³⁹ The High Commissioner is endeavouring to promote ratification of this Convention by the maximum number of States.

701. The report gives details of problems in the solution of which the High Commissioner has co-operated with inter-governmental and governmental organizations, and describes the very important role which the private organizations working on behalf of refugees have played not only in alleviating the situation of the most destitute refugees, but in the implementation of projects aiming at permanent solutions of the refugee problem.

702. A chapter of the report deals with the legal aspects of international protection in different countries, and describes the present situation in the various countries of residence of refugees with regard to their admission, residence and expulsion, legal rights, legal assistance, travel documents and indemnification.

703. The High Commissioner describes the various groups of refugees who are in special need, including the refugees numbering approximately 88,000 who are still living in camps in Austria, the Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, Italy and Trieste, and the measures which have been taken to reduce the numbers in the camps and to give some material relief; he also reviews the situation of the "difficult cases", of which there are more than 13,000 in China, Austria, Germany and various areas in Southern Europe and the Near East who, because of old age, sickness or other disabilities, are not able to fend for themselves; a section is devoted to the refugees of European origin in China; it is estimated that there are some 14,000 of these refugees, many of whom are destitute, and the High Commissioner spends approximately \$34,000 monthly from the United Nations Refugee Emergency Fund towards their maintenance pending their settlement overseas.

704. The report gives the present position of the United Nations Refugee Emergency Fund, including a statement of contributions and expenditures a description of the use that has been made of the funds expended, totalling some \$800,000, and of the needs for 1954, estimated at over \$1 million, for the most urgent relief to those refugees whose basic needs are not supplied from any other source. The report quotes the opinion of the fourth session of the High Commissioner's Advisory Committee on Refugees, that the question of raising further funds for the UNREF should again be brought to the attention of Governments, and that the High Commissioner should consider the possibility of seeking, with the approval of the General Assembly, funds for the UNREF through the good offices of the United Nations Negotiating Committee on Extra-Budgetary Funds.

705. The final chapter relates to the promotion of permanent solutions for the problems of refugees. The High Commissioner reports that only an extremely limited number of refugees have expressed the desire

³⁹ As of 20 July the following States had ratified the Convention: Australia, Belgium, Denmark, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Luxembourg, Monaco, Norway, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

to be repatriated; it states that his Office has done its best to encourage and stimulate resettlement, and has co-operated to this end with the countries of immigration, the Inter-Governmental Committee for European Migration and the voluntary agencies; the opportunities for overseas resettlement have, however, remained limited, and it is considered by the High Commissioner that a much greater effort must be made to promote the integration of refugees into the economies of their present countries of residence. The last section of the report outlines a programme for the promotion of permanent solutions for the problems of refugees, based on the stimulus which can be provided by international funds. On the basis of the experience gained with the Ford Foundation grant, the High Commissioner has elaborated a plan necessitating the expenditure of approximately \$12 million until the end of 1958, to stimulate the integration of refugees into agriculture, their establishment in trades, small businesses and professions, the construction of housing, vocational training and retraining of refugees to facilitate their integration or resettlement, aid to university students, the creation of community centres, the promotion of resettlement opportunities overseas and the establishment of resettlement counselling services for refugees.

706. During the debate in the Council several members congratulated the High Commissioner on the achievements of his Office, and agreed that some special measures were required to give emergency relief to refugees in particularly difficult circumstances, and to promote permanent solutions for the problems of refugees. Some members, however, did not favour the High Commissioner's programme involving the giving of international aid for the achievement of permanent solutions, and they pointed out that they could not commit their Governments to contribute funds for this purpose.

707. The Council adopted resolution 549 (XVIII) noting that some complementary aid had been shown to be necessary to accelerate the implementation of a programme for permanent solutions, and that the contributions received by the High Commissioner in re-

sponse to his various appeals had not permitted him to meet the emergency requirements of the most needy refugees; it expressed the opinion that the programme submitted by the High Commissioner for granting emergency aid, as well as for the implementation of permanent solutions for the refugee problem, contained constructive elements for an effective attempt at coping with the problem; it invited the High Commissioner to make available to the General Assembly at its ninth regular session such additional information as might facilitate the Assembly's task in the consideration of his proposals; and recommended that, in the event of the Assembly approving these proposals, (a) the General Assembly should ask the Negotiating Committee for Extra-Budgetary Funds to institute negotiations with Governments of States Members and non-members of the United Nations concerning contributions for the High Commissioner's programme; and that (b) the question of the desirability and the composition and terms of reference of an executive committee to give directives to the High Commissioner on the implementation of his programme should be examined by the Council on the basis of proposals submitted by the High Commissioner after consultation with his Advisory Committee.

708. Certain of the delegations explained that, although they approved the programme of the High Commissioner, they either did not wish to commit their Governments to give financial support for the High Commissioner's programme for permanent solutions, or that they did not consider that the High Commissioner's mandate should be widened to include other categories of refugees. Other delegations considered that the countries of present residence of the refugees should accept entire responsibility for those within their territory.

709. It was agreed (E/2634/Corr.1) that the recommendation to the Assembly should be understood in the sense that, irrespective of the Assembly's decision regarding the High Commissioner's programme for permanent solutions, the Assembly should ask the Negotiating Committee on Extra-Budgetary Funds to institute negotiations with Governments for contributions to the United Nations Refugee Emergency Fund.

Annex I

RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS OF THE COUNCIL

Resumed sixteenth session

Resolution

- 511 (XVI) Programme of concerted action in the social field of the United Nations and the specialized agencies.

Seventeenth session

Resolution

- 527 (XVII) Recognition and enforcement abroad of maintenance obligations

Decision

Reference of the question of studies on internal migration to the Population Commission.

Eighteenth session

Resolutions

- 543 (XVIII) United Nations Children's Fund
548 (XVIII) Narcotic drugs
549 (XVIII) Annual Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Annex II

SUMMARY RECORDS OF THE COUNCIL AND ITS COMMITTEES

The summary records of the meetings of the Council and its Committees relevant to the various sections of this chapter are indicated below:

Section I. Concerted action in the social field

Plenary meeting 754

Section II. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

Plenary meetings 794 and 795

Section III. Social welfare and population

Plenary meetings 758, 784

Social Committee meetings 257-260

Section IV. International narcotics control

Plenary meeting 805

Social Committee meetings 281-282

Section V. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Plenary meeting 814

Social Committee meetings 283-285

Annex III

STATEMENTS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

ORAL STATEMENTS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO THE COUNCIL OR ITS COMMITTEES UNDER RULE 86 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

Seventeenth session

International Confederation of Free Trade Unions
Recognition and enforcement abroad of maintenance obligations. Social Committee meeting 257.

Eighteenth session

International Confederation of Free Trade Unions
Annual Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Social Committee meeting 285.

ORAL STATEMENTS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO THE COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS UNDER RULES 84 AND 85 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

Seventeenth session

International Federation of Friends of Young Women
Recognition and enforcement abroad of maintenance obligations. NGO Committee meeting 138.

International Social Service
Recognition and enforcement abroad of maintenance obligations. NGO Committee meeting 138.

Eighteenth session

Co-ordinating Board of Jewish Organizations
Annual Report of the High Commissioner for Refugees. NGO Committee meeting 143.

Commission of the Churches on International Affairs
Annual Report of the High Commissioner for Refugees. NGO Committee meeting 145.

International Council of Women
Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs. NGO Committee meeting 144.

International Conference of Catholic Charities
Annual Report of the High Commissioner for Refugees. NGO Committee meeting 144.

International Abolitionist Federation
Convention for the Suppression of Traffic in Persons and the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others. NGO Committee meeting 143.

WRITTEN STATEMENTS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO THE COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS

International Criminal Police Commission
E/CN.7/273 Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs in 1953.

WRITTEN STATEMENTS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND

Non-Governmental Organizations Committee on UNICEF
E/ICEF/NGO/7 Activities of the NGO Committee on UNICEF.

International Society for the Welfare of Cripples
E/ICEF/NGO/8 UNICEF Participation in Programmes for Handicapped Children.

World Federation of United Nations Associations
E/ICEF/NGO/9 Seminar on UNICEF.

Non-Governmental Organizations Committee on UNICEF
E/ICEF/NGO/10 Progress Report.

HUMAN RIGHTS

A

710. The Council, at its eighteenth session,¹ had before it the report of the Commission on Human Rights on its tenth session (E/2573),² and in resolution 545 A (XVIII) took note of the report. The work of the Commission during this session and the action taken by the Council on its recommendations, are described in sections I to V below.

711. The Commission had been obliged once again to defer consideration of most of the items on its agenda to its next session (E/2573, chapter II). The Council noted³ with warm appreciation that at its tenth session, the Commission on Human Rights had completed the lengthy and difficult task of preparing, in so far as possible, the draft covenants on human rights which were contained in its memorable report of the session. The Council felt that this fact warranted special mention in its report as marking the completion of one stage in this work of such great international importance.

Section I. Draft international covenants on human rights*

712. In resolution 501 (XVI) the Council had requested the Commission on Human Rights to complete the drafting of the covenants during its tenth session in 1954, and had transmitted the report of the ninth session of the Commission (E/2447)⁴ to the eighth session of the General Assembly. It had also requested the Secretary-General to communicate the report of the Commission to Member States, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations for their observations. The General Assembly by resolution 737 A and B (VIII) forwarded to the Commission, certain documents containing proposals relating to a federal clause and to the right of petition as well as the records of the Assembly's discussion thereon. The Council by resolution 510 (XVI) transmitted this resolution to the Commission.

713. The Commission proceeded at its tenth session to consider (E/2573, chapter III) the draft covenants on the basis of its report on its ninth session and in the light of the previous instructions contained in various resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Council. It had before it observations received from certain Governments (E/CN.4/694 and Add.1-7) specialized agencies (E/CN.4/692 and Add. 1-2) and non-governmental organizations (E/CN.4/702 and Add. 1-6) under Council resolution 501 (XVI), as well as

memoranda on various matters connected with the draft covenants submitted by the Secretary-General (E/CN.4/590 and Add. 1-5, E/CN.4/673-678 and E/CN.4/678/Corr.1, E/CN.4/L.312 and 315). The following provisions were drafted at the tenth session of the Commission: articles relating to a system of periodic reports for the implementation of the draft covenant on economic, social and cultural rights, based on the provisions prepared at the seventh session; an article concerning reporting for inclusion in the draft covenant on civil and political rights; an article for inclusion in both draft covenants concerning the respective responsibilities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies; a new article relating to federal states, and articles concerning the signature, ratification, coming into force and the procedure for amending the covenants, based on texts prepared at the sixth session, for inclusion in both draft Covenants. The text of the territorial application clause, decided on by the General Assembly in its resolution 422 (V), was incorporated in both draft covenants.

714. The Commission decided to request the Council (E/2573, annex IV, draft resolution A) to forward to the General Assembly certain documents relating to the admissibility or non-admissibility of reservations to the covenants and the effect to be attributed to them. The question of the inclusion of an article on the right of property in the draft covenant on economic, social and cultural rights was discussed, but, after certain texts had been rejected, consideration of the question was adjourned *sine die*. Proposals concerning the application of the Human Rights Committee procedure of the draft covenant on civil and political rights to the draft covenant on economic, social and cultural rights, and provisions concerning the right of petition of individuals, groups and non-governmental organizations for inclusion in either covenant were discussed but subsequently withdrawn. The Commission also forwarded to the Council certain observations regarding the procedure to be followed for the adoption of the covenants submitted by four of its members, (E/2573, para. 39).

715. Annex I of the report of the tenth session of the Commission contained the texts of the draft covenant on economic, social and cultural rights and the draft covenant on civil and political rights. Annex II contained the pertinent documents, apart from the summary records, relating to the question of reservations. Annex III contained the revised proposal of the representative of Uruguay concerning the establishment of an office of the United Nations high commissioner (attorney-general) for human rights.

716. The Council, at its eighteenth session, discussed only the question of procedure. It had before it certain observations of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office (E/2621). By resolution 545 B I (XVIII) the Council transmitted to the General Assembly the draft international covenants on human rights prepared by the Commission, together

* Separate item on the provisional agenda of the General Assembly at its ninth session.

¹ E/AC.7/SR.286 to 292; E/SR.819 and 820.

² *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eighteenth Session, Supplement No. 7.*

³ E/2638, para. 5; E/SR.820.

⁴ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixteenth Session, Supplement No. 8.*

with the Commission's report (E/2573) and the records of the proceedings of the Council on the subject. It drew the attention of the General Assembly to the suggestions about the procedure for the final consideration of the draft covenants contained in paragraph 39 of the Commission's report. It requested the Secretary-General to bring the covenants and the parts of the report of the Commission concerning them to the special attention of the Governments of Member and non-Member States, and to collect any comments they might submit. In resolution 545 B II (XVIII) the Council adopted the recommendation submitted by the Commission thereby transmitting to the General Assembly certain documents (E/2573, annex II and E/CN.4/SR.441-449) concerning the inclusion in the draft covenant of provisions regarding reservations. By resolution 547 G (XVIII) the Council also forwarded to the General Assembly the recommendation submitted to it on Article 22 of the draft covenant on civil and political rights by the Commission on the Status of Women for consideration at the same time as the draft covenant on civil and political rights.⁵

Section II. Recommendations concerning international respect for the right of peoples and nations to self-determination

717. The General Assembly in resolution 738 (VIII) recalled its resolutions 637 C (VII) and 648 (VII) and, considering that the Commission at its ninth session had been unable, due to lack of time, to prepare recommendations concerning international respect for the right of peoples to self-determination, requested the Commission to give due priority at its tenth session to the preparation of such recommendations; and requested the Secretary-General to transmit to the Commission the summary records of the discussion on this matter in the Assembly. The Council at its resumed sixteenth session, by resolution 510 (XVI) transmitted the Assembly resolution to the Commission.⁶

718. At its tenth session, the Commission adopted two draft resolutions (E/2573, chapter IV). The first contained a proposal for the establishment by the General Assembly of a commission to conduct a full survey of the status of the right of peoples and nations to self-determination including "permanent sovereignty over their natural wealth and resources", and to make recommendations, where necessary, for the strengthening of that right. The regional economic commissions and the specialized agencies would be invited to co-operate with the Commission in its task. The General Assembly would further request the Commission to report to the twentieth session of the Council, and it would request the Secretary-General to provide the Commission with necessary staff and facilities.

719. The second draft resolution proposed the establishment by the General Assembly of a commission consisting of representatives of a number of Governments: which would (1) examine any situation resulting from alleged denial or inadequate realization of the right of self-determination falling within the scope of Article 14 of the Charter and to which the Commission's attention would be drawn by any ten Members

of the United Nations; (2) provide its good offices for the peaceful rectification of any situation it would be required to examine; and (3) if within six months no adjustment of the situation could be effected to the satisfaction of the parties concerned, report the facts with appropriate recommendations to the General Assembly. The Secretary-General would be requested to provide the commission with the necessary staff and facilities.

720. The Commission recommended to the Council (E/2573, annex IV, draft resolution F) that it transmit these two draft resolutions to the General Assembly for consideration and adoption. The Commission also decided that the item should be retained on the agenda of its next session.

721. The Council, at its eighteenth session,⁷ considered the recommendations of the Commission. During the discussion references were made to General Assembly resolutions 637 C (VII) and 738 (VIII) and to Council resolution 472 (XV), as well as to the position of the General Assembly, the Council and the Commission under these resolutions. The recommendation of the Commission that its two draft resolutions and proposals thereon be transmitted to the General Assembly were rejected by the Council. The Council felt it more advisable to return the recommendations to the Commission on Human Rights for further consideration before transmitting this matter to the General Assembly. The Council therefore adopted resolution 545 G (XVIII) which, after considering that the Commission on Human Rights, in submitting the two draft resolutions to the Council for transmission to the General Assembly, had pointed out that these recommendations were not exhaustive, and that it had therefore decided to retain the item on the agenda of its next session, and bearing in mind that during the Council's discussions on this problem various delegations had expressed opinions on the substance of the two draft resolutions, decided to transmit the draft resolutions to the Commission on Human Rights, together with the records of the meetings of the Council and the Social Committee on this question, so that it might reconsider them in the light of the Council's discussions.

Section III. Development of the work of the United Nations for wider observance of, and respect for, human rights and fundamental freedoms throughout the world

722. The Council, in its resolution 501 C (XVI) had decided to transmit to Member States and specialized agencies for their comments, if possible by 1 October 1953; the three draft resolutions relating respectively to annual reports on human rights, studies on specific aspects of human rights, and advisory services in the field of human rights, which had been submitted to the ninth session of the Commission on Human Rights, together with amendments thereto and the records of the discussion in the Commission.

723. At its eighth session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 739 (VIII), by which it requested the Council to ask the Commission (a) to consider at its tenth session the three draft resolutions and to prepare, if possible, to supplement the provisions of the covenants on human rights, recommendations there-

⁵ See section XI, paragraph 813.

⁶ E/SR.754.

⁷ E/AC.7./SR.289 to 292; E/SR.820.

on, in order that these recommendations might be considered by the Council at its eighteenth session; and (b) to take account of the comments made by the Member States and specialized agencies as well as of the views expressed on the subject at the eighth session of the General Assembly. The General Assembly resolution was transmitted to the Commission by resolution 510 (XVI) of the Council⁸.

724. Comments under resolution 501 C (XVI) of the Council were received from a number of Governments (E/CN.4/690 and Add.1-12) and specialized agencies (E/CN.4/691 and Add.1). At the tenth session of the Commission the three draft resolutions were submitted in revised form (E/CN.4/L.266/Rev.3, E/CN.4/L.267/Rev.2 and E/CN.4/L.268/Rev.1). The proposal relating to annual reports on human rights had been changed to one for biennial reports. The Commission discussed these proposals briefly, and placed the matter on the agenda of the next session of the Commission (E/2573, chapter V).

Section IV. Communications concerning human rights

725. In accordance with Council resolution 275 B (X) which amended resolutions 75 (V) and 192 A (VIII), the Secretary-General prepared lists of communications and documents containing observations from Governments of Member States for the tenth session of the Commission on Human Rights⁹ as follows: a non-confidential list containing summaries of 387 communications received during the period 1 April 1953 to 12 February 1954, dealing with the principles involved in the promotion of universal respect for, and observance of, human rights; a confidential list, containing summaries of, or references to, 9,524 other communications concerning human rights, received during the period 13 March 1953 to 31 December 1953; and documents containing observations of Governments concerning copies of communications sent to them by the Secretary-General.

726. Similar lists and documents were submitted by the Secretary-General to the sixth session of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities in 1954 under Council resolution 116 A (VI).¹⁰

727. The Secretary-General, under Council resolution 76 (V) as amended by resolution 304 (XI), also compiled a non-confidential list and a confidential list of communications relating to the status of women which were before the Commission on the Status of Women at its eighth session¹¹.

Section V. Prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities

MEMBERSHIP AND FUTURE SESSIONS OF THE SUB-COMMISSION ON PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION AND PROTECTION OF MINORITIES

728. The Commission on Human Rights at its tenth session¹² elected, subject to the consent of their

Governments, Mr. Philip Halpern (United States of America) and Mr. Arcot Krishnaswami (India) to fill the two vacancies on the Sub-Commission arising as a consequence of the inability of the Government of India to approve the selection of Mr. M. R. Masani and the resignation of Mrs. Oswald B. Lord (United States of America).

729. The Commission also requested the Council (E/2573, annex IV, draft resolution E) to authorize the Sub-Commission to hold yearly sessions of up to six weeks' duration. The Council by resolution 545 F (XVIII) authorized¹³ the Sub-Commission to hold in 1955 a session of four weeks' duration.

REPORT OF THE SIXTH SESSION OF THE SUB-COMMISSION

730. The report of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities at its sixth session (E/CN.4/703 and Corr.1) was also considered by the Commission on Human Rights (E/2573, chapter VI). The Commission took note of the report¹⁴ and made recommendations for the consideration of the Council as indicated in the following paragraphs.

Study of discrimination in education

731. The Special Rapporteur appointed to study discrimination in education, in accordance with Council resolution 502 H (XVI), presented an interim report to the Sub-Commission. As his term of office had expired, the Sub-Commission elected a new special rapporteur and directed him to submit a draft report or a progress report at its seventh session. This report would be based on materials gathered from Governments, specialized agencies, and non-governmental organizations, as well as on materials furnished by the Secretary-General. It would deal with the problem of discrimination on a global basis and with respect to all the grounds referred to in article 2 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, would cover *de facto* as well as *de jure* situations, and would point out general trends and developments of relevant legislation and practices. The Sub-Commission indicated that recommendations for action would be made after it had adopted the Special Rapporteur's report. It expressed the hope that Governments, the Secretary-General, and the specialized agencies would give assistance to the Special Rapporteur, and recommended to the Commission on Human Rights that it authorize the Secretary-General to forward to the Governments concerned the Special Rapporteur's requests for information or for comments.

732. The Commission approved the Sub-Commission's resolution on the study of discrimination in education, with certain modifications (E/2573, para. 418). It added a reference to "writings of recognized scholars and scientists" to the sources of material enumerated by the Sub-Commission; it indicated that the Sub-Commission's recommendations for action were to be made "to the Commission on Human Rights"; and it stated that recommendations for action should be made following the consideration of the Special Rapporteur's report by the Sub-Commission, rather than following "adoption" of the report. The Commission requested the Secretary-General to forward to

⁸ E/SR.754.

⁹ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eighteenth Session, Supplement No. 7 (E/2573, chapter VIII).

¹⁰ See E/CN.4/703, chapter IV.

¹¹ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eighteenth Session, Supplement No. 6, (E/2571, chapter XIV).

¹² E/2573, para. 363-364.

¹³ E/AC.7/SR.287-288; E/SR.820.

¹⁴ E/2573, paragraph 507.

the Governments concerned all requests for information or for comments which may be made by the Special Rapporteur.

Study of discrimination in employment and occupation

733. At the sixth session of the Sub-Commission the representative of the ILO stated that the ILO was willing to undertake the study of discrimination in employment and occupation in accordance with the terms of Council resolution 502 H (XVI). The Sub-Commission expressed its appreciation, invited the ILO's attention to the general principles which it had adopted to guide the Special Rapporteur in the preparation of the study and expressed the hope that the study would be submitted to the Secretary-General in time for consideration by the Sub-Commission at its seventh session. It invited the Secretary-General, other specialized agencies, and non-governmental organizations, to place at the disposal of the ILO and the Sub-Commission all materials available to them relating to discrimination in employment and occupation.

734. There was a discussion in the Commission (E/2573, paragraphs 460-485) on the scope of the study and the role to be played by the ILO in its preparation. The Commission recognized that the study fell within the scope of the ILO and recalled that in resolution 502 H (XVI) the Council had expressed its belief that future studies falling within the scope of specialized agencies or other bodies, should normally be carried out by the specialized agencies or other bodies directly concerned. The Commission made recommendations (E/2573, annex IV, draft resolution C) which the Council discussed and adopted with slight modifications as to the nature and timing of reports on this matter. The Council in resolution 545 C (XVIII) invited the ILO to undertake a study of discrimination in the field of employment and occupation to be carried out on a global basis in accordance with article 2, paragraph 2 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and that it provide the Sub-Commission, through the Secretary-General, with an interim report in time for its seventh session, and to transmit to it, in the same manner, the results of the study when completed. The Council also invited the Secretary-General, other specialized agencies, and non-governmental organizations to place at the disposal of the ILO material available to them relating to discrimination in employment and occupation.

Future work programme of the Sub-Commission

735. At its sixth session, the Sub-Commission decided to include the following item in the agenda of its seventh session: "Procedure to be followed in carrying out studies of discrimination in the matter of (a) political rights mentioned in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; (b) religious rights and practices; and (c) emigration, immigration and travel". In the light of paragraphs 4 and 6 (b) of Council resolution 502 H (XVI), the Sub-Commission expressed the view that the contemplated studies should be undertaken directly by the Sub-Commission itself in collaboration with the Secretary-General. It appointed three of its members to prepare, in consultation with the Secretary-General, and to submit to the Sub-Commission proposals concerning the procedure to be followed in those studies. The members thus appointed were requested to include in their proposals preliminary

suggestions concerning existing sources of information, and concerning United Nations organs, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations which might collaborate in such studies. The Sub-Commission resolved to consider, at its seventh session, in the light of this preliminary work and of other relevant circumstances, what further study of discrimination should be undertaken in 1955.

736. In the Commission on Human Rights it was suggested that the subjects for study be modified to read: "(a) political rights as provided in article 21 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; (b) religious rights and practices as provided in article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; and (c) emigration and the right to return to one's country as provided in article 13 paragraph 2 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights". A suggestion was also made that the study of discrimination in religious rights and practices be undertaken as promptly as possible. The Commission considered but did not adopt any of these proposals, and drew the attention of the Sub-Commission to the observations made in the Commission on the plan of studies (E/2573, paras. 486-495).

737. During the discussion in the Council¹⁵ it was proposed that the Sub-Commission should take as the objective of its study of discrimination in relation to emigration, immigration, and travel, the principles set forth in article 13 paragraph 2 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, namely the right of everyone "to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country". It was pointed out that this paragraph of the Declaration embodied an idea that had been endorsed by the General Assembly as a basic human right to be accorded to everyone without distinction, whereas the right to immigrate could not possibly be claimed as a fundamental human right since admission to a country was normally subject to selective control in the course of which States, in the exercise of their sovereignty, had to use a certain discretion. Other members, however, expressed the view that if adopted, the proposal would narrow the scope and reduce the importance of the study which the Sub-Commission had contemplated, besides giving it directives differing from those already adopted by the Commission. The Council adopted resolution 545 D (XVIII), in which the Council, recalling that article 13 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights recognized that (1) everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each state; and (2) everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country, requested the Sub-Commission to take as the objective of its study in this field paragraph 2 of article 13 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, namely the right of everyone to "leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country".

Measures to be taken for the cessation of any advocacy of national, racial, or religious hostility that constitutes an incitement to violence

738. Discussion of the question of measures to be taken for the cessation of any advocacy of national, racial or religious hostility that constitutes an incitement to violence was suspended when the Sub-Commission, at its sixth session, noted that the Commission on Human Rights had adopted article 26 of the draft

¹⁵ E/AC.7/SR.287 and 289; E/SR.820.

covenant on civil and political rights, dealing with the question. The Sub-Commission invited the Secretariat to study the relevant legislative and judicial practices of various countries in order to enable it, at its seventh session, to consider the formulation of practical recommendations.

Study of the present position as regards minorities throughout the world, and future work on the protection of Minorities

739. At its sixth session, the Sub-Commission, in accordance with Council resolution 502 B II (XVI) and paragraph 245 of the Report of the Commission on Human Rights at its ninth session (E/2447),¹⁸ considered an item entitled "Recommendations to Governments concerning the application of special measures for the protection of minorities: study of the whole question, including the definition of the term 'minority' for the purpose of such recommendations".

740. The Sub-Commission decided to initiate a study of the present position of minorities throughout the world which would be selective in character and would aim at presenting a concise account of the position of every minority in need of special measures of protection. It requested the Commission on Human Rights to recommend to the Council the appointment of an expert to carry out the selective study. Pending the appointment of the expert, it requested the Secretary-General to assemble, in collaboration with the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations, relevant materials for the study, including historical and geographical material.

741. In the Commission (E/2573, paragraphs 421-438) objections were raised both to the type of study and to the view that it should be entrusted to an expert. The Commission, therefore, requested the Sub-Commission to give further study to the whole question, including the definition of the term "minority", and to report thereon, together with any recommendations which it may be in a position to make concerning the application of special measures for the protection of minorities, to the eleventh session of the Commission on Human Rights.

742. The Commission also approved (E/2573, paragraph 458) the Sub-Commission's decision to include in its programme of future work consideration of the matters dealt with in Council resolution 502 B II (XVI) and in the draft resolution entitled "Interim measures to be taken for the protection of minorities", which the Commission had referred back to the Sub-Commission for further study (E/2573, paragraph 458).

743. The Council, at its seventeenth session, decided¹⁷ not to include in the agenda of its eighteenth session the item, "Recommendations to Governments concerning the application of special measures for the protection of minorities", arising out of its resolution 502 B II (XVI).

Collaboration between the Sub-Commission and the specialized agencies

744. The Council at its eighteenth session, adopted resolution 545 E (XVIII), in which it endorsed the recommendation of the Commission on this subject and

invited UNESCO and other specialized agencies to give attention to the Sub-Commission's programme of work when selecting fields and subjects for research, with a view to facilitating and supplementing the studies to be undertaken by the Sub-Commission; and authorized the Secretary-General, to this end, in relation to studies approved by the Council, to provide direct means of contact between the Sub-Commission and whatever specialized agency or agencies had been invited by the Council to co-operate with respect to an approved study.

Measures to expedite the work of the sub-commission

745. The Sub-Commission requested the Commission on Human Rights to study means whereby execution of the Sub-Commission's resolutions relating to its normal work programme could be expedited as, for example, by setting aside adequate time to review the Sub-Commission's work, or by considering whether, in certain cases, the Sub-Commission might appropriately report directly to the Council. It requested the Commission, and through it, the Council, to ask the General Assembly to reconsider its resolution 677 (VII), "so far as concerns the payment of rapporteurs or independent experts who would prepare the special studies for the Sub-Commission and whose appointment the Sub-Commission considered absolutely essential".

746. The Commission did not take a formal decision on the request that the Commission should set aside adequate time to review the Sub-Commission's work, nor on the question of authorizing the Sub-Commission to report directly to the Council in certain circumstances. It endorsed the Sub-Commission's recommendation concerning the reconsideration of General Assembly resolution 677 (VII).

747. In the Council¹⁸ at the eighteenth session the proposal that the General Assembly be asked to reconsider resolution 677 (VII) was rejected.

ADVISABILITY OF CONVENING A CONFERENCE OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS INTERESTED IN THE ERADICATION OF PREJUDICE AND DISCRIMINATION

748. By resolution 502 C (XVI) the Council had requested the Secretary-General, in collaboration with competent specialized agencies, to consult the non-governmental organizations in consultative relationship with the Council or the specialized agency concerned, in order to determine if it would be advisable to convene the interested non-governmental organizations for a conference in order that they might (a) exchange views concerning the most effective means of combating discrimination; (b) co-ordinate their endeavours if they found it desirable and favourable; and (c) consider the possibility of establishing common objectives and programmes. It further requested the Secretary-General, after consultation with the non-governmental organizations and the specialized agencies concerned, to report to the Council on the advisability of convening such a conference, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 479 (V).

749. The Secretary-General reported on his consultations at the eighteenth session of the Council (E/2608 and Add.1 to 2)¹⁹. The Council, by resolution

¹⁸ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixteenth Session, Supplement No. 8.

¹⁷ E/SR.791.

¹⁸ E/AC.7/SR.287-288.

¹⁹ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eighteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 11.

546 (XVIII),²⁰ decided to authorize the Secretary-General to convene a conference in which interested non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council might exchange views on the most effective means of combating discrimination; co-ordinate their endeavours in this work if they found it desirable and feasible; and consider the possibility of establishing common objectives and programmes. It decided that each non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Council should be invited to send an authorized representative to the conference. It requested the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights: (a) to prepare the provisional agenda of the conference, bearing in mind the objectives set forth in the resolution and the related comments of the non-governmental organizations given in the Secretary-General's report; (b) to decide upon the appropriate duration of the conference which, in any case, should not exceed three days; (c) to fix the date and place of the conference during the period set aside for the eleventh session of the Commission on Human Rights in 1955, in order that it might use any facilities provided for but not fully required by the Commission; and (d) to make other necessary arrangements in connexion with the conference. The Secretary-General was also requested to invite interested specialized agencies to make available to the conference relevant studies and to make such observations as they deemed appropriate to the conference; and the Commission on Human Rights was requested to direct the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to include in its subsequent report to the Commission its observations on the proceedings of the conference.

Section VI. Freedom of information*

REPORT OF THE RAPPORTEUR ON FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

750. The General Assembly in resolution 736 A (VIII) requested the Council to give priority, at its seventeenth session, to discussion of freedom of information, including the report of the Council's Rapporteur on Freedom of Information, and to the formulation, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 631 (VII), of recommendations for the consideration of the General Assembly at its ninth session. It also requested the Council, in its discussions on freedom of information, to take into account the views expressed on this subject at the seventh and eighth sessions of the General Assembly.

751. The Council at its seventeenth session²¹ had before it the Report on Freedom of Information (E/2426)²² prepared by Mr. Salvador P. López, whom the Council, by resolution 442 C (XIV), had appointed Rapporteur in his personal capacity, requesting him to prepare a substantive report with recommendations for practical action concerning major contemporary problems and developments in this field. Consideration of the report had been postponed from the Council's sixteenth session. Mr. López presented to the Council a

supplementary report (E/2426/Add.1)²³ and notes concerning communications from the Permanent Representatives of Ecuador and Turkey (E/2426/Add.2 and 3).²⁴ The Council also had before it comments and suggestions of Governments transmitted to the Rapporteur for his information and assistance (E/2427 and Addenda 1-2),²⁴ and a summary of comments and suggestions (E/2439 and Add 1) received by him from information enterprises and professional associations.

752. Members of the Council were divided in their opinion on the Rapporteur's report.²⁵ Those favourable to the report praised its objective evaluation of the work of the United Nations in the realm of freedom of information; the Rapporteur's courage in drawing attention to the existence of censorship in many countries; the manner in which he had covered both general and specific aspects of the problem; and his exhaustive treatment of a large number of disparate but related parts of the subject. On the other hand, some members were critical of the report and questioned both its treatment of doctrinal principles and its use of information from what were described as "biased sources". It was further maintained that the report neglected adequately to treat economic and practical aspects of freedom of information and did not show sufficient understanding of the position of the underdeveloped countries. Some representatives also stated that the report was weighted in favour of the "Western" concept of freedom of information. In replying to some of these criticisms the Rapporteur explained how in preparing his report, he had sought factual information from widely diversified sources, and gave examples of his impartial analysis of conflicting viewpoints. The action of the Council on the various recommendations of the Rapporteur are indicated below.

Reports and studies in freedom of information

753. The Council considered a proposal (E/L.587)²⁶ that a Rapporteur on Freedom of Information should be appointed in his personal capacity for a further period for the purpose of preparing studies on a number of separate problems in freedom of information. There was a difference of opinion as to the advisability of continuing the office of Rapporteur on Freedom of Information. Some members maintained that the experiment had proved a success; that a further appointment would focus public attention on the importance of the studies to be carried out, and that the subject of freedom of information was so politically controversial that the Secretary-General might have difficulty in performing some of the tasks proposed. A majority of members however believed that the appointment of a rapporteur was not necessarily the best way of dealing with problems of freedom of information; that the Secretariat could be entrusted with the task of preparing the studies and reports contemplated; and that, in any event, the Rapporteur had been appointed for an experimental period and that it was not desirable to make the office permanent.

754. The Council, in resolution 522 A (XVII), requested the Secretary-General, in conjunction with the specialized agencies concerned, particularly

* Separate item on the provisional agenda of the General Assembly at its ninth session.

²⁰ E/SR.824.

²¹ E/AC.7/SR.261 to 268; E/SR.788.

²² Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Seventeenth Session, Supplement No. 12.

²³ Ibid, Supplement No. 12A.

²⁴ Ibid, Annexes, agenda item 12 (a).

²⁵ E/SR.769-774.

²⁶ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Seventeenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 12 (a).

UNESCO and ITU, and in consultation with professional associations and information enterprises to prepare for the Council's nineteenth session: (a) a concrete programme of action to promote among news personnel a wider knowledge of the work of the United Nations, of foreign countries and of international affairs with a view to promoting friendly relations among nations based on the Purposes and Principles of the Charter; (b) a world-wide survey of current principles and practices involved in the censorship of outgoing news dispatches; (c) a study of the legal aspects of the rights and responsibilities of the media of information; (d) a study of the problem of the protection of sources of information of news personnel, taking into account a preliminary report by the Secretary-General on this subject (E/CN.4/Sub.1/146); and (e) a study of public and private information monopolies and their effect on freedom of information. The Council further requested Member States to collaborate with the Secretary-General and the specialized agencies concerned in this work.

755. The Secretary-General outlined to the Council the limits he felt obliged to place upon his interpretation of the Council's request to him for the various studies. With regard to the world-wide survey of the current internal censorship practices, he would have to confine himself to information published by Governments. The legal study, he thought, merely consisted of a compilation of data; similarly the study of the problem of the protection of sources of information and news personnel presented no difficulty, but he thought that a study of published and private monopolies would take the Secretariat beyond the limits of its competence.

Transmission of outgoing news dispatches

756. The Council took note, in resolution 522 B (XVII), of a recommendation adopted at the Plenipotentiary Conference of the ITU (Buenos Aires, 1952) aimed at facilitating the unrestricted transmission of news by telecommunication services and invited the ITU to report to the Council at its nineteenth session on action taken by governments in response to this recommendation. The Council did not approve a proposal that the Secretary-General be requested to prepare a draft international convention based on resolution No. 12 adopted by the United Nations Conference on Freedom of Information concerning censorship, and to transmit the draft convention to Governments for their observations.

Status and movement of foreign correspondents

757. The Council, in resolution 522 C (XVII), requested the Secretary-General to transmit to Member and non-member States studies which the Secretary-General had prepared for the Sub-Commission on Freedom of Information and of the Press on the "Law and Practice Governing the Status and Work of Foreign News Personnel and Measures to Facilitate the Work of Such Personnel" (E/CN.4/Sub.1/140) and on "The Definition and Identification of Foreign Correspondents" (E/CN.4/Sub.1/148), requesting Governments to study the possibility of implementing the administrative measures contemplated in the studies with a view to facilitating the professional activities of foreign correspondents.

Copyright

758. The Council, in resolution 522 D (XVII), took note of the problems arising from the lack of

uniform copyright agreements and the effect of this on the dissemination of information through the mass media and recommended to Governments that they adhere to the Universal Copyright Convention. Taking note of efforts on the international level to solve the problems of performers' rights, the Council drew the attention of governments to the importance of this matter and invited UNESCO to study the question of copyright in respect of news and information media and to formulate recommendations thereon.

Independence of information personnel

759. The Council, in resolution 522 E (XVII), took note of the work currently being done by the ILO's Advisory Committee on Salaried Employees and Professional Workers in connexion with the economic independence of information personnel. Noting that the economic security of such personnel might have a bearing on their ability to withstand pressures, direct or indirect, which would be prejudicial to the proper exercise of their profession, the Council invited the ILO to give full consideration to this factor in its current studies, taking into account the views of professional organizations, more particularly professional organizations of employers' and workers.

Professional training

760. The Council, in resolution 522 F (XVII), urged Governments, particularly those with highly developed mass communications, to co-operate to the fullest possible extent in offering facilities for foreign information personnel and students of journalism, including the granting of visas and currency facilities. The Council recommended to UNESCO that it consider the possibility of increasing the scope of its mass communication fellowship programme and requested the Secretary-General to explore, in co-operation with appropriate specialized agencies, the possibility of increasing the number of scholarships and fellowships provided for information personnel under the regular and expanded programmes of technical assistance. The Secretary-General was requested to communicate this decision to Governments.

Press rates and priorities

761. The Council, in resolution 522 G (XVII), requested ITU and UNESCO to prepare for the Council's nineteenth session a joint study of the problems of transmitting press messages, including that of disparities and anomalies in Press rates, with the object of formulating and helping promote remedial measures which might be considered at the next International Telephone and Telegraph Conference. The Council further invited Governments meanwhile to study the question. The Council agreed that such an invitation was preferable to urging Governments to take action at once to secure Press rate reductions as had originally been proposed in the French draft resolution.

International broadcasting

762. The Council, in resolution 522 H (XVII), affirmed the vital need for international agreement concerning the utilization of radio frequencies and urged Governments to make every effort to reach agreement on an equitable distribution of frequencies, with adequate attention to the desirability of increasing the flow of objective news and information through international broadcasting. The Council further re-

requested ITU to consider, with the assistance of countries members of the Union, the possibility of developing new techniques leading to economy in the use of frequencies and to the elimination of wasteful competition and duplication. The Secretary-General was requested to bring this decision to the attention of all Governments.

Tariff and trade practices

763. The Council, in resolution 522 I (XVII), recommended to governments which have not yet done so that they adhere to the UNESCO Agreement on the Importation of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Materials as one means of removing tariff and trade obstacles which affect free flow of information between countries. The Council also recommended to UNESCO that it consult, when the time is opportune, with the States Parties to this Agreement as to the desirability of extending it to provide further dispensations in the allocation of foreign exchange for the purchase of educational, scientific and cultural materials. The Secretary-General was requested to communicate this decision to the governments mentioned in article IX of the Agreement.

Technical assistance in freedom of information

764. The Council, in resolution 522 J (XVII), decided to recommend to the appropriate specialized agencies and TAA that they give due consideration, to their regular programmes and under the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance to the requests which Governments may submit for aid, within the scope and objectives of existing programmes, which would be useful in promoting freedom of information. The Council also expressed the belief that the fields in which the Secretary-General may at present render assistance for the purpose of freedom of information may appropriately be broadened and decided that, subject to the approval of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General should be authorized to render, at the request of Member States, services which do not fall within the scope and objectives of existing technical assistance programmes.

Use of broadcasting to promote peace

765. The Council discussed proposals (E/AC.7/L.200/Add.1, page 4) that States be requested to agree to transfer to the United Nations the functions which were performed by the League of Nations under the terms of the International Convention Concerning the Use of Broadcasting in the Cause of Peace (Geneva, 1936) and that the Secretary-General be requested to study the changes which might be made in the Convention in order to adapt it to present circumstances; it also discussed a proposal (E/AC.7/L.198) that a draft protocol be prepared concerning the transfer to the United Nations of certain functions assigned to the League of Nations under the Convention and concerning the accessions of States Members and States non-members of the United Nations who are not parties to it. The Council decided, however, to take no action in the matter.

ENCOURAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF INDEPENDENT DOMESTIC INFORMATION ENTERPRISES

766. The Council had before it a report (E/2534²⁷ which, pursuant to Council resolution 442 E (XIV) and General Assembly resolution 633 (VII) the Secre-

tary-General, in conjunction with UNESCO, had prepared on ways and means of encouraging and developing independent domestic information enterprises.²⁸ Consideration of this report had been postponed from the Council's sixteenth session.

767. Some representatives recalled that the General Assembly had asked for the preparation of a concrete programme of action in this field and thought that the Secretary-General's report fell short of that. Attention was also paid to the significance of the word "independent". It was stated, on the one hand, that the only satisfactory interpretation of the word implied freedom from any influence running counter to the expressed will of the people; on the other hand it was maintained that technical assistance through the United Nations should not result in politically or governmentally controlled information enterprises.

768. After discussion of the Council's responsibility to carry out the wishes of the General Assembly, the Council decided in resolution 522 K (XVII), to draw the attention of Governments to the suggestions for action contained in chapter VIII of the Secretary-General's report and invited the Governments of under-developed countries, separately or jointly, to study the possibility of encouraging the development of existing, and the establishment of new or additional, independent radio broadcasting facilities, news agencies and other information enterprises, suggesting that for this purpose they should consult, as appropriate with national regional or international professional associations and information enterprises. The Council drew the attention of these Governments to the possibility of seeking technical assistance for these purposes from the United Nations, the specialized agencies, and other inter-governmental organizations, and specifically to the resolutions which it had adopted on the subject of technical assistance on freedom of information and on professional training.

769. The Council further recommended that UNESCO, to the extent that available resources and existing priorities permit, intensify its activities with a view to increasing its aid to governments desiring to encourage the development of independent domestic information enterprises; provide, at the request of Governments and upon approval of plans for the establishment or development of such information enterprises, the services of experts to assist in their development as well as in the training of technicians and professional workers according to the particular needs of each country; continue its work of research and documentation in order to enable under-developed countries to profit by the experience of countries with a high level of technical advancement, and undertake and promote research likely to encourage the development and raise the efficiency of independent domestic information enterprises. In addition the Council drew the attention of the United Nations and the specialized agencies to the desirability of continuing to give due prominence in their publications and films to information about countries whose domestic information enterprises are unable to reach a foreign public.

Section VII. Allegations regarding infringements of trade-union rights

770. At its seventeenth session²⁹ the Council had before it a communication (E/2498) alleging infringe-

²⁷ Ibid.

²⁸ E/AC.7/SR.266-268 and 271-274; E/SR.788.

²⁹ E/SR.785 and 788.

ments of trade-union rights in Spain, which had been submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with resolution 277(X).

771. The Council also had before it a note by the Secretary-General (E/2547)³⁰ reporting on the attitudes of the States to which *notes verbales* had been sent in accordance with Council resolution 503 (XVI). No reply had been received from the Governments of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Romania. The Government of Spain had asked the Secretary-General for certain clarifications in order to be able to reply to his note. The Secretary-General had then supplied the information requested but had received no definitive reply from the Government of Spain. A reply and additional observations of the competent authorities of the Saar were submitted to the Council in documents E/2529 and Add.1.

772. During the discussion, the representatives of the ICFTU, the IFCTU and WFTU were heard. The representative of the ICFTU expressed the concern of her organization with regard to allegations of infringements of trade-union rights relating to a State which is not a member either of the United Nations or of the ILO, and proposed that the Council, in co-operation with the ILO, should set up a committee to ensure protection of freedom of association in all countries. The representative of the IFCTU suggested that the Council establish an *ad hoc* committee to examine allegations of infringements of trade-union rights relating to States non-members of the ILO and formulate recommendations to the Council. The representative of the WFTU criticized the action taken by the ILO on trade-union rights and expressed regret that the Council had transferred to that organization most of its powers in the field of trade-union rights. He suggested that a study be made by the Secretary-General of the action taken by the United Nations and the ILO for safeguarding freedom of association and of the legislation concerning trade-union rights enacted in various countries since the adoption of Council resolution 277 (X). The study would be prepared in collaboration with the international trade union organizations having consultative status in category A.

773. The Council by resolution 523A (XVII) requested the Secretary-General to invite the Government of Romania to reconsider its attitude and to indicate its willingness to co-operate with the United Nations in its efforts to safeguard trade union rights.

774. The Council also adopted resolution 523B (XVII), which noted that no definitive reply had been received from the Government of Spain, and that further allegations relating to that country (E/2498) had been received, and requested the Secretary-General to bring the latter allegation to the attention of the Government of Spain, and to invite that Government to reconsider its attitude and indicate its willingness to co-operate with the United Nations in its efforts to safeguard trade-union rights.

775. After it had been stated that the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics had become a member of the International Labour Organisation, the Council decided to adjourn until its next session consideration of a draft resolution (E/L.601, draft resolution A)³¹

according to which the Secretary-General would be requested to distribute to the Governments of all States Members of the United Nations and to make public a report containing (a) the allegation relating to the Soviet Union, (b) the supporting evidence, (c) the correspondence between the Secretary-General and the Government of the USSR, and (d) the debates and resolutions of the Council with respect to the case. Subsequently the Council decided³² to place this matter on the provisional agenda of its eighteenth session and, taking into account a procedural decision made at its resumed sixteenth session³³ the Council also agreed not to deal at its eighteenth session with allegations received after the deadline of seven weeks before the seventeenth session.

776. At its eighteenth session, the Council decided³⁴ to forward to the Governing Body of the ILO for its consideration as to referral to its Fact-Finding and Conciliation Commission on Freedom of Association the allegations submitted by the ICFTU of infringements of trade-union rights in the Soviet Union, together with all the documents relating thereto. The Council had previously rejected a motion under rule 66 of its rules of procedure that no action should be taken in the matter. The draft resolution (E/L.601 draft resolution A) was then withdrawn in favour of the Council's decision.

Section VIII. Forced labour*

777. In accordance with its previous decision³⁵ the Council, at its seventeenth session,³⁶ discussed the reports of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Forced Labour (E/2153, E/2276, E/2341 and E/2431³⁷ with special attention to the latter report containing the Committee's findings and conclusions on the existence of systems of forced labour as a means of political coercion or for important economic purposes.

778. In addition to these reports, the Council had before it the comments and observations of two Governments on the allegations which concerned them (E/2431/Add.1 and E/2431/Add.8); the observations of a Government (E/2431/Add.5) on the Committee's report; the replies of three Governments (E/2431/Add.4, E/2431/Add.6 and E/2431/Add.7) to letters addressed to them pursuant to General Assembly resolution 740 (VIII); and two letters from the Director-General of the International Labour Office (E/2431/Add.2 and 3) concerning the decisions taken by the Governing Body on the basis of the Committee's suggestions.

779. Furthermore, the Council had before it General Assembly resolution 740 (VIII) in which the Assembly affirmed the importance which it attached to the abolition of all systems of forced or "corrective" labour, whether employed as a means of political coercion or punishment for holding or expressing political views or on such a scale as to constitute an important element in the economy of a country, and invited the Council and the ILO, as a matter of urgency, to give

* Separate item on the provisional agenda of the General Assembly at its ninth session.

³⁰ E/SR.791.

³¹ E/SR.753.

³² E/SR.819.

³³ E/SR.705.

³⁴ E/SR.782 to 787.

³⁵ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixteenth Session, Supplement No. 13.

³⁰ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Seventeenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 13.

³¹ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Seventeenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 13.

early consideration to the report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Forced Labour with that aim in view.

780. The ICFTU, the IFCTU and WFTU participated in the general debate which was marked by strong differences of opinion and by frequent charges and counter-charges of the existence of forced labour in various countries. A number of delegations commended the *Ad Hoc* Committee for its work, endorsed its findings and conclusions concerning the existence of systems of forced labour employed as a means of political coercion or for economic purposes in certain countries and emphasized the importance which they attached to the abolition of such systems. Other delegations questioned the *Ad Hoc* Committee's impartiality and methods of work, rejected its findings and conclusions concerning certain countries and charged that it had disregarded the existence of forced labour in other countries. Another viewpoint was that the terms of reference given to the *Ad Hoc* Committee had been unduly restricted in scope and that its report (E/2431), therefore, did not cover all types of forced labour.

781. Reference was also made to various suggestions made by the *Ad Hoc* Committee in chapter V of its report, and to the action already taken by the Governing Body of the International Labour Office on some of these suggestions (E/2431/Add.2 and 3). A number of delegations proposed therefore that the Council should take note of the action of the Governing Body and, for its part, should take up the Committee's suggestion for an appeal to Governments. The Council also considered, but did not adopt, a proposal concerning the appointment of a rapporteur to receive evidence and information and to report thereon.

782. In resolution 524 (XVII) the Council commended the *Ad Hoc* Committee for its work. It noted with satisfaction the action already taken by the Governing Body of the International Labour Office on the recommendations of the *Ad Hoc* Committee, and invited the ILO to take what further action it deemed appropriate towards abolishing forced labour throughout the world. Further, the Council condemned systems of forced labour which were employed as a means of political coercion or punishment for holding or expressing political views, and which were on such a scale as to constitute an important element in the economy of a given country; and appealed to all Governments to re-examine their laws and administrative practices in the light of present conditions and the increasing desire of the peoples of the world to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, and in the dignity and worth of the human person. It requested the Secretary-General, and invited the Director-General of the International Labour Office, to prepare jointly a report for consideration at the nineteenth session of the Council setting out whatever replies were received from Governments in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 740 (VIII), and any new information on systems of forced labour which might be submitted by Member States, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations in consultative status together with any comments submitted by Governments concerned. Finally, it transmitted the resolution to the General Assembly for consideration at its ninth session.

Section IX. Slavery

783. The Council at its seventeenth session,³⁸ had before it two reports on slavery, submitted by the

³⁸ E/AC.7/SR.274 to 276 and E/SR.789.

Secretary-General pursuant to Council resolution 475 (XV). In the first of these reports (E/2548 and Add.1 to 3), the Secretary-General, in response to Council resolution 475 (XV) presented the relevant supplementary information on slavery supplied by Governments, specialized agencies, and non-governmental organizations. In the second report (E/2540 and Add.1 to 4),³⁹ the Secretary-General communicated to the Council the results of his consultations with Governments and specialized agencies on the desirability of a supplementary convention on slavery and its possible contents.

784. The supplementary report on slavery submitted by the Secretary-General set forth the action which had been taken on the various operative paragraphs of Council resolution 475 (XV), including the adoption, by the General Assembly, of resolution 794 (VIII) to which was attached a Protocol amending the Slavery Convention of 25 September 1926. The supplementary report also contained a compilation of the information supplied to the Secretary-General in response to paragraphs 6 to 8 of Council resolution 475 (XV).

785. The Secretary-General's report on consultations concerning the desirability and possible contents of a supplementary convention on slavery presented replies and comments which had been received from 21 Governments and from the ILO. The reply from the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (E/2540 Add.1)⁴⁰ included a draft convention on the abolition of slavery and servitude.

786. The Council considered the two reports simultaneously. In its resolution 525 A (XVII) it expressed the view that the information supplied in accordance with its earlier resolutions on the subject was not in such a form as to give a clear and concise statement of the extent to which slavery and practices resembling slavery existed in the world today, and noted that all replies to the questionnaire on slavery and servitude had not yet been received. The Council urged all Governments which had not yet done so to reply, at an early date, accurately and fully to the questionnaire, and invited the other Governments to submit any additional data or information which they might think necessary or appropriate. It repeated the urgent recommendation made in resolution 475 (XV), to all States which have not already done so to accede as soon as possible to the International Slavery Convention of 1926 in respect of their territories and the Non-Self-Governing and Trust Territories for which they were responsible, in order that the Convention might be given universal application. It requested all States which have not already done so to accede to the Protocol transferring to the United Nations the functions undertaken by the League of Nations under the International Slavery Convention of 1926. The Council decided to appoint the Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations, His Excellency Mr. Hans Engen, as Rapporteur to prepare a concise summary of the available information on slavery, for consideration at its nineteenth session. It invited the specialized agencies, in the fields with which they are concerned, to study measures to remedy slavery, con-

³⁹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Seventeenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 15 (a).*

⁴⁰ *Ibid.*

ditions similar to slavery, and servitude in all its forms, with special reference to the question of measures of international co-operation to achieve this end.

787. With reference to the question of a supplementary convention on slavery and its possible contents, the Council adopted resolution 525 B (XVII) in which it decided to transmit to all Governments and to the ILO any draft supplementary convention on slavery submitted by Governments. It requested the Secretary-General to deal accordingly with the draft convention on the abolition of slavery and servitude submitted by the Government of the United Kingdom, and invited all Governments and the ILO to submit comments on that draft and on any other draft to the Secretary-General. The Secretary-General was also requested to prepare a report on the replies received for consideration by the Council at its nineteenth session.

Section X. Statelessness

788. The Council at its seventeenth session,⁴¹ considered the problem of statelessness under the following sub-headings: (a) Draft protocol relating to the status of stateless persons (General Assembly resolution 629 (VII)); (b) Problem of statelessness: consolidated report by the Secretary-General under Council resolution 352 (XII) and memorandum by the Secretary-General on the action taken by the International Law Commission.

789. In connexion with the draft protocol relating to the status of stateless persons, the Council had before it the draft of a protocol prepared by the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Statelessness and Related Problems. It had been requested by the General Assembly, in resolution 629 (VII), to take whatever action seemed useful in order that a text might be opened for signature after the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees had entered into force. The Secretary-General informed the Council that the Convention would enter into force on 22 April 1954 as six ratifications or accessions to the Convention had been deposited.

790. The Council adopted resolution 526 A (XVII) by which it decided that a second conference of plenipotentiaries should be convened, and that the agenda of the conference should include the revision of the draft protocol relating to the status of stateless persons, in the light of the provisions of the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees of 28 July 1951 and of the observations made by the Governments concerned; and the adoption of the revised protocol and opening of the Protocol for signature by all States Members of the United Nations and by non-member States invited to attend the first Conference of Plenipotentiaries held at Geneva in 1951. It further decided that invitations to attend the conference should be extended to all States invited to attend the first conference.

791. In connexion with the problem of statelessness, the Council had before it the consolidated report by the Secretary-General on this problem (E/2230 and Add.1 and 2), submitted pursuant to Council resolution 352 (XII) and a memorandum submitted by the Secretary-General on action taken by the International Law Commission (E/2533).⁴²

792. The Council adopted resolution 526 B (XVII) by which it endorsed the principles underlying the work of the International Law Commission and requested the Commission to continue its work with a view to the adoption of effective international instruments for the reduction and elimination of statelessness.

Section XI. Status of Women

793. The Council, at its eighteenth session,⁴³ had before it the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its eighth session (E/2571).⁴⁴ The Commission made recommendations to the Council on various aspects of the status of women. In addition it had taken note of the report of the Inter-American Commission of Women (E/CN.6/249) on its activities during the year; of the report of its representative to the sixth session of the Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and the Protection of Minorities (E/CN.6/252); and of the verbal report of its representative to the ninth session of the Commission on Human Rights.

794. The Council in resolution 547 A (XVIII) took note of the report of the Commission and in the various parts of that resolution dealt with the specific recommendations of the Commission to the Council as indicated below. Decisions and resolutions of the Commission upon which further action by the Council was not required are also summarized in the following sections.

POLITICAL RIGHTS OF WOMEN

795. At its eighth session, the Commission had before it the annual memorandum of the Secretary-General on the advancement of political rights of women (A/2462); a report on ways in which equal political rights may be achieved and made effective (E/CN.6/244); reports on the status of women in Trust and in Non-Self-Governing Territories respectively (E/CN.6/235 and E/CN.6/237); a report on fellowships and other types of assistance available to Governments through the United Nations or the specialized agencies for the training of persons interested in improving the status of women (E/CN.6/242); a note on steps taken by the General Assembly and the Trusteeship Council to implement Council resolution 504 F (XVI) on measures leading to the development of political rights of women (E/CN.6/239); supplementary reports on civil liberties for women and on women in public services and functions respectively (E/CN.6/157/Add.5 and E/CN.6/158/Add.5); and a draft survey prepared by the Secretary-General at the Commission's request dealing with discrimination against women in the field of public services and functions and with respect to civil liberties.

796. The memorandum on the advancement of political rights of women, contained, *inter alia*, information on the signing and ratification of the Convention of the Political Rights of Women. The Commission had expressed (E/2571, para. 17) satisfaction that 35 States had signed the Convention and regretted that

⁴¹ E/AC.7/SR.269 to 271; E/SR.784.

⁴² Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Seventeenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 16 (c).

⁴³ E/AC.7/SR.277-280; E/SR.805.

⁴⁴ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eighteenth Session, Supplement No. 6.

only three⁴⁵ States had ratified it. Its recommendation was adopted by the Council which in resolution 547 B (XVIII) reiterated its appeal to Member States of the United Nations and recommended to non-member States which had been so invited by the General Assembly, to sign, ratify or accede to the Convention.

797. The Commission also adopted a resolution (E/2571, para. 22) which noted that since its last session women had been assured full political rights in Mexico and Syria; and that in certain Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories the Administering Authorities were encouraging women to share in public life. The resolution expressed the belief that the Secretary-General's annual memorandum on the advancement of political rights of women, and the pamphlet on *Political Education of Women*⁴⁶ would be helpful to Governments and non-governmental organizations in areas where women do not have, or have only recently obtained, political rights and it suggested that these documents be made available in larger quantities.

798. After considering the Secretary-General's memorandum based on information supplied by non-governmental organizations regarding ways in which equal political rights of women can be achieved and made effective, the Commission adopted a resolution (E/2571, para. 20) in which it expressed its appreciation of the co-operation given by these organizations and urged them to continue to further the development of education for women in the field of citizenship through educational institutions, through all available media of information, and by bringing to women knowledge of the responsibilities inherent in the exercise of their political rights; it also expressed the hope that UNESCO would continue to give appropriate attention to the subject of political education.

799. The Commission decided (E/2571, para. 23) to take note of the documentation prepared by the Secretary-General on the status of women in Trust and in Non-Self-Governing Territories. On the understanding that the Secretary-General would continue to transmit to it further information which might be received from Governments concerning women in public services and functions, the Commission decided (E/2571, para. 24) to defer indefinitely consideration of the draft survey on discrimination against women in these fields, and also the preparation of a report on women in political and public life which had been requested by the Commission at its seventh session.

NATIONALITY OF MARRIED WOMEN

800. The Commission had before it a report (E/CN.6/243 and Add. 1-3) by the Secretary-General containing the comments of Governments on the draft convention on the nationality of married persons which had been circulated to Member States in accordance with Council resolution 504 B (XVI) and two supplementary memoranda (E/CN.6/206/Add. 3 and 4) by the Secretary-General on statutory and constitutional provisions relating to the nationality of married women. The Commission adopted a resolution (E/2571, para.

33) which recommended to the Council that the Secretary-General be requested to circulate to Governments of Member States for their comments the revised text of a draft convention on the nationality of married women, which was appended to the resolution and in which the comments of governments to the earlier draft convention had been taken into account; and further that Member States which have not done so, be urged to send to the Secretary-General their comments on that earlier draft as well.

801. The Council in discussing this resolution proposed by the Commission also had before it a substitute draft (E/AC.7/L.219) which, instead of circulating the revised draft Convention to Governments for comments, would have requested the Secretary-General "to transmit to the International Law Commission for its use in developing proposals to incorporate the principles adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its fourth session, the text of the draft Convention on the Nationality of Married Women proposed by the Commission on the Status of Women at its eighth session, together with all related documentation". The substitute draft resolution was later withdrawn and the Council decided in resolution 547 C I (XVIII) to circulate the revised draft Convention to Governments for their observations, and to the International Law Commission for its information. It requested that the observations be sent to the Secretary-General before 1 January 1955, in order that they might be considered by the Commission at its ninth session.

802. After considering the memoranda on statutory and constitutional provisions relating to the nationality of married women, the Commission adopted a resolution (E/2571, para. 35) which, after recalling the principles on the nationality of married women adopted by the Commission at its fourth session, proposed that the Council recommend to Governments to take steps to implement these principles, and that the Secretary-General be requested to continue the collection of information on recent changes in nationality legislation, and to arrange for the publication of a revised edition of the publication *Nationality of Married Women*.⁴⁷

803. The Council accepted the recommendations of the Commission and in resolution 547 D (XVIII) recommended to governments that they take action, as necessary, to ensure that a woman has the same right as a man to retain her nationality on marriage to a person of a different nationality; and further that an alien wife shall acquire the nationality of her husband only as the result of her positive request, and not as the result of her failure to object to such change at the time of her marriage or her failure to make a declaration that she desires to retain her own nationality.

EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK

804. The Commission had before it a report by the International Labour Office (E/CN.6/231) on the application of the Convention No. 100 and Recommendation No. 90 on Equal Remuneration for Men and Women Workers for Work of Equal Value. The Commission adopted a resolution (E/2571, para. 42) in which it made recommendations to the Council on further action to be taken.

⁴⁵ It was announced before the end of the session that two more States had ratified the Convention and one State had acceded to it, and that therefore it would come into force on 7 July 1954. As of 12 July, two more States had signed the Convention, and six more had ratified or acceded to it bringing the total of signatures to 37, and of ratifications and accessions to twelve.

⁴⁶ United Nations Publication, Sales No. 1951.IV.8.

⁴⁷ United Nations Publication, Sales No. 1950.IV.12.

805. The Council adopted resolution 547 E (XVIII) which, after recognizing the importance of carrying into effect without delay the principle of equal pay for equal work for men and women workers, expressed its belief that the ILO Convention and Recommendation provided basic standards and suggestions useful to all Governments; noted the progress that was being made in various countries through legislative enactments, collective bargaining agreements and voluntary employer practices; recommended that all States, which have not as yet done so, take legislative and other action, in accordance with their respective constitutional procedures, to establish and carry into effect the principle of equal pay for equal work for all classes of men and women wage-earners; and commended the activities of governmental and non-governmental organizations, the purpose of which is to carry that principle into effect everywhere, including the Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories.

806. The Commission also adopted a resolution (E/2571, para. 43) commending the non-governmental organizations for their constructive efforts, in many countries, to promote increased public acceptance of the principle of equal pay; requesting the Secretary-General to obtain from such organizations and other appropriate sources information on methods which have been found effective in influencing public opinion in favour of the principle, and to prepare a report based on such information. The Commission also requested the Secretary-General to continue, in collaboration with the ILO, to submit reports on the implementation of the Convention and Recommendation on Equal Pay for discussion by the Commission.

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN

807. The Commission had before it a report by the Secretary-General (E/CN.6/251) on older women workers; a report (E/CN.6/236) and a bibliography (E/CN.6/245) by the Secretary-General on part-time work for women; and a report by the International Labour Office (E/CN.6/238) on part-time employment.

808. The Commission adopted a resolution (E/2571, para. 53) in which it took note of these reports; considered that the employment of older women workers and part-time employment of women were matters of particular interest from the social and economic points of view and that the determination of standards for such work required careful study; it requested the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the International Labour Office to continue the study of the economic and social factors affecting, and of ways and means of promoting full and satisfactory employment for older workers and those seeking part-time employment; and indicated the aspects of the problems which could usefully be studied. It also requested the Secretary-General to transmit the records of the Commission's debate on the subject to the International Labour Office. The Commission also submitted to the Council a draft resolution (E/AC.7/L.217/Rev.1) proposing that the responsibility for further studies in the fields of part-time work and older women workers should be placed on the ILO, which was invited to keep the Commission informed through the Secretary-General of action taken.

809. Its supporters stressed the fact that the proposal was in conformity with the wish expressed

by the Secretary-General that "rather than placing responsibility for particular phases of work jointly upon the Secretariat and one or more specialized agency, it is desirable that, wherever possible, responsibility should be placed squarely upon the specialized agencies concerned, in so far as the work falls directly within their statutory competence" (E/2598)⁴⁸. Members of the Council were in general agreement, however, that under its terms of reference, the Commission had a direct interest in the study of the economic and social problems involved in the employment of older workers and in part-time employment, and that the results of the ILO studies should be transmitted to the Commission for its consideration, and not merely its information.

810. The Council accordingly adopted resolution 547 L (XVIII) in which it noted the resolution of the Commission (E/2571, para. 53); considered that employment of part-time workers and older workers are matters that fall under the competence of the ILO; and invited the ILO to continue the study of the economic and social problems involved in the employment of older workers and in part-time employment, and to transmit the results of such studies, through the Secretary-General, to the Commission for its consideration.

STATUS OF WOMEN IN PRIVATE LAW*

811. The Commission had before it a report by the Secretary-General (E/CN.6/185/Add.11-13) based on additional replies of Governments to part III, Family Law, of the questionnaire on the Legal Status and Treatment of Women; a report by the Secretary-General (E/CN.6/208/Add.1) based on additional replies of Governments to part II, Property Rights, of the same questionnaire; reports by the Secretary-General on (a) domicile and residence of married women (E/CN.6/299), (b) parental rights and duties (E/CN.6/230), (c) the right of women to engage in independent work (E/CN.6/228), and (d) matrimonial regimes (E/CN.6/233); reports by the Secretary-General (E/CN.6/235 and E/CN.6/237) on the status of women in Trust and in Non-Self-Governing Territories respectively.

812. The Commission noted that Governments of only 22 Member States had replied to part II of the questionnaire on the Legal Status and Treatment of Women and that only 27 had replied to part III of that Questionnaire, and recommended (E/2571, para. 57) that the Council adopt a resolution on the subject. The Council, in resolution 547 F (XVIII) accordingly invited governments of Member States which had not replied to these parts of the questionnaire to do so by 1 November 1954; requested the Secretary-General to provide the Commission with supplementary reports on various aspects of the status of women in family law and property rights based on such replies, supplementing this information from other sources necessary to ensure a complete picture.

813. After consideration of the note by the Secretary-General (E/CN.6/234) on the inclusion of an

⁴⁸ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eighteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 29.*

* The question of customs, ancient laws and practices affecting the human dignity of women dealt with in this section is a separate item on the provisional agenda of the General Assembly at its ninth session.

additional article (on marriage) in the draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Commission adopted a resolution (E/2571, para. 62) in which it stated that article 22 of the draft Covenant did not provide for equality of spouses, as provided in article 16 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, but merely for the legislation of States Parties to be directed towards such equality. It therefore recommended to the Council that it amend article 22, paragraph 4 of the draft Covenant in order to incorporate in it the principle of equality. The Council in resolution 547 G (XVIII)* decided to transmit the draft resolution submitted by the Commission to the General Assembly, so that it might consider it at the same time as the draft covenant on civil and political rights.

814. Following its discussion of the status of women in family law in certain areas including Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories, the Commission adopted a resolution (E/2571, para. 65) recommending to the Council that it take certain measures designed to eliminate customs, ancient laws and practices respecting marriage and the family which are inconsistent with the principles set forth in the Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

815. The Council accordingly in resolution 547 H (XVIII) requested the General Assembly and the Trusteeship Council, as appropriate, in collaboration with States, including States administering Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories where such customs, ancient laws and practices exist, to take all appropriate measures to ensure complete freedom in the choice of a spouse; to abolish the practice of the bride-price; to guarantee the right of widows to the custody of their children and their freedom as to remarriage; to eliminate completely child marriages and the betrothal of young girls before the age of puberty, establishing appropriate penalties where necessary; to establish a civil register in which all marriages and divorces will be recorded; to ensure that all cases involving personal rights be tried before a duly appointed magistrate; to ensure also that family allowances, where these are provided, be administered in such a way as to benefit directly the wife and children. Further the Council recommended that special efforts be made through fundamental education, both private and public schools, and various media of communications to inform public opinion in all the areas mentioned, concerning the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and existing decrees and legislation which affect the status of women.

816. Having studied the report by the Secretary-General on matrimonial régimes the Commission made a specific recommendation to the Council in a resolution (E/2571, para. 67). The Council, in turn, in resolution 547 I (XVIII) having stated its belief that the statutory matrimonial régimes in many countries are incompatible with the principle of equality of the spouses, as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, some of them depriving the wife during marriage of her rights over community property and over her own property and others depriving her at the dissolution of marriage of her share in property in the acquisition of which she has participated either directly or indirectly, recommended that Member States should take all necessary steps to eliminate such discriminatory

provisions from their legislation and drew their attention to the desirability of a statutory matrimonial régime which would provide for the separation of the property belonging to the spouses at the time of marriage and either for the separation of property acquired during marriage or for common ownership of property acquired by both spouses during marriage, such community property to be administered jointly by the spouses; and in either case, on dissolution of marriage, property acquired during marriage would be divided equally between them or their heirs.

817. The Commission, after consideration of the report on the right of married women to engage in independent work recommended a resolution (E/2571, para. 69) for adoption by the Council. Accordingly the Council in resolution 547 J (XVIII), endorsing the Commission's recommendation, noted that in the legal systems of many countries, the husband has the power to prevent his wife from engaging in independent work and that in some, he has control over her earnings, and expressed its belief that this limitation of legal capacity is incompatible with the principle of equality of spouses as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; and recommended that Governments take all necessary measures to ensure to a married woman the right to engage in independent work and to administer and dispose of, her earnings without the necessity of securing her husband's authorization.

818. The Commission decided to postpone until its next session the consideration of two proposals concerning, respectively, rights and duties and legal domicile of married women.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN

819. The Commission had before it a progress report (E/CN.6/250) prepared by UNESCO on access of women to education, and a note (E/CN.6/240) prepared by the International Labour Office on access of women to apprenticeship.

820. The Commission expressed its belief that equal educational opportunities for girls and boys are essential in equipping women for their personal and civic responsibilities in life, adopted a resolution (E/2571, para. 76) inviting the co-operation of non-governmental organizations in relation to the education of women and suggesting to the Council that it recommend to States to take various measures to eliminate discrimination against women in education.

821. The Council in resolution 547 K (XVIII), *inter alia*, urged that States take the necessary measures to institute free compulsory primary education and take full advantage of the facilities and resources of UNESCO in developing additional educational opportunities for girls and women, as needed. It also invited the Secretary-General in collaboration with the Director-General of UNESCO to provide studies of methods used to increase school attendance by girls, including vocational education; to encourage the use of women, including married women, as teachers in areas where it has not been customary to employ them in schools and expressed the hope that UNESCO, in allocating scholarships and fellowships, would continue to give appropriate attention to the need for additional women leaders in the field of education, particularly fundamental education.

* Action required by the General Assembly at its ninth session in connexion with its action on the draft covenant on civil and political rights.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMMES IN RELATION TO THE STATUS OF WOMEN

822. The Commission had before it a report by the Secretary-General (E/CN.6/189/Add.2), on technical assistance programmes in relation to the status of women. It adopted a resolution (E/2571, para. 83) in which it noted that the Secretary-General had been authorized to render to Governments services outside the scope of the existing technical assistance programmes for the purpose of promoting and safeguarding the rights of women; and requested him to make certain that full information on the availability of these services was included in information to Governments on technical assistance, so that they might request such aid if they so desired, and also to see to it that this information was readily accessible to non-governmental organizations.

PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN THE WORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

823. The Commission had before it a report by the Secretary-General (E/CN.6/246), containing information on the nature and proportion of positions occupied by women in the secretariats of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, and on the number of women who had served as members of delegations to the United Nations and the specialized agencies. The Commission also heard a statement by the Secretary-General that there would be no discrimination in the Secretariat on the grounds of sex or on any of the other grounds specified in the Charter or in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Commission adopted a resolution (E/2571, para. 88) in which it expressed satisfaction with the Secretary-General's statement and looked forward with confidence to a constantly increasing number of women in policy-making or senior positions in the Secretariat of the United Nations. It also recommended to non-governmental organizations that they continue to work for more opportunities for women in public service at the national level as a means of encouraging their participation in international civil service.

STUDY OF DOCUMENTATION PREPARED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR THE SOCIAL COMMISSION ON THE SUBJECT OF PROTECTION OF MOTHER AND CHILD

824. The Commission had before it the reports by the Secretary-General prepared for the Social Commission on the subject of the protection of mother and child (E/CN.6/232) and decided in a resolution (E/2571, para. 97) to place the matter as a separate item on the agenda of its ninth session under the title

"Protection of mother and child: study of the documentation prepared by the Secretary-General for the Social Commission on the subject of mother and child, with particular reference to the protection of the working mother". It requested the Secretary-General to summarize the documentation prepared by him for the Social Commission in so far as it bore on the question of the protection of the working mother. All members of the Council were in agreement that there should not be any overlapping or duplication of effort. In order to avoid this, it was suggested that the matter should not be considered by the Commission on the Status of Women until after it had been considered by the Social Commission.

825. During the discussion of the report of the Social Committee (E/2631) in the Council, the representative of the Secretary-General explained, in reply to a question, that there was no specific item "Protection of Mother and Child" on the provisional agenda of the next session of the Social Commission, which was, however, engaged in a continuing study of family and child welfare in general. The 1955-1956 programme, approved at the Social Commission's last session, provided for two studies of special interest to the Commission on the Status of Women, one on day-care of children and the other on home-helps. These studies would be ready during the first half of 1955 and any suggestions by the Commission on the Status of Women would be taken into account.⁴⁹ The Council adopted resolution 547 M (XVIII) requesting the Commission on the Status of Women to defer consideration of the item "Protection of Mother and Child" until the results of the study of the item by the Social Commission were known.

PROGRAMME OF FUTURE WORK

826. The Commission had before it a report by the Secretary-General (E/CN.6/247), on the action taken upon decisions reached by the Commission at its seventh session, and a note (E/CN.6/248) and a working paper (E/CN.6/L.147) by the Secretary-General on the review of the programme of work and establishment of priorities. The Commission established a programme of priorities for future work (E/2571, chapter XV) under the following headings: political rights of women, nationality of married women, status of women in private law, including family law and property rights, equal pay for equal work, economic opportunities for women, access of women to education, technical assistance programmes in relation to the status of women, and study of documentation on the subject of protection of mother and child.

⁴⁹ E/SR.805.

Annex I

RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS OF THE COUNCIL

Resumed sixteenth session

Resolution

- 510 (XVI) Transmission of General Assembly resolutions 737 (VIII), 738 (VIII) and 739 (VIII) to the Commission on Human Rights.

Seventeenth session

Resolutions

- 522 (XVII) Freedom of information. Resolutions A to L.

- 523 (XVII) Allegations regarding infringements of trade union rights. Resolutions A and B.

- 524 (XVII) Forced Labour: reports of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Forced Labour.

- 525 (XVII) Slavery. Resolutions A and B.

- 526 (XVII) Statelessness. Resolutions A and B.

Decisions

That the provisional agenda for the eighteenth session should not include the item "Recommendations to Governments concerning the application of special measures for the protection of minorities."

That under an item entitled "Allegations regarding infringements of trade union rights" the Council would consider at its eighteenth session draft resolution A of document E/L.601 postponed from the seventeenth session.

Eighteenth session

Resolutions

545 (XVIII) Report of the Commission on Human Rights (tenth session). Resolutions A to G.

546 (XVIII) Conference of non-governmental organizations interested in the eradication of prejudice and discrimination.

547 (XVIII) Report of the Commission on the Status of Women (eighth session). Resolutions A to M.

Decision

That the allegations submitted by the ICFTU of infringements of trade union rights in the USSR and all the documents relating thereto be forwarded to the Governing Body of the International Labour Office for its consideration as to referral to the Fact Finding and Conciliation Commission on Freedom of Association.

Annex II

SUMMARY RECORDS OF THE COUNCIL AND ITS COMMITTEES

The summary records of the meetings of the Council and its committees at the resumed sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth sessions of the Council relevant to the various sections of this chapter are indicated below.

A

Introduction

Plenary meetings 819, 820.

Social Committee meetings 286 to 292.

Section I: Draft international covenants on human rights

Plenary meetings 754, 820.

Social Committee meetings 286 to 289.

Section II: Recommendations concerning international respect for the right of peoples and nations to self-determination

Plenary meetings 754, 820.

Social Committee meetings 289 to 292.

Section III: Development of the work of the United Nations for wider observance of, and respect for, human rights and fundamental freedom throughout the world

Plenary meeting 754.

Section V: Prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities

Plenary meetings 791, 820, 824.

Social Committee meetings 287, 288, 289.

Section VI: Freedom of information

Plenary meetings 769 to 774, 788.

Social Committee meetings 261 to 268, 271 to 274.

Section VII: Allegations regarding infringements of trade union rights

Plenary meetings 753, 785, 788, 791, 819.

Section VIII: Forced labour

Plenary meetings 782 to 787.

Section IX: Slavery

Plenary meeting 789.

Social Committee meetings 274 to 276.

Section X: Statelessness

Plenary meeting 784.

Social Committee meetings 269 to 271.

B

Section XI: Status of women

Plenary meeting 805.

Social Committee meetings 277 to 280.

Annex III

STATEMENTS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

ORAL STATEMENTS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO THE COUNCIL OR ITS COMMITTEES UNDER RULE 86 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

Seventeenth session

International Confederation of Free Trade Unions

Allegations regarding infringements of trade union rights.
Plenary meeting 785.

Forced labour: reports of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Forced Labour.

Plenary meeting 783.

Slavery: Social Committee meeting 276.

International Federation of Christian Trade Unions.

Allegations regarding infringements of trade union rights.
Plenary meeting 785.

Forced labour: reports of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Forced Labour.

Plenary meeting 783.

Slavery: Social Committee meeting 276.

World Federation of Trade Unions.

Allegations regarding infringements of trade union rights.
Plenary meeting 785.

Forced labour: reports of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Forced Labour.

Plenary meeting 783.

Eighteenth session

International Confederation of Free Trade Unions. Report of the Commission on Human Rights (tenth session).
Social Committee meeting 286.

World Federation of United Nations Associations. Report of the Commission on the Status of Women (eighth session).
Social Committee meeting 279.

ORAL STATEMENTS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO THE COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS UNDER RULE 85 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

Seventeenth session

Anti-Slavery Society (UK)

Slavery. NGO Committee meeting 142.

International Commission against Concentration Camp Practices

Forced labour: reports of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Forced Labour.

NGO Committee meeting 140.

International League for the Rights of Man

Freedom of information. NGO Committee meeting 138.

Nouvelles Equipes Internationales-Union des démocrates chrétiens

Freedom of information: report of the Rapporteur on Freedom of Information. NGO Committee meeting 140.

Forced labour: reports of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Forced Labour.

NGO Committee meeting 140.

Chamber of Commerce of the United States of America. Report of the Commission on Human Rights (tenth session). NGO Committee meeting 143.

International Council of Women. Report of the Commission on Human Rights (tenth session). NGO Committee meeting 144.

Pax Romana.

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

World Jewish Congress. Report of the Commission on Human Rights. NGO Committee meeting 145.

St. Joan's International Social and Political Alliance. Report of the Commission on the Status of Women (eighth session). NGO Committee meeting 143.

International Council of Women. Report of the Commission on the Status of Women (eighth session). NGO Committee meeting 144.

WRITTEN STATEMENTS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS
TO THE COUNCIL

International Confederation of Free Trade Unions
E/C.2/365 Human Rights.

International Commission against Concentration Camp Practices
E/C.2/375 Comments and Suggestions Concerning the Report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Forced Labour.

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
E/C.2/376 Freedom of the Press, Forced Labour and World Disarmament and World Development.

International Abolitionist Federation
E/C.2/384 Urgency of Ratifying the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others.

World Jewish Congress
E/C.2/385 Draft Protocol Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons.

International Catholic Child Bureau
E/C.2/401 Comments on the drafting of Article 22 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

International Catholic Child Bureau
E/C.2/402 Observations on the draft declaration on the rights of the child.

Consultative Council of Jewish Organizations
E/C.2/408 Report of the Secretary-General on the advisability of convening a conference of non-governmental organizations interested in the eradication of prejudice and discrimination.

WRITTEN STATEMENTS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS
TO THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
E/CN.4/NGO/54 Communications, Right of Petition, Capital Punishment, Right to Read, Racism and Right to Exploit Freely Natural Wealth.

World Jewish Congress

E/CN.4/NGO/55 Comments on the Proposals concerning Annual Reports and Studies on Specific Aspects of Human Rights.

World Union for Progressive Judaism

E/CN.4/NGO/56 Comments on the Proposals concerning Annual Reports and Advisory Services on Specific Aspects of Human Rights.

World's Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations

E/CN.4/NGO/57 Comments on the Proposals concerning Annual Reports and Studies of Specific Aspects of Human Rights, and Advisory Services.

International Catholic Child Bureau

E/CN.4/NGO/58 Draft Declaration on the Rights of the Child.

Joint Committee of International Teachers' Federations

E/CN.4/NGO/59 Suggested Charter of the Rights of the Child.

WRITTEN STATEMENTS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS
TO THE SUB-COMMISSION ON THE PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION AND PROTECTION OF MINORITIES

World Jewish Congress

E/CN.4/Sub.2/NGO/7 Observations relating to the work of the Sub-Commission.

Pax Romana

E/CN.4/Sub.2/NGO/8 Observations relating to the work of the Sub-Commission.

WRITTEN STATEMENTS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS
TO THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Women's International Democratic Federation

E/CN.6/NGO/18 Declaration on the Rights of Women.

International Alliance of Women

E/CN.6/NGO/19 Article 22 of the Draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

International Federation of University Women

E/CN.6/NGO/20 Scholarships and Fellowships.

International Federation of Business and Professional Women

E/CN.6/NGO/21 Status of Women in Public and in Private Law.

International Federation of Business and Professional Women

E/CN.6/NGO/22 Participation of Women in the Work of the United Nations.

International Federation of Business and Professional Women

E/CN.6/NGO/23 Technical assistance programmes in connexion with the status of women.

International Federation of Business and Professional Women

E/CN.6/NGO/24 Economic and Educational Opportunities for Women.

All Pakistan Women's Association

E/CN.6/NGO/25 Technical assistance programmes in connexion with the status of women.

Chapter VI

SPECIAL QUESTIONS

Section I. Relief and rehabilitation of Korea*

827. At its eighteenth session¹ the Council had before it the report of the Agent General of the United Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency (A/2543),² submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 410 A V, together with the comments thereon submitted by the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea (A/2586). These documents will also be submitted to the General Assembly at its ninth session.

828. The Council adopted resolution 544 (XVIII) in which it took note of the report of the Agent General of UNKRA and the comments thereon by UNCURK.

Section II. United Nations Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Far East

829. The Council in resolution 476 (a) (XV) had requested the Secretary-General, *inter alia*, "to continue consultation with Governments and appropriate inter-governmental organizations on the subject of holding regional cartographic conferences". The Secretary-General's report (E/2622 and Add.1 and 2),³ submitted to the Council at its eighteenth session,⁴ dealt specifically with the proposed conference for Asia and the Far East, for which the Government of India had already offered to act as the host country. It summarized the replies of Governments to the note sent by the Secretary-General and indicated proposals and suggestions made by certain Governments and by ICAO concerning the tentative agenda that had been submitted by India.

830. The Council in resolution 556 (XVIII) took note of the report, expressed its satisfaction regarding the invitation of India, and decided to hold a regional cartographic conference for Asia and the Far East at Dehra Dun, India, early in 1955. It also requested the Secretary-General to take all necessary steps concerning invitations to be sent and other arrangements to be made for the holding of the conference.

Section III. World calendar reform

831. The Council at its eighteenth session⁵ considered a communication (E/2514) from the delegation of India relating to a plan for the reform of the Gregorian Calendar.

*The report of the United Nations Agent General for Korean Reconstruction is a separate sub-item on the provisional agenda of the General Assembly at its ninth session.
¹ E/SR.828.

² Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighth Session, Supplement No. 14.

³ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 16.

⁴ E/SR.818.

⁵ E/SR.819.

832. The Council in resolution 555 (XVIII) requested the Secretary-General to transmit document E/2514 and any other relevant documents to the Governments of States Members and non-members of the United Nations, with the request that they furnish their views early in 1955 so that the matter could be considered again by the Council at its resumed nineteenth session.

Section IV. Implementation of recommendations on economic and social matters

833. In accordance with Council resolution 450 (XIV) and General Assembly resolution 593 (VI) this section of the Council's report is not designed to present *in extenso* information on the substance of replies from Governments on action taken by them to give effect to the recommendations of the Council and also of the General Assembly on matters falling within the Council's competence; rather this section refers to the various substantive sections of the report and to other documents and reports which include information concerning such replies received during the period covered by the report.

834. The annual questionnaire on full employment, the balance of payments and economic trends, objectives and policies in 1953 and 1954 issued in implementation of General Assembly resolution 520 B (VI) and Council resolutions 221 E (IX), 290 (XI) and 371 B (XIII) was mailed to Governments in December 1953. Document E/2565 and addenda reproduce the replies of Governments to this questionnaire.⁶

835. In the field of restrictive business practices, the Secretary-General, in accordance with paragraph 2 of Council resolution 487 (XVI), asked Governments to examine and comment on the report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Restrictive Business Practices and on the Secretariat's analysis of governmental measures relating to restrictive business practices.⁷ The comments received have been circulated in document E/2612 and addenda. In paragraph 3 of the same resolution the Secretary-General was asked to follow, on the basis of information obtained from Governments, the principal legislative, judicial, executive and administrative developments in the field of restrictive business practices and to prepare a report summarizing relevant information regarding restrictive business practices in international trade which may be contained in official government documents. The Secretary-General has accordingly requested Governments to provide such information to him.

836. Governments were requested by Council resolution 512 A (XVII) to transmit before the Council's eighteenth session any relevant comments on the Per-

⁶ See also chapter II, section II of this report.

⁷ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixteenth Session, Supplement No. 11, IIA and IIB.

manent Advisory Commission on International Commodity Trade and their views concerning their participation in the Commission. The replies of Governments to the Secretary-General's *note verbale* on this subject were presented to the Council at its eighteenth session as document E/2623 and addenda.⁸

837. On 10 August 1953 the Secretary-General sent a *note verbale* to Governments, under Council resolution 483 A (XVI), requesting those Governments which had had experience in dealing with inflationary pressures associated with high levels of economic activity or with the process of economic development in under-developed countries to submit written statements on this subject by 1 December 1953 for circulation to the Council. The replies of Governments are contained in document E/2563 and addenda under the title "Measures to Prevent Possible Inflation at High Levels of Economic Activity".⁹

838. Council resolution 483 B (XVI) requested each Member State to indicate before 1 December 1953 its views on the measures it may consider necessary to prevent foreseeable adverse effects on its economy or on those of other Members arising from reductions in its defence expenditures. The views of Governments transmitted in response to the Secretary-General's *note verbale* on this subject have been circulated in document E/2564 and addenda, entitled "Reconversion after the Rearmament Period".¹⁰

839. In General Assembly resolution 724 B (VIII) the Secretary-General was requested to invite Governments to submit their comments both on the recommendations contained in the *Report on a Special United Nations Fund for Economic Development* (E/2381)¹¹ prepared by the Committee of Nine appointed in pursuance of Council resolution 416 A (XIV), and on the degree of moral and material support which may be expected from them for such a fund. These comments have been circulated in document A/2646 and addenda.¹²

840. In connexion with Council resolution 379 F (XIII) on pollution of sea water, further replies received during this year from two Governments were circulated in documents E/CN.2/134/Add.4 and 5.¹³

841. In connexion with Council resolution 379 D (XIII) on customs formalities for the temporary importation of private vehicles and for tourism, further replies received from fourteen Governments were circulated in documents E/CN.2/135/Add.3 and 4. The results of the Conference convened under resolution 468 F (XV) were reported to the eighteenth session of the Council.¹⁴

842. In connexion with Council resolutions 468 C (XV) and 518 C (VII) on the situation with respect to the ratification of the Convention on the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization an inquiry was sent to fifty-five Governments (of eligible States which have not so far ratified the Convention) with a view to ascertaining from each of them how

far they have advanced with ratification measures. The replies will be brought to the attention of the Council in due course.¹⁵

843. Replies received from thirty-three Governments in response to Council resolution 468 D (XV) on uniform system of road signs and signals were circulated in documents E/2523 and E/2523/Add.1, 2 and 3.¹⁶

844. Council resolution 468 H (XV) on discrimination in transport insurance was brought to the attention of Governments and five of them have submitted their views and they have been circulated in documents E/CN.2/139 and E/CN.2/139/Add.1.

845. In connexion with fiscal questions Governments of Member States were urged to reply to requests for information addressed to them by the Secretariat under Council resolution 226 C (IX) on procedures available for the review of initial tax assessments.

846. Finland replied (E/CN.8/59/Add.30) for the first time to this inquiry during the period covered by this report; Pakistan (E/CN.8/59/Add.15) brought the previously submitted data up to date or supplied additional information.

847. In resolution 226 C (IX) Governments of Member States were urged to reply to requests for information on fiscal matters addressed to them by the Secretary-General and by resolution 378 C (XIII) Governments of Member States which had not yet done so were urged particularly to reply to the questionnaire on taxation of foreign nationals, assets and transactions circulated by the Secretary-General.

848. Liechtenstein (E/CN.8/46/Add.34) replied for the first time during the period covered by this report and the following Governments brought their previously submitted information up to date: France (E/CN.8/46/Add.2/Rev.1), and India (E/CN.8/46/Add.2, Part II), and Canada (no document number yet assigned).

849. Also under Council resolution 226 C (IX) a joint United Nations-International Monetary Fund questionnaire requesting the periodic submission of data on public finance has been circulated to all Governments of Member States. The purpose of this questionnaire is to assemble periodically public finance data that could validly be used in considering some of the effects of government operations on money supply, prices, national income and other economic variables. These data have been published in *International Financial Statistics* of IMF in the United Nations *Statistical Yearbook*.

850. In resolution 226 D (IX) the Council recommended to Governments of Member States that they actively pursue a policy of negotiating bilateral agreements, wherever appropriate, for the avoidance of double taxation. In its resolution 378 B II (XIII) the Council recommended again that the conclusion of bilateral agreements for the relief of double taxation should find a place in the fiscal policies of Governments of Member States. In April 1949, August 1953 and April 1954 the Secretary-General sent circular letters to Governments requesting the texts, and information

⁸ See also chapter II, para. 195-196.

⁹ See also chapter II, para. 151-155.

¹⁰ See also chapter II, para. 145-146.

¹¹ United Nations Publications Sales No.: 1953.II.B.1.

¹² See also chapter III, para. 414.

¹³ See also chapter II, para. 249.

¹⁴ Concerning the conference and the number of signatures to the conventions and protocol see chapter II, para. 246.

¹⁵ See chapter II, para. 248.

¹⁶ See chapter II, para. 244.

on the present status, of international tax agreements. The information thus collected with the assistance of the Governments is published in the series *International Tax Agreements*.

851. The Secretariat has been informed that the following countries have concluded tax agreements since 19 May 1953: Austria, Belgium, Canada, France, Greece, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, Union of South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

852. The texts of these agreements in so far as they were concluded before 1 June 1953 will be published in volume IV of *International Tax Agreements* in the fall of 1954. In addition to the texts of agreements, this volume will contain tables bringing up to date, as of 1 June 1953, the data on the status of international tax agreements published in *International Tax Agreements, volume III, World Guide to International Tax Agreements, 1843-1951* (ST/ECA/SER.C/3).¹⁷

853. In connexion with narcotic drugs, the Secretary-General has reported on action taken by Governments in accordance with General Assembly resolution 211 A (III) relating to the Protocol of 19 November 1948, the relevant document being the progress report for the period 1 March 1953 to 15 March 1954 (E/CN.7/264 and 264/Add.1, para. 10 and 10 (a)).

854. Action taken by Governments in pursuance of Council resolution 505 G (XVI) on the 1953 Opium Protocol is reported in documents E/CN.7/264 and 264/Add.1, para. 11 and 11 (a).

855. Reports from Governments on the abolition of opium smoking in the Far East under Council resolution 159 B (VII) are dealt with in document E/CN.7/265, 265/Add.1 and E/CN.7/281.¹⁸

856. Information from Governments concerning scientific research on narcotics, provided under Council resolutions 159 II C (VII), 246 F (IX) and 436 F (XIV), is dealt with in documents E/CN.7/264 and 264/Add.1, para. 78.

857. Communications from Governments in connexion with Council resolution 436 C (XIV) on international co-operation to control the illicit traffic in narcotics were issued in documents E/CN.7/274 and 274/Add.1.

858. Information provided by Governments under Council resolution 436 D (XIV) regarding illicit trafficking in narcotics by the crews of merchant ships and civil aircraft is contained in document E/NM.1953/1.

859. Communications from Governments giving their views in accordance with Council resolution 505 C (XVI) on the use and control of synthetic narcotic drugs are dealt with in document E/CN.7/277 and Add.1.

860. In accordance with Council resolution 501 B (XVI) the Governments of Member States submitted observations on the draft Covenants on Human Rights. The observations of 8 Governments were issued in documents E/CN.4/694 and Add.1-7.¹⁹ By resolution

501 C (XVI) the Council requested Member States to submit comments on the draft resolutions concerning (i) a system of annual reports on human rights, (ii) a series of studies of specific aspects of human rights and (iii) advisory services in the field of human rights. The comments of 13 Governments were issued in documents E/CN.4/690 and Add.1-12.

861. In accordance with Council resolution 504 B (XVI), the Secretary-General invited all Member States to transmit their comments on the draft convention on the nationality of married persons. Comments have been received from 19 Governments and have been compiled in document E/CN.6/243 and Add.1-5.²⁰

862. Information supplied by Governments during the period under review in reply to the questionnaire on the legal status and treatment of women,²¹ prepared and circulated to Governments in accordance with Council resolution 2/11, Part 4, is dealt with in documents E/CN.6/158/Add.5 (Women in public services and functions), E/CN.6/157/Add.5 (Civil liberties for women), E/CN.6/185/Add.11-13 (Family law) and E/CN.6/208/Add.1 (Property rights of women).

863. In resolution 640 (VII) the General Assembly decided to open the Convention on Political Rights of Women for the signature and ratification or accession by Member States. During the period under review eleven Member States signed and seven ratified the Convention.²² In resolution 793 (VIII) the General Assembly decided to invite non-member States which are or become members of specialized agencies or parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice to sign and ratify or accede to the Convention on Political Rights of Women. One non-member State acceded to the Convention and one signed it. As of 15 June 1954 there had been 37 signatures and 8 ratifications or accessions.

864. The General Assembly, by resolution 794 (VIII), approved a Protocol to the Slavery Convention of 1926. As of 15 June 1954 eleven Governments had signed the Protocol without reservation as to acceptance, ten Governments had signed it with reservations as to acceptance and one Government had accepted. In accordance with the fourth operative paragraph of Council resolution 475 (XV), the Secretary-General consulted all States concerning the desirability of a supplementary convention on slavery and its possible contents. Comments were received from nineteen Governments, and were drawn to the Council's attention in document E/2540.²³ In accordance with the fifth operative paragraph of Council resolution 475 (XV), the Secretary-General urged Governments which had not replied to the questionnaire on slavery and servitude, or which had supplied incomplete information, to reply accurately and fully to the questionnaire. Replies received from 38 Governments were circulated to the Council in document E/2548;²⁴ of these 22 confirmed earlier replies or stated that they had nothing to add to the information already given, while 16 forwarded new replies or supplementary information.

¹⁹ See also para. 800.

²⁰ See also para. 811.

²¹ See also para. 796.

²² See also para. 783-785.

²³ See also para. 783.

¹⁷ United Nations Publication, Sales No.: 1951.XIV.5.

¹⁸ See also para. 692.

¹⁹ See also para. 713.

865. By resolution 629 (VII), the General Assembly requested the Council "... to study ... the text of the draft protocol [relating to the status of stateless persons] and the comments received from interested Governments and, in the light of these comments, to take whatever action seems useful in order that a text may be opened for signature after the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees has entered into force". The comments of 15 Governments were circulated to the Council in document E/2373 and Add.1-14.²⁵

866. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 740 (VIII) the Secretary-General invited those

²⁵ See also para. 788-792.

Governments which had not submitted their comments and observations in response to the request of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Forced Labour to do so. The communications from Governments are included in addenda to document E/2431.²⁶

867. In accordance with Council resolution 386 (XIII) on the plight of survivors of so-called scientific experiments in nazi concentration camps, the Secretary-General invited the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany to inform him of the action taken on the claims of the survivors. The Federal Government has given such information on a certain number of claims.

²⁶ See also para. 777-778.

Annex I

RESOLUTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

Eighteenth session

- 544 (XVIII) Relief and rehabilitation of Korea.
- 555 (XVIII) World calendar reform.
- 556 (XVIII) United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Far East.

Annex II

SUMMARY RECORDS OF THE COUNCIL

Section I. Relief and rehabilitation of Korea
Plenary meeting 828.

Section II. United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Far East
Plenary meeting 818.

Section III. World calendar reform
Plenary meeting 819.

Annex III

STATEMENTS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

ORAL STATEMENTS BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO THE COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS UNDER RULE 85 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

Seventeenth session

World Jewish Congress
World calendar reform. NGO Committee meeting 140.

Eighteenth session

World Veterans Federation
Relief and rehabilitation of Korea. NGO Committee meeting 143.

WRITTEN STATEMENTS BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO THE COUNCIL

World Calendar Association, International
E/C.2/389 World calendar reform.

QUESTIONS OF CO-ORDINATION AND RELATIONS WITH SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

868. The Council, at its eighteenth session, reviewed the development of co-ordination between the United Nations and the specialized agencies, having before it the fifteenth and sixteenth reports of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, the annual reports of the specialized agencies, the reports of certain commissions of the Council, as well as information on their programmes provided by the operating agencies of the United Nations.

Section I. Reports of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination

869. The Council at its eighteenth session considered¹ the fifteenth and sixteenth reports of the ACC (E/2512², and E/2607 and Corr.1 and Add.1³). The fifteenth report of the ACC contained a chapter on the form of reports of specialized agencies, which the Council considered at its seventeenth session,⁴ the results of this discussion being found in paragraphs 879-882; it also described progress in a number of fields in which the United Nations and specialized agencies were co-operating and included a detailed statement covering the definition of terms, roles and objectives in the field of community organization and development. The sixteenth report included the observations of the ACC on financial and administrative aspects of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance, and its recommendations regarding special reports of specialized agencies to United Nations organs. Annexed to the sixteenth report was a comprehensive survey of the development of co-ordination and co-operation among the United Nations and the specialized agencies in economic and social programmes.

870. The Secretary-General introduced them⁵ in his capacity of Chairman of the ACC, and later participated in the discussion⁶ in order to reply to the questions of various members. He stated his general philosophy in promoting inter-agency co-operation as being expressed in the phrase "unity within freedom". The various organizations should be united in co-operation as one team, while retaining freedom and flexibility as independent agencies. At the same time he emphasized that the United Nations itself had a responsibility to provide the necessary leadership.

871. General appreciation was expressed of the work of the ACC during the past year, with special mention of the impetus given to programme co-ordination and to inter-agency consultations at the earliest stages. Its work in the field of community organization and development received special com-

mendation. Suggestions were made that further studies might be made by the ACC on the possibilities of closer co-ordination in the field of statistics, and on the possibility of further concentrating in the United Nations Department of Public Information the public information activities of the various specialized agencies. The Secretary-General pointed out that, while the ACC would be glad to make such studies, a recent study had been made by the ACC and submitted to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, which had shown the considerable co-ordination already achieved between the United Nations Department of Public Information and the information departments of the various specialized agencies. Several delegations emphasized the desirability of avoiding excessive centralization of services such as those of public information, since the practical difficulties of disseminating information regarding various organizations whose headquarters were not in the same place, might be overwhelming.

872. As regards administrative and financial matters, the regular consultations of the ACC with the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, were commended, as were the joint studies of the ACC and TAB on the co-ordination of services at various centres. Some delegations expressed the hope that the ACC would study further the problem of timely distribution of documents to Governments, because in spite of technical compliance with the six weeks' rule, some members of delegations were still not receiving their copies before their arrival for the session. A suggestion was also made that the ACC should make a study of the rationalization of conference programmes and calendars, with a view to the major organs of the specialized agencies arranging their conferences on related subjects in the same region and within short intervals of one another, in order to facilitate the attendance of those delegates who desired to attend more than one of these conferences.

873. With regard to reporting by specialized agencies, members were in general agreement with the observations and recommendations of the ACC that requests to specialized agencies by United Nations organs for special reports might be decreased if the regular annual reports of specialized agencies could be more generally used, and also that these requests should be made in ample time to permit the specialized agencies to make the necessary arrangements, since their regular programmes of work leave little margin for additional commitments, and budgetary and administrative measures would have to be planned. Several members indicated that they were opposed to the suggestion of some delegations that the regular reports of the specialized agencies should be placed on a biennial basis. Some members also expressed disagreement with the suggestion that the *Report on the World Social Situation* and the "International Survey of National Programmes of Social Development" should be pre-

¹ E/SR.806 and 807.

² *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Seventeenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 19.*

³ *Ibid, Eighteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 26.*

⁴ E/SR.758.

⁵ E/SR.806.

⁶ E/SR.807.

pared less frequently than every four years. With regard to the recommendation that the *Catalogue of Economic and Social Projects* should be discontinued, a suggestion was made that if it was discontinued, the survey on the development of co-ordination in economic and social programmes, annexed to the sixteenth report of the ACC, might well be developed as a substitute to the catalogue.

874. With regard to reporting by the ACC, appreciation was expressed of the improvement which had been made in recent years in the form of ACC reports to the Council. Some delegations expressed the view that the reports were still too long, that the material should be strictly confined to the functions of the ACC without including material on the specialized agencies which was already available in the individual reports of those agencies, and that the recommendations of the ACC should be presented in a more accessible form rather than dispersed throughout the reports and so obscured by a mass of detail. Other delegations, however, felt that it would be a mistake to shorten the ACC reports, which they felt should be more, rather than less, informative.

875. With regard to inter-governmental organizations outside the United Nations framework, some delegations commended the efforts which had been made to avoid duplication of activities with such organizations as the Council of Europe and the OEEC. Other delegations felt that consultations with such bodies which did not belong to the United Nations were anomalous. It was pointed out during the discussion that the League of Arab States had set up a special co-ordination committee in order to study problems of co-ordination between the League and the various agencies of the United Nations.

876. The Council adopted resolution 553 (XVIII) taking note with appreciation of the reports of the ACC.

Section II. Review of the 1955 programmes of the United Nations and the specialized agencies

877. The Council at its eighteenth session reviewed⁷ the 1955 programmes of the various United Nations bodies in the economic and social field and of the specialized agencies, in the light of the Council's previous resolutions on priorities. The Secretariat had prepared an information paper (E/2629) which summarized the actions taken by the various bodies in response to the Council's resolutions. Since most representatives had already made comments on priorities when discussing the individual reports of commissions and agencies, these comments were compiled by the Secretariat in a background paper (E/L.632 and Add.1).

878. The Council adopted resolution 553 (XVIII), expressing satisfaction with the progress made in the past year, and urging continued efforts in this direction with special emphasis on the concentration of efforts in the light of the United Nations priority programmes established by the Council.

Section III. Form of reports of the specialized agencies to the United Nations

879. In accordance with Council resolution 497 D (XVI), the ACC presented its views (E/2512, para.

⁷ E/AC.24/SR.133; E/SR.829.

6-15)⁸ to the Council at its seventeenth session as regards the regular reports of the specialized agencies and the special reports requested of the agencies by various United Nations organs.

880. In discussing the question,⁹ a number of representatives observed that considerable latitude should be permitted to each agency in the preparation of the regular reports. The possibility might, however, be explored of the agencies no longer producing for the United Nations complete reports on all their activities in addition to the annual reports prepared for their own organs, but of accompanying these annual reports by a brief memorandum on important questions on which the agencies wished to obtain the Council's advice and co-operation. It was felt by some representatives that the regular reports would lose much of their value if prepared at intervals of more than one year, and that their length might vary according to the importance of the questions dealt with. The suggestion was also made that, in order to facilitate examination of the annual reports by the Council, an index listing matters referred to in those reports under the general headings indicated in Council resolution 497 D (XVI) might be desirable and feasible. Regarding special reports, both their number and length might be reduced, thereby helping to improve quality and reduce quantity and effect appropriate budgetary and documentary savings. The hope was also expressed that reductions in the number and length of special reports would not be detrimental to the preparation of reports on certain areas of the world.

881. The Council adopted resolution 528 (XVII) requesting the specialized agencies to continue, until further notice, to give particular attention in their annual reports to the specific matters listed under Council resolution 497 D (XVI); and inviting the ACC to submit to the Council at its eighteenth session any suggestions for reducing the number and length of special reports requested of the specialized agencies by United Nations organs, or for publishing such reports at less frequent intervals.

882. At the eighteenth session¹⁰ members of the Council were in general agreement with the recommendations made by ACC that requests to specialized agencies by United Nations organs for special reports might be decreased and these requests should be made in ample time to permit the agencies to make the necessary arrangements.

Section IV. Annual reports of the specialized agencies

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION

883. The Council at its eighteenth session considered¹¹ the annual report of the International Labour Organisation (E/2577)¹² and heard a statement by the Director-General of that organization.

884. Attention was called to the fact that this year the ILO was celebrating the 35th anniversary of its foundation, as well as the 10th anniversary of the

⁸ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Seventeenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 19.*

⁹ E/SR.758.

¹⁰ See para. 873.

¹¹ E/SR.807, 808 and 809.

¹² *Eighth Report of the International Labour Organisation to the United Nations, Geneva, ILO, 1954.*

Declaration of Philadelphia. This had also been a year notable for a further step towards universality of membership in that the Soviet Union, the Ukrainian SSR and Byelorussian SSR had joined the ILO.

885. In so far as its programme was concerned, appreciation was expressed of the success of the ILO in adapting itself to changing conditions, involving the adoption of new techniques which had been successfully developed. Such techniques had included (a) regional conferences, (b) the setting-up of industrial committees, and (c) the provision of technical assistance. Some members regretted that no new international labour convention had been adopted recently and felt that the International Labour Conferences were tending to lose their character. Other members considered that a satisfactory balance had been struck between legislative activities and technical work. The ILO was also commended for giving increased emphasis to its operational activities, particularly technical assistance. In connexion with technical assistance, it was suggested that greater emphasis should be given to vocational training, that there should be a detailed review by the Governing Body of proposed projects, and more stress should be placed on country by country evaluation of projects. Special mention was made of the work of the ILO in the fields of productivity, indigenous labour, social policy in non-metropolitan territories, freedom of association, forced labour, and slavery. Some delegations were of the opinion that the double discussion procedure followed in the ILO was not desirable, while others felt that this procedure had justified itself. Some delegations expressed regret that budgetary limitations had held up the implementation of some of its programmes, the postponement of some of the sessions of the industrial committees having been particularly regrettable.

886. With regard to programme priorities, gratification was expressed that the ILO was giving increasing attention to the needs of under-developed areas. Some delegations suggested that the ILO should give particular emphasis to the following problems: unemployment, the raising of wages and standards of living of workers, and the safeguarding of trade union rights. Others considered that the ILO had made a commendable choice of priorities during the past year in concentrating on problems of productivity, wages and housing in under-developed areas, workers in non-metropolitan territories, indigenous labour and agricultural labour.

887. Special commendation was expressed of the high quality, both in form and substance, of ILO publications. The suggestion was made, however, that a proper balance should be maintained between two types of ILO publications: studies on particular aspects of its work and guides for use in operational activities. With regard to the form of the ILO report to the United Nations, it was generally considered to have been clearly presented and well-balanced, and some delegations emphasized that they hoped it would continue to be submitted on an annual basis.

888. With regard to relations with other organizations, appreciation was expressed of the close co-operation which the ILO had had with the United Nations and with the specialized agencies, such as with WHO in the field of occupational health. As to organizations outside the United Nations, the ILO's co-operation with the European Coal and Steel Com-

munity and with the Inter-Governmental Committee on European Migration was commended.

889. During the discussion on the report statements were made by the representatives of the ICFTU, the WFTU and the IFCTU.

890. The Council adopted resolution 550 (XVIII), taking note with appreciation of the report of the ILO.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

891. The Council, at its eighteenth session, considered¹³ the Annual Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (E/2591 and Add.1-3)¹⁴ and heard a statement by the representative of that organization.

892. Satisfaction was expressed with the co-ordination of FAO's programme with those of other agencies and its conformity with the priorities established by the Council for increased food production and distribution. As regards co-operation with other specialized agencies, the joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Nutrition was praised as an example of a unified approach to problems concerning more than one agency. In the field of co-operatives, it was pointed out that there seemed to be some possible overlapping with the ILO which had a long-standing interest in co-operatives in industrial areas. It was also suggested that consultation between FAO and UNESCO should be carried out at the earliest stages of scientific research on agricultural subjects; and it was hoped that FAO's co-operation with UNESCO in its fundamental education centres would result in knowledge of improved agricultural methods being conveyed from the laboratory to the farm. As regards the regional economic commissions, a suggestion was made that at times some of these commissions tended to take over activities within FAO's competence and to approve programmes requiring its co-operation without adequate prior consultation. However, the present system of having joint agricultural units within the secretariats of the commissions had been proved to be most satisfactory and if properly conducted might be the best way to solve these problems of co-ordination.

893. The Council in resolution 534 (XVIII) took note with satisfaction of the FAO report.¹⁵

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

894. The Council at its eighteenth session considered¹⁶ the reports of UNESCO (E/2589¹⁷ and E/2590¹⁸), and heard a statement by the Director-General of that organization.

895. The organization was commended on the work it had done in the educational field and suggestions were made that the budgetary appropriation for this particular work should be increased, the budgetary allocation for education having only amounted to 22 per cent of the appropriation for programme opera-

¹³ E/SR.809, 811, 814 and 815.

¹⁴ See chapter II, section VIII, footnote 42.

¹⁵ See also chapter II, section VIII.

¹⁶ E/SR.881 and 822.

¹⁷ Report to the United Nations 1952-1953, UNESCO, XR. 53.II.4A.

¹⁸ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eighteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 20.

tions and to only 15 per cent of total appropriations. Special mention was made of the importance of UNESCO's role as a clearing house for educational statistics. It was emphasized that the teaching of science and the dissemination of scientific information were of peculiar importance to the development of the less developed areas, particularly scientific research in respect of the development of arid zones. Some delegations felt that a proper balance between research studies and practical action had not yet been achieved, and, in view of the limited funds available, it was suggested that in the fields of science and culture UNESCO's role should be to promote and co-ordinate rather than to conduct research. Some members expressed support for the proposed educational development fund, and others pressed for increased emphasis on the programme of fundamental education centres which had been limited by the lack of funds. A suggestion was made, with reference to regional conferences on free and compulsory education, that the possibilities should be explored of setting up a central office in a particular region to co-ordinate such regional activities. A suggestion was also made that the national commissions of UNESCO should be in more frequent touch with each other and that they should hold periodic meetings.

896. With regard to priorities, it was the general view that because of the wide fields covered by UNESCO it was all the more necessary for it to avoid dissipation of its resources and to concentrate on a relatively small number of vital problems. Some members emphasized the need for greater concentration on the needs of under-developed areas, especially on projects that would be continued after UNESCO's participation in them had ceased. UNESCO was commended for having paid due regard to the list of priorities established by the Council, although it was noted that it had encountered some difficulty in applying strictly the criteria laid down by the Council. The view was expressed that UNESCO's most important field should be that of education as compared with science and culture, and it was suggested that some of its activities in the fields of the natural sciences should be re-examined in view of the fact that other agencies had responsibilities in those fields. The view was expressed that UNESCO should devote itself primarily to technical assistance, fundamental education, fellowships, exchanges of personnel and the creation of cultural institutes and centres; another delegation felt that, in the field of culture, greater emphasis should be placed on the development in Western countries of a better appreciation of Eastern culture and civilization and that the highest priority should be given to the translation of the classics, the reproduction of works of art, and to library projects.

897. UNESCO was particularly commended for the scrupulous manner in which it had given effect to various resolutions of the Council and for its co-operation with the United Nations. A suggestion was made, however, that UNESCO should bear in mind the need for prior consultation with the Population Commission before undertaking work on demographic questions. The operation of its two fundamental education centres in Mexico and Egypt had demonstrated its increasing collaboration with other specialized agencies; it was hoped that UNESCO would undertake to provide other international bodies with educational studies which they might require in their work. A suggestion was made that closer co-operation should be maintained with the ILO on vocational education. A view was

voiced that the work of the national commissions could be improved if they gave more consideration to similar activities of other specialized agencies. Reference was made to the interest which UNESCO had shown in the cultural conference recently organized by the League of Arab States.

898. The form of UNESCO's latest report received praise; members felt it was succinct and well suited for the purposes of the Council and the organization was particularly commended for having followed closely the request of the Council regarding the reporting of the topics which the Council wished specialized agencies to include in their reports.

899. The Council, in resolution 551 (XVIII), took note with appreciation of UNESCO's reports for 1952-53 and 1953-54.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

900. The Council at its eighteenth session considered¹⁹ the Annual Report of the World Health Organization (E/2592²⁰ and Add.1²¹) and heard a statement by the Director-General of that organization.

901. Gratification was expressed at the steady increase in the membership of WHO, which had risen from 48 at the end of 1948 to 81 at present. Some representatives, however, expressed regret that this increase in membership had not been accompanied by a proportional increase in the members of the Executive Board and that some regions were not adequately represented; a proposal to increase the membership of the Executive Board from 18 to 24 had been rejected by the WHO Assembly by only one vote.

902. With regard to the programme of WHO, special mention was made of the impressive record of WHO in undertaking campaigns during 1953 against no less than 27 communicable diseases and note was taken of the change in emphasis in its programme from emergency measures to long-term projects. While it was noted that emphasis had been placed by WHO on three key tasks, namely, the education of health personnel, the fight against epidemic diseases and the development of public health education, some regret was expressed that there was little mention in the report regarding programme priorities, and the hope was expressed that the efforts of WHO to establish priorities in accordance with the list of priorities established by the Council would be covered in a special section of its next report.

903. Members noted that the regular budget of WHO had increased from under \$5 million in 1948 to \$9,500,000 for 1955, and the hope was expressed that the efforts of the World Health Assembly, by establishing a working party to examine the Director-General's programme and budget estimates and by reconstituting the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance, would result in a stricter control over the programme and budget. Some members expressed the belief that a curtailment of resources had had an adverse effect on the work of the organization; while believing that it would be desirable to increase the organization's resources, they felt that economies

¹⁹ E/SR.802.

²⁰ *Official Records of the World Health Organization No. 51. The Work of WHO 1953*, Geneva, 1954.

²¹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eighteenth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 21.

in administration and staff would help to create a proper climate for requesting such increase. Other members expressed regret at the decision of WHO to adopt a budget above the 1954 expenditure level, as they felt this might prove harmful in the long run, owing to controversies arising in certain countries which had to provide most of the funds. Attention was drawn to the necessity, under General Assembly resolution 411 (V), for specialized agencies to intensify their efforts to stabilize their budgets. At the same time satisfaction was expressed that WHO had taken steps to approximate the contributions of members more closely to the United Nations scale of assessments. With regard to the WHO/UNICEF programmes, some delegations expressed concern that its proper share of the costs of joint projects was not being assumed by WHO.

904. With regard to technical assistance, appreciation was expressed of the achievement of WHO in this field. Some delegations, however, criticized the decision of WHO to remove by 1956 the obligation of beneficiary governments to pay the local expenses of experts working on field projects financed by the regular budget, since an undesirable distinction would thus be established between projects under the regular budget and projects under the special technical assistance budget and would put WHO out of step with other specialized agencies. Some delegations also criticized the decision of WHO not to give more consideration to the recommendations regarding the recruitment of experts which had been adopted by a conference of European national technical assistance committees.

905. The view was expressed that the policy of regionalization promoted by WHO had now shown itself to be justified by events. Reference was made to the decision of the WHO Assembly to establish two sub-committees for the Eastern Mediterranean region, a device which might enable the regional machinery there to function after three years of comparative inactivity and permit the work of the organization to be developed in a region where many countries now had no health services.

906. Appreciation was expressed of the close relations which WHO had developed not only with UNICEF, but also with FAO in nutrition, with the ILO in social and occupational health, and with UNESCO in fundamental education.

907. Satisfaction was expressed at the revised and shortened form of the WHO report, the report being the same as that which the Director-General had submitted to the World Health Assembly, but supported by a supplementary report which pointed out matters of particular interest to the Council.

908. The Council adopted resolution 552 (XVIII), taking note with appreciation of WHO's report.

INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

909. The Council, at its eighteenth session, considered²² the annual report of the International Civil Aviation Organization (E/2593 and Add.1 and 2)²³ and heard a statement by the representative of that organization.

²² E/SR.814 and 815.

²³ *Report of the Council to the Assembly on the Activities of the Organization in 1953*, ICAO, Montreal, June 1954 (Doc. 7456, A8-P/2-8/4/54), *Council's Budget Estimates, 1955 and Information Annex*, ICAO, Montreal, June 1954 (Doc. 7457, A8-AD/1-25/3/54).

910. Members expressed general appreciation of the progress in the work of ICAO, noting particularly the achievement of greater safety in air transport, and the elimination of certain difficulties in communications between airports and planes in flight. Particular reference was made to the new agreement which had been reached concerning the North Atlantic Ocean stations, and to the recent Strasbourg Conference, called upon the initiative of the Council of Europe, which had made progress in rationalizing European air traffic. Mention was also made of the proposals for revising the Warsaw Convention relating to air carriers' liability. Some members considered that ICAO should undertake the protracted task of revising the Chicago Convention. Gratification was expressed that ICAO had devoted more attention this year to the economic side of its work; a suggestion was made that one of the organization's main concerns, in studying economic questions involved in air transport development, should be the utilization of existing airlines before new lines were established over the same routes. Some concern was expressed that there had not been greater progress in co-ordinating the various modes of transport, and the hope was voiced that the expected establishment in the near future of the inter-governmental maritime consultative organization would facilitate future studies in this direction. Some delegations expressed regret that owing to the restricted funds at its disposal ICAO had not been able to meet all the requests which had been received for technical assistance.

911. The efforts of ICAO to overhaul its administration and reduce expenditure received commendation. Reference was made to the recommendation by the ICAO Assembly that its sessions should be held only every three years, and the hope was expressed that member States would ratify the relevant amendments to the Convention. Some delegations mentioned the tendency at various ICAO meetings to use only the English language, and the hope was expressed by them that in future the multilingual system would be maintained. A suggestion was made that ICAO should study the desirability of rotating certain technical personnel and of using personnel seconded from national administrations.

912. Satisfaction was expressed at the co-ordination of ICAO's activities with those of other specialized agencies, particularly WMO and the ILO. It was noted that the Governing Body of the ILO had initiated a study on the social aspects of employment in civil aviation which would be undertaken by a joint aviation commission. The need for new machinery for that purpose, however, was doubted by some.

913. With regard to the form of the report, general appreciation was expressed. It was suggested, however, that in future reports information on ICAO's relations with other specialized agencies should be assembled in one chapter. It was also suggested that ICAO might include in its next report specific details of the application by Member States of the standards and practices recommended by ICAO.

914. The Council adopted resolution 538 (XVIII), taking note with appreciation of the report of ICAO.

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

915. The Council, at its eighteenth session, considered²⁴ the reports of ITU for 1952 and 1953 (E/2461

²⁴ E/SR.823.

and E/2611)²⁵ and heard a statement by the Secretary-General of that organization.

916. In the discussion, the purely technical nature of the work of ITU was stressed, and it was pointed out that the Council's resolutions on priorities were not therefore directly applicable to ITU; nevertheless, the organization had kept in view the general objectives laid down by those resolutions. The practice of assigning the preparation of technical reports to experts in the various national telecommunication administrations was commended as one which not only had produced high quality of work but had resulted in financial savings. Attention was drawn to the fact that a number of practical questions still remained to be settled; one representative pointed out that ITU had been requested by the Council to consider the possibility of developing new techniques for the rational use of broadcasting frequencies and the elimination of wasteful competition and duplication. He noted that no report had yet been received from ITU on that subject. Another representative thought that immediate steps should be taken to draw up the International List of Frequencies which the Plenipotentiary Conference at Atlantic City had decided should be drawn up.

917. With regard to relations with other specialized agencies, the satisfactory co-operation with ICAO, WMO and UNESCO received particular mention. With regard to co-operation with WMO, it was hoped that ITU might be able to give full consideration to WMO's request for reduced rates for the communication of meteorological reports.

918. A suggestion was made that, since the ITU report had not been received six weeks before the opening of the Council session, the Secretary-General of ITU might be authorized, in future, to transmit his report to the Council before submitting it to the ITU Administrative Council in accordance with the practice of other specialized agencies; if the Administrative Council wished to make any alterations in the text, a corrigendum could be issued. Comments in general on the form of the report were favourable, indicating that members considered the latest report of ITU to be well arranged and better balanced than in previous years. Some members, however, thought that it was still too technical and, as in the case of the section on freedom of information, might be more informative. It was therefore hoped that, in future, a chapter could be included explaining in non-technical language recent developments in telecommunications.

919. The Council adopted resolution 540 (XVIII), taking note with appreciation of the reports of ITU.

UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION

920. The Council, at its eighteenth session, considered²⁶ the Annual Report of the UPU (E/2539)²⁷ and heard a statement by the representative of that organization.

921. During the discussion it was noted that, in addition to its regular activities, the Union had devoted its energies during 1953 to implementing the decisions of the Brussels Congress of 1952. Mention

was made of the introduction of free carriage by postal administrations of publications in Braille. The Director of UPU was commended on having achieved a wider geographical distribution among his staff. Members noted with gratification that the Agreement between the United Nations and UPU was operating to the satisfaction of both parties and that successful working relationships had been established with other specialized agencies, particularly ICAO.

922. Some members expressed the view that parts of the UPU report were too detailed and technical to be of interest to the Council. It was pointed out by the representative of UPU that the report submitted each year by UPU to its own members was also being submitted to the Council as the annual report of UPU to the United Nations, in accordance with an understanding reached during the negotiation of the Agreement between the United Nations and UPU. It was therefore inevitable that some of the more technical parts of the report, which would be of particular interest to the members of UPU, should be of less interest to members of the Council.

923. The Council adopted resolution 539 (XVIII), taking note with appreciation of the report.

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION

924. The Council, at its eighteenth session, considered²⁸ the annual report of the World Meteorological Organization (E/2594 and Corr.1)²⁹ and heard a statement by the Acting Secretary-General of that organization.

925. In the discussion it was pointed out that, although the organization had had a modest budget, excellent work had been achieved in such matters as the exchange of weather data, weather forecasting and standardization of meteorological instruments. The regional associations of the organization had also done useful work. The hope was expressed that WMO would be able to make a definite contribution to the study on international co-operation in water resource development.

926. The efforts of the organization to keep down expenditure were commended, and it was noted that much of the work of the subsidiary bodies had been done by national experts working without remuneration. Some members felt that the existing budget of WMO was inadequate to meet the needs. Note was taken of the fact that WMO had decided to become affiliated to the ILO Administrative Tribunal rather than that of the United Nations. Reference was also made to the satisfactory procedures followed by WMO in granting language allowances to its staff.

927. The organization was particularly commended for the care with which it had complied with the requests of the Council in its various resolutions. Appreciation was expressed of the successful conclusion of the arrangement between WMO and ICAO, and it was noted that close co-operation was being maintained not only with ICAO but also with FAO, ITU and UNESCO.

928. With regard to the form of the report, members commended WMO for having paid particular

²⁵ Annual report(s) by the International Telecommunication Union to the Economic and Social Council, 1952 (and 1953).

²⁶ E/SR.795.

²⁷ Rapport du Bureau international de l'Union postale universelle, Berne, 1953 (printed in French only).

²⁸ E/SR.817.

²⁹ Annual Report of the World Meteorological Organization, WMO, Geneva 1954 (not yet available in printed form as of 15 August 1954).

attention to including in its report the topics listed in Council resolution 497 D (XVI). The view was expressed that it was a model of a report serving a dual purpose and suitable both as a report to the United Nations and as an annual report to members of the organization itself. The general review with which the report opened received special commendation as a summary of particular value to the Council.

929. The Council adopted resolution 541 (XVIII), taking note with appreciation of the report.

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

930. The Council, at its seventeenth session, considered³⁰ the annual reports of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Monetary Fund, and heard statements by the President of the Bank and the Managing Director of the Fund. The Council adopted resolutions 514 (XVII) and 513 (XVII), taking note of the reports of the Bank and Fund respectively.³¹

Section V. Application for membership in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

931. In accordance with article II of the Agreement between the United Nations and UNESCO, the Council, at its eighteenth session, considered³² an application of the Romanian People's Republic for membership in UNESCO (E/2614)³³. Under this article the Council could recommend the rejection of applications from States not Members of the United Nations, UNESCO being then obligated to accept any such recommendation.

³⁰ E/SR.771, 772, 775, 778 and 779.

³¹ A summary of the discussions of these reports from a substantial point of view will be found in chapter III, section I and chapter II, section IX respectively.

³² E/SR.795 and 805.

³³ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eighteenth Session, Annexes*, agenda supplementary item No. 1.

932. Some members, in supporting this application, pointed to the great progress which Romania had made in the economic and cultural fields, including the establishment of new universities and the proclamation of its new Constitution guaranteeing to the Romanian people new rights and freedoms. They also supported the application under the principle of the universality of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, and pointed out that the Romanian People's Republic was already a member of four other specialized agencies: WHO, UPU, ITU and WMO. It was further pointed out that none of the applications from non-United Nations members for membership in UNESCO, previously considered by the Council, had so far been rejected.

933. Other members expressed opposition to that Government's admission to UNESCO, in view of the Romanian Government's record of consistent violation of international undertakings. It had violated the provisions relating to human rights in the Treaty of Peace, refusing to appoint representatives to the Commission provided under that Treaty for the settlement of disputes. Under General Assembly resolution 294 (IV) the matter had been submitted to the International Court of Justice, which, in its Advisory Opinion in 1950, had declared that the Romanian Government was under an obligation to appoint representatives to that Commission. Subsequently, the General Assembly in its resolution 385 (V) had condemned the Romanian Government for its refusal to fulfil those obligations. They also drew attention to the grave charges of discrimination brought against the Romanian Government by the World Jewish Congress (E/C.2/403).

934. After the discussion the Council, in resolution 554 (XVIII), decided to inform UNESCO that it had no objection to the admission of the Romanian People's Republic to that organization.

935. The Council decided³⁴ to place the application of the Bulgarian People's Republic for membership in UNESCO on the agenda and postponed consideration of this item until the resumed eighteenth session.

³⁴ E/SR.824.

Annex I

RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS OF THE COUNCIL

Seventeenth session

Resolution

528 (XVII) Form of reports of specialized agencies

Eighteenth session

Resolutions

534 (XVIII) Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

538 (XVIII) Report of the International Civil Aviation Organization

539 (XVIII) Report of the Universal Postal Union

540 (XVIII) Reports of the International Telecommunication Union

541 (XVIII) Report of the World Meteorological Organization

550 (XVIII) Report of the International Labour Organization

551 (XVIII) Reports of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

552 (XVIII) Report of the World Health Organization

553 (XVIII) Co-ordination of the work of the United Nations and the specialized agencies

554 (XVIII) Application from the Romanian People's Republic for membership in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

Decision

The Council at its 824th meeting decided to place on the Council's agenda Supplementary item No. 2 "Application of the Bulgarian People's Republic for admission to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization", and further decided to postpone consideration of the item until the resumed eighteenth session, on the understanding that it would be discussed before 1 December 1954.

Annex II

SUMMARY RECORDS OF THE COUNCIL AND ITS COMMITTEES

The summary records of the meetings of the Council relevant to the various sections of this chapter are indicated below:

Section I. Reports of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination

Plenary meetings 806 and 807.

Section II. Review of the 1955 programmes of the United Nations and the specialized agencies

Co-ordination Committee meeting 133.

Plenary meeting 829.

Section III. Form of reports of the specialized agencies to the United Nations

Plenary meeting 758.

Section IV. Annual reports of the specialized agencies

Plenary meetings 771, 772, 775, 778, 779, 795, 802, 807, 808, 809, 811, 814, 815, 817, 821, 822, 823.

Section V. Applications for membership in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

Plenary meetings 795, 805, 824.

Annex III

STATEMENTS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

ORAL STATEMENTS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO THE COUNCIL OR ITS COMMITTEES UNDER RULE 86 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

Eighteenth session

International Confederation of Free Trade Unions

Report of the International Labour Organisation.

Plenary meeting 808.

World Federation of Trade Unions

Report of the International Labour Organisation.

Plenary meeting 808.

International Federation of Christian Trade Unions

Report of the International Labour Organisation.

Plenary meeting 809.

ORAL STATEMENTS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO THE COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS UNDER RULE 85 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

Eighteenth session

World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations

Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization.

NGO Committee meeting 145.

Indian Council of World Affairs

Agudas Israel World Organization

World Calendar Association

World Jewish Congress

World Calendar Reform. NGO Committee meeting 145.

WRITTEN STATEMENT BY A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION TO THE COUNCIL

World Jewish Congress

E/C.2/403 Application from the Romanian People's Republic for membership in UNESCO.

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Section I. List of non-governmental organizations in consultative relationship

936. The non-governmental organizations in consultative relationship with the Council in pursuance of Article 71 of the Charter, as of 6 August 1954, are listed below.

937. Seventeen applications and re-applications were considered¹ and reported on by the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations at the seventeenth session (E/2550).² In connexion with the consideration of four re-applications for consultative status received after 1 November 1953, the Council approved³ the interpretation given by the Council NGO Committee to paragraph 35 (a) of Council resolution 288 B (X)⁴ (E/2550, annex 32). The organizations granted consultative status at the seventeenth session⁵ are marked by an asterisk.

938. Category A

International Chamber of Commerce
International Confederation of Free Trade Unions^{*}
International Cooperative Alliance
International Federation of Agricultural Producers
International Federation of Christian Trade Unions^{*}
International Organization of Employers
Inter-Parliamentary Union
World Federation of Trade Unions^{*}
World Federation of United Nations Associations

939. Category B

Agudas Israel World Organization
All India Women's Conference (India)
All Pakistan Women's Association (Pakistan)
Anti-Slavery Society, The (United Kingdom)
^{*}CARE (Co-operative for American Remittances to Everywhere, Inc.) (United States of America)
Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (United States of America)
Catholic International Union for Social Service
^{*}Chamber of Commerce of the United States of America (United States of America)
Commission of the Churches on International Affairs, The
Confédération internationale du crédit populaire
Consultative Council of Jewish Organizations
Co-ordinating Board of Jewish Organizations for Consultation with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations
Friends World Committee for Consultation
Howard League for Penal Reform (United Kingdom)

¹ E/C.2/SR.133 and 137.

² *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Seventeenth Session*; Annexes, agenda item 20 (a).

³ E/SR.758 and 759.

⁴ E/C.2/SR.134, 135, 136 and 137.

⁵ Resolution 529 A (XVII); E/SR.758 and 759.

^{*} Eighteen International Trade Secretariats are represented through the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

^{*} Eleven Trade Internationals are represented through the International Federation of Christian Trade Unions.

^{*} Eleven Trade Unions Internationals are represented through the World Federation of Trade Unions.

Indian Council of World Affairs (India)
Inter-American Council of Commerce and Production
Inter-American Federation of Automobile Clubs⁹
Inter-American Press Association
Inter-American Statistical Institute
International Abolitionist Federation
International African Institute
International Air Transport Association
International Alliance of Women—Equal Rights, Equal Responsibilities
International Association of Juvenile Court Judges
International Association of Penal Law
International Automobile Federation¹⁰

^{*}International Bar Association

International Bureau for the Suppression of Traffic in Persons
International Catholic Child Bureau
International Catholic Migration Commission
International Catholic Press Union
International Commission Against Concentration Camp Practices

^{*}International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage

International Committee of Schools of Social Work
International Committee of Scientific Management
International Committee of the Red Cross
International Conference of Catholic Charities
International Conference of Social Work
International Congresses for Modern Architecture
International Co-operative Women's Guild

^{*}International Council for Building Research, Studies and Documentation

International Council of Women
International Criminal Police Commission
International Federation for Housing and Town Planning
International Federation for the Rights of Man
International Federation of Business and Professional Women

International Federation of Friends of Young Women
International Federation of Journalists

International Federation of Newspaper Publishers (Proprietors) and Editors

International Federation of Settlements

International Federation of University Women

^{*}International Federation of Women Lawyers

International Fiscal Association

International Institute of Administrative Sciences

International Institute of Public Finance

International Islamic Economic Organization

International Labour Assistance

International Law Association, The

International League for the Rights of Man, The

International Movement of Friendly Relations Among Races and Peoples

International Organization for Standardization

International Road Federation

International Road Transport Union

International Social Service

International Society for Criminology

International Society for the Welfare of Cripples

⁹ Consultative status in category B was granted on condition that it work out arrangements with the International Automobile Federation and the International Touring Alliance, by which they may be consulted jointly by the Council.

¹⁰ To be jointly represented with the International Touring Alliance.

International Society of Social Defence
 International Statistical Institute
 International Touring Alliance¹¹
 International Union for Child Welfare
 International Union for Inland Navigation
 International Union for the Protection of Nature
 International Union for the Scientific Study of Population
 International Union of Architects
 International Union of Family Organizations
 International Union of Local Authorities
 International Union of Marine Insurance
 International Union of Official Travel Organizations
 International Union of Producers and Distributors of Electric Power
 International Union of Railways
 International Union of Socialist Youth
 *Junior Chamber International
 *League of Red Cross Societies
 Liaison Committee of Women's International Organizations
 Lions International — The International Association of Lions Clubs
 National Association of Manufacturers (United States of America)
 Nouvelles Equipes Internationales — Union des Democratres Chrétiens
 Pan-Pacific Women's Association
 Pax Romana — International Catholic Movement for Intellectual and Cultural Affairs¹²
 Pax Romana — International Movement of Catholic Students¹³
 Rotary International
 Salvation Army, The
 Society of Comparative Legislation (France)
 South American Petroleum Institute
 Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
 World Assembly of Youth¹
 World Confederation of Organizations of the Teaching Profession
 World Council for the Welfare of the Blind
 World Federation of Catholic Young Women and Girls
 World Jewish Congress
 World Movement of Mothers
 World Power Conference
 World's Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations (World's YMCA)
 World's Women's Christian Temperance Union
 World's Young Women's Christian Association (World's YWCA)
 World Union for Progressive Judaism
 World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations
 World Veterans Federation
 Young Christian Workers

940. The total number of organizations listed above is 118; of these, nine are in category A and 109 in category B. All these organizations are international, except the ten which are followed by the name of a State.

941. The following 133 additional organizations are now on the Register of the Secretary-General for *ad hoc* consultations in accordance with resolution 288 B (X). They are all international except the one which is followed by the name of a State:

942. Register

Aero Medical Association
 American College of Chest Physicians
 Arab Union
 Asian Relations Organization

¹¹ To be jointly represented with the International Automobile Federation.

¹² To be jointly represented with Pax Romana — International Movement of Catholic Students.

¹³ To be jointly represented with Pax Romana — International Catholic Movement for Intellectual and Cultural Affairs.

Associated Country Women of the World
 Association Internationale des Intérêts Radio Maritimes
 Biometric Society, The
 Boy Scouts' International Bureau
 Centre of International Relationships for Wholesale Trade
 Committee for Economic Development (United States of America)
 Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences
 Econometric Society, The
 Engineers Joint Council
 European Association for Animal Production
 European Broadcasting Union
 European Confederation of Agriculture
 Fédération internationale libre des déportés et internés de la resistance
 Federation of International Furniture Removers
 Hansard Society, The
 Institute of International Law
 Inter-American Association of Broadcasters
 Inter-American Association of Sanitary Engineering
 International Academy of Forensic and Social Medicine
 International Aeronautical Federation
 International Amateur Radio Union
 International Association for Research in Income and Wealth
 International Association for the Exchange of Students for Technical Experience
 International Association for Prevention of Blindness
 International Association of Art Critics
 International Association of Horticultural Producers
 International Association of Independent Enterprises, Trades and Crafts
 International Association of Microbiological Societies
 International Association of Physical Oceanography
 International Association of Universities
 International Association of University Professors and Lecturers
 International Astronomical Union
 International Broadcasting Organization
 International Cargo Handling Co-ordination Association
 International Chamber of Shipping
 International Commission on Illumination
 International Committee for Social Sciences Documentation
 International Committee of Catholic Nurses and Medical Social Workers
 International Committee of Comparative Law
 International Committee on Radio Electricity
 International Confederation of Professional and Intellectual Workers
 International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers
 International Conference on Large Electric Systems
 International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies
 International Council of Commerce Employers
 International Council of Museums
 International Council of Nurses
 International Council of Scientific Unions
 International Council on Archives
 International Dairy Federation
 International Dental Federation
 International Economic Association
 International Falcon Movement
 International Federation for Documentation
 International Federation of Air Line Pilots Associations
 International Federation of Art Film
 International Federation of Building and Public Works (Employers' Confederation)
 International Federation of Film Producers Associations
 International Federation of Free Journalists (of Central and Eastern Europe and Baltic and Balkan Countries)
 International Federation of Home Economics
 International Federation of Independent Air Transport
 International Federation of Library Associations
 International Federation of Organisations for School Correspondence and Exchanges
 International Federation of Radio Officers
 International Federation of Senior Police Officers
 International Federation of the Phonographic Industry

International Federation of Workers' Educational Associations

International Federation of Workers' Travel Associations

International Geographical Union

International Hospital Federation

International Institute of Differing Civilizations

International Institute of Public Law

International Institution of the Middle Classes

International Landworkers' Federation

International League Against Rheumatism

International Leprosy Association, The

International Literary and Artistic Association

International Music Council

International Olive Growers' Federation

International Paediatric Association

International P.E.N. Club, A World Association of Writers

International Pharmaceutical Federation

International Political Science Association

International Radio Maritime Committee

International Radio Scientific Union

International Real Estate Federation

International Relief Committee for Intellectual Workers

International Shipping Federation Ltd., The

International Sociological Association

International Studies Conference

International Temperance Union

International Theatre Institute

International Union Against Cancer

International Union Against Tuberculosis

International Union Against Venereal Diseases

International Union of Aviation Insurers

International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics

International Union of Scientific Psychology

International Vegetarian Union

International Youth Hostel Federation

Joint Committee of International Teachers' Federations

Joint International Committee for Tests Relating to the
Protection of Telecommunication Lines and Underground
Ducts

Liberal International, World Liberal Union

Lutheran World Federation

Medical Women's International Association

New Education Fellowship

Open Door International (for the Economic Emancipation
of the Woman Worker)

O.R.T. (World ORT Union)

Pacific Science Association

Permanent International Association of Navigation Con-
gresses

Permanent International Committee on Canned Foods

St. Joan's International Social and Political Alliance

Service Civil International

Soroptimist International Association

Standing Conference of Voluntary Agencies Working for
Refugees

Union of International Associations—Service Centre for
International Non-Governmental Organizations

Union of International Engineering Organizations

Union OSE—World Wide Organisation for Child Care,
Health and Hygiene among Jews

World Association for Public Opinion Research

World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, The

World Calendar Association, International, The

World Federation for Mental Health

World Federation of Democratic Youth

World Friendship Federation

World Medical Association

World Organization for Early Childhood Education

World's Student Christian Federation

World Union of Jewish Students

World University Service

Section II. Review of non-governmental organizations

943. The Council, at its seventeenth session, reviewed¹⁴ the non-governmental organizations admitted to consultative status in category B at or before the thirteenth session of the Council. The Council decided that consultative status in category B should be withdrawn from the Women's International Democratic Federation. The Council also decided to transfer the International Association of Independent Enterprises, Trades and Crafts, the International Shipping Federation and the Permanent International Association of Navigation Congresses from category B to the Register.

944. The decisions of the Council were based on the report of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/2551) which had before it¹⁵ a report on the consultative activities of the organizations under review prepared by the Secretary-General.¹⁶

Section III. Operating consultative arrangements

WRITTEN STATEMENTS FROM NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

945. In the period covered by the present report, 63 written statements¹⁷ were submitted to the Council or its commissions, under resolution 288 B (X), by 30 non-governmental organizations. The subjects of those written statements, together with the names of the non-governmental organizations which submitted them, are listed in the annexes to the various substantive chapters as appropriate.

HEARINGS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

946. During the Council's seventeenth session, the following category A organizations made statements on agenda items under rule 86¹⁸:

(a) International Chamber of Commerce on items 2, 3 (c) and 27;

(b) International Confederation of Free Trade Unions on items 3, 3 (a), 13, 14, 15 and 17;

(c) International Federation of Christian Trade Unions on items 3, 13, 14 and 15;

(d) World Federation of Trade Unions on items 3, 3 (c), 3 (d), 13 and 14.

947. During the Council's eighteenth session, the following category A organizations made statements on agenda items under rule 86¹⁹:

(a) International Confederation of Free Trade Unions on items 2, 3, 8 (b), 10, 12 (a), 14 and 18;

(b) International Federation of Christian Trade Unions on items 2, 3 and 18;

¹⁴ Resolution 529 B (XVII); E/SR.758, 763 and 764.

¹⁵ E/C.2/SR.134, 135 and 137.

¹⁶ E/C.2/374 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and 2; E/C.2/382.

¹⁷ See E/C.2/364-408; E/CN.3/190; E/CN.3/NGO/4; E/CN.4/NGO/54-59; E/CN.4/Sub.2/NGO/7-8; E/CN.6/NGO/18-25; E/CN.7/273; E/CN.8/NGO/5; E/CN.11/NGO/7-8; E/ICEF/NGO/7-10.

¹⁸ E/SR.756, 761, 766, 768, 769, 783 and 785; E/AC.6/SR.143, 149 and 154; E/AC.7/SR.257 and 276. See also reports of the NGO Committee on hearings and applications for hearings (E/2561 and E/2562).

¹⁹ E/SR.800, 804, 808, 809, 812, 813, 816 and 820; E/AC.6/SR.161; E/AC.7/SR.277, 279, 285 and 286; TAC/SR.69 and 74. See also reports of the NGO Committee on hearings and applications for hearings (E/2624 and E/2628).

(c) World Federation of Trade Unions on items 2, 3, 8 (b) and 18;

(d) World Federation of United Nations Associations on items 2, 3 (a), 8 (b) and 12.

948. During the seventeenth session, the following category B organizations were heard by the Council NGO Committee on agenda items under rule 85²⁰:

Anti-Slavery Society (United Kingdom) on item 15;

International Commission Against Concentration Camp Practices on item 14;

International Federation of Friends of Young Women on item 17;

International Law Association on item 27;

International League for the Rights of Man on item 12;

International Social Service on item 17;

Nouvelles équipes internationales — Union des démocrates chrétiens on items 12 (a) and 14;

Women's International Democratic Federation on item 20 (b);

World Veterans Federation on item 11;

World Jewish Congress on item 25.

949. In addition, the NGO Committee heard, under rule 84, a representative of the World Federation of Trade Unions on the question of access to the United Nations Headquarters of representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status²¹.

950. During the eighteenth session, the following category B organizations were heard by the Council NGO Committee on agenda items under rule 85²²:

Agudas Israel World Organization on item 15;

Catholic International Union for Social Service on item 8;

Chamber of Commerce of the United States of America on items 2 (a), 3 (a) and 10;

Commission of the Churches on International Affairs on item 14;

Co-ordinating Board of Jewish Organizations on item 14;

Indian Council of World Affairs on item 15.

International Conference of Catholic Charities on item 14;

International Council of Women on items 10, 12 (a) and (b) and 17 (a);

Pax Romana on items 10 and 15;

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom on item 10;

World Jewish Congress on items 10 and 15;

²⁰ E/C.2/SR.138, 139, 140 and 142. See reports of the NGO Committee (E/2561, E/2562 and E/2570).

²¹ E/C.2/SR.141. See report of the NGO Committee (E/2568).

²² E/C.2/SR.143, 144 and 145. See reports of the NGO Committee (E/2626, E/2627 and E/2632).

World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations on item 19;

World Veterans Federation on items 3 and 27.

951. By invitation of the Chairman, with the approval of the Committee, two non-governmental organizations on the Register of the Secretary-General were also heard by the Council NGO Committee:

St. Joan's International Social and Political Alliance on item 12;

World Calendar Association on item 15.

952. In addition, the NGO Committee heard, under rule 84, a representative of the International Abolitionist Federation, an organization in consultative status, category B, speak on "Measures to increase the ratifications of the Convention for the Suppression of Traffic in Persons and the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others".²³

953. The NGO Committee also consulted with the Bureau of the Conference of Consultative Non-Governmental Organizations on hearings held under rules 84 and 85 of the rules of procedure²⁴. The Bureau of the Conference presented a resolution to the Committee (E/C.2/398) containing its suggestions for methods to improve hearings. The Committee decided that the suggestions should be implemented to the extent practicable and recommended that the Council establish the practice of having the President of the Council or the Chairman of committees announce at the beginning of the discussion on each item what oral and/or written statements had been submitted by non-governmental organizations²⁵. The Council agreed to this recommendation.²⁶

954. The Committee also heard brief statements from each of the category A organizations on each agenda item on which they were later heard by the Council.²⁷

955. Many non-governmental organizations were heard by the Commissions of the Council, as noted *passim* in previous chapters and in the reports of the Commissions themselves.

AGENDA ITEMS PROPOSED BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

956. The item "Draft convention on the enforcement of international arbitral awards" was proposed for the provisional agenda of the Council by the International Chamber of Commerce, a non-governmental organization in category A, and upon recommendation of the NGO Committee²⁸ the Council included it on its agenda at its seventeenth session²⁹.

²³ E/C.2/SR.143. See report of the NGO Committee (E/2626).

²⁴ E/C.2/SR.136. See report of the NGO Committee (E/2550).

²⁵ E/C.2/SR.146.

²⁶ E/SR.829. See report of the NGO Committee (E/2645).
²⁷ Those oral statements are listed in the annexes to the various substantive chapters, as appropriate.

²⁸ E/C.2/SR.135. See also report of the NGO Committee (E/2552).

²⁹ E/SR.756.

Annex I

RESOLUTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

Seventeenth session

529 (XVII) Non-governmental organizations:

- A. Applications and re-applications for consultative status.
- B. Review of non-governmental organizations.

Eighteenth session

546 (XVIII) Conference of non-governmental organizations interested in the eradication of prejudice and discrimination.

Annex II

SUMMARY RECORDS OF THE COUNCIL AND ITS COMMITTEES

The summary records of the meetings of the Council and its committees relevant to the various sections of this chapter are indicated below:

Section I. List of non-governmental organizations in consultative relationship

Plenary meetings 758 and 759.

NGO Committee meetings 133, 134, 135, 136 and 137.

Section II. Review of non-governmental organizations

Plenary meetings 758, 763 and 764.

NGO Committee meetings 134, 135, 137 and 139.

Section III. Operating consultative arrangements

Plenary meetings 756, 761, 766, 768, 769, 783, 785, 800, 804, 808, 809, 812, 813, 816, 820, 824 and 829.

Economic Committee meetings 143, 149, 154 and 161.

Social Committee meetings 257, 276, 277, 279, 285 and 286.

Technical Assistance Committee meetings 69 and 74.

NGO Committee meetings 136, 137, 138, 139, 139/Add.1, 140, 140/Add.1, 141, 142, 143, 143/Add.1, 144, 144/Add.1, 145 and 146.

Annex III

STATEMENTS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

WRITTEN STATEMENTS TO THE COUNCIL BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Conference of Consultative Non-Governmental Organizations
E/C.2/398 Hearings of Non-Governmental Organizations.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL

Section I. Procedures for considering financial implications

957. In accordance with resolution 456 (XIV), and rule 34 of its rules of procedure, the Council examined statements of work programmes and costs of the economic and social activities of the United Nations and individual statements of financial implications arising from proposals and decisions at its seventeenth¹ and eighteenth² sessions.

958. At its eighteenth session the Council, while continuing to require a separate estimate of the cost involved for each proposal involving expenditure from United Nations funds, agreed to examine the summary of financial implications of its actions only once a year. This examination would take place at the session immediately preceding the regular session of the General Assembly, when, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 533 C (VI), the analysis of the economic and social activities of the United Nations would be before the Council by field of activity and by budget section.

Section II. Financial implications of the actions taken by the Council at its seventeenth session

959. The financial implications of the proposals approved by the Council at its seventeenth session were summarized in the Secretary-General's paper (E/2559/Add.2) circulated to the Council. The approved changes in the 1954 work programmes have not resulted in additional costs.

960. None of the actions of the seventeenth session are expected to require additional budgetary provisions. The financial aspects of certain actions, however, are to be noted:

(a) A resolution of the Council admitting to membership in the regional economic commissions States not Members of the United Nations may lead to the receipt of additional contributions to the overall budget although no estimate of income likely to be received can be given at this stage.

(b) The decision to hold a second conference of plenipotentiaries to revise the draft protocol relating to the status of stateless persons is not expected to entail additional costs if the conference is held at United Nations Headquarters.

(c) With regard to land reform, the eventual printing requirements under the proposals adopted represent no expansion of documentation previously contemplated and should not increase the total funds required for publications purposes.

Section III. Financial implications of the actions taken by the Council at its eighteenth session

961. The Secretary-General submitted to the Council at its eighteenth session an analysis (E/2635) of the work programmes and costs of the economic and social activities of the United Nations, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 533 C (VI).

962. This analysis was brought up to date by a revision issued at the end of the session (E/2635 Add.1 and 2), and which took note of the decisions of the session. The new studies called for, it was assumed, would be undertaken within existing resources, and it was similarly expected that the servicing of the new Commission on International Commodity Trade—offset in some measure by the discontinuance of the Fiscal Commission—would be handled by existing staff, so long as the meetings were suitably scheduled.

963. Only three items appeared to require additional funds; these are set out in the summary given below. The additional costs amounting to \$9,925 were offset by other decisions of the Council viz:

(a) The discontinuance of the Fiscal Commission resulting in a saving against the 1955 Budget Estimates (section 3) of \$9,750.

(b) The shortening of the Council's summer session which would show savings not yet calculated in sections 3 and 18 of the 1955 Budget Estimates.

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

	<i>Council Resolution</i>	<i>Additional costs</i>
Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities — Extension of 1955 session from three to four weeks	545 F (XVIII)	\$ 2,275
United Nations Region Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Far East	556 (XVIII)	6,000
New edition of "Nationality of Married Women"	547 D (XVIII)	1,650
		<u>\$ 9,925</u>

Annex

SUMMARY RECORDS OF THE COUNCIL

E/SR.791 and 830.

¹ E/SR.791.

² E/SR.830.

APPENDICES

Appendix I

Agenda of the resumed sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth sessions of the Council

RESUMED SIXTEENTH SESSION

[*Note:* The numbers in brackets following the titles indicate the item numbers on the agenda of the sixteenth session of the Council (E/2472).]

1. Work of the Council in 1954 [40]:
 - (a) Basic programme for 1954;
 - (b) Provisional agenda for the seventeenth regular session of the Council and fixing of dates for commencement of discussion of groups of related items.
2. Calendar of Conferences for 1954 [35]: Argentine proposal that one of the sessions of the Council be held in Buenos Aires in 1954.
3. Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance: report of the Technical Assistance Committee under paragraph 7 of Council resolution 492 C II (XVI) [8c].

SEVENTEENTH SESSION

The provisional agenda for the seventeenth session, established in accordance with rules 10 and 11 of the rules of procedure was as follows:

1. Election of the President and Vice-Presidents for 1954 (rule 20 of the rules of procedure).
2. Adoption of the sessional agenda (rule 14 of the rules of procedure).
3. Economic development of under-developed countries:
 - (a) Report of the group of experts on international price relations (General Assembly resolutions 623 (VII), paragraph 6, and 724 C (VIII), section III);
 - (b) Reports by the Secretary-General under Council resolution 427 (XIV), paragraph 7, and General Assembly resolution 623 (VII) (item postponed by the Council at its Sixteenth session);
 - (c) International flow of private capital for the economic development of under-developed countries (General Assembly resolutions 622 C (VII), paragraph 2, and 724 C (VIII), section II);
 - (d) Land reform: report by the Secretary-General on the replies of governments to the questionnaire on land reform (Council resolution 370 (XIII), paragraph 8, and General Assembly resolution 625 A (VII), paragraph 1); report by the Secretary-General on agricultural co-operation (Council resolution 370 (XIII), paragraph 10).

4. Reports of the International Monetary Fund:
 - (a) Annual report of the Fund;
 - (b) Report of the Fund under Council resolution 483 C (XVI).
5. Report of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.
6. Annual report of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East.
7. Annual report of the Economic Commission for Latin America.
8. Question of admission to membership in the regional economic commissions of States not Members of the United Nations (item postponed by the Council at its sixteenth session).
9. Report of the Interim Co-ordinating Committee for International Commodity Arrangements on the question of a study group of steel (Council resolution 462 B (XV)).
10. Transport and communications:
 - (a) Protocol on a Uniform System of Road Signs and Signals: report by the Secretary-General under Council resolution 468 D (XV); paragraph 6 (a);
 - (b) Pollution of sea-water: report by the Secretary-General on development since the adoption of Council resolution 468 B (XV);
 - (c) Situation with respect to ratification of the Convention on the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization: report by the Secretary-General on developments since the adoption of Council resolution 468 C (XV).
11. Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance: report of the Technical Assistance Committee (General Assembly resolution 722 (VIII)).
12. Freedom of information (Council resolutions 442 C (XIV), 442 E (XIV) and 423 (XIV) and General Assembly resolutions 631 (VII), 633 (VII) and 736 A (VIII)):
 - (a) Report of the Rapporteur of Freedom of Information;
 - (b) Encouragement and development of independent domestic information enterprises (items postponed by the Council at its sixteenth session);
 - (c) Production and distribution of newsprint and printing paper: report by the Secretary-General under Council resolution 423 (XIV).
13. Allegations regarding infringements of trade unions rights (Council resolutions 277 (X), 474 (XV) and 503 (XVI)).
14. Forced labour: reports of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Forced Labour (Council resolution 350 (XII) and General Assembly resolution 740 (VIII)).

(item postponed by the Council at its sixteenth session).

15. Slavery (Council resolution 475 (XV)):
 - (a) Report by the Secretary-General on consultations concerning the desirability of a supplementary convention on slavery and its possible contents;
 - (b) Supplementary report by the Secretary-General under Council resolution 475 (XV), paragraph 8.
16. Statelessness:
 - (a) Draft Protocol relating to the Status of Stateless Persons (General Assembly resolution 629 (VII));
 - (b) Problem of statelessness: consolidated report by the Secretary-General under Council resolution 352 (XII) and memorandum by the Secretary-General on the action taken by the International Law Commission.
17. Recognition and enforcement abroad of maintenance obligations (Council resolution 390 H (XIII), General Assembly resolution 734 (VIII)) (item postponed by the Council at its fifteenth session).
18. Studies on internal migration (General Assembly resolution 733 (VIII)).
19. Form of reports of specialized agencies: report by the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination under Council resolution 497 D (XVI).
20. Non-governmental organizations:
 - (a) Applications and re-applications for consultative status;
 - (b) Review of non-governmental organizations (Council resolution 480 B II (XV));
 - (c) Hearing and applications for hearings (rules 84, 85 and 86 of the rules of procedure).
21. Organization and operation of the Council and its commissions (Council resolutions 414 (XIII), 442 C (XIV), 443 (XIV) and 445 I (XIV) and General Assembly resolution 735 (VIII)).
22. Election of members of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (rule 82 of the rules of procedure).
23. Confirmation of members of functional commissions of the Council.
24. Financial implications of actions of the Council (rule 34 of the rules of procedure).
25. Consideration of the provisional agenda for the eighteenth session of the Council (rule 11 of the rules of procedure).

The following supplementary items were included in the provisional agenda in accordance with rule 13 of the rules of procedure:

26. Removal of obstacles to international trade and means of developing international economic relations (item proposed by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics).
27. Draft convention on the enforcement of international arbitral awards (item proposed by the International Chamber of Commerce).

The Council considered the above agenda at its 756th and 757th meetings, on 30 and 31 March 1954, and decided:

1. To include item 27 (Draft convention on the enforcement of international arbitral awards) on the

understanding that the discussion would be confined to the procedural aspects of the question;

2. To postpone consideration of the following items to the eighteenth session:

21. Organization and operation of the Council and its commissions;
22. Election of members of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations;¹
26. Removal of obstacles to international trade and means of developing international economic relations.

The Council adopted the above agenda as amended by the deletion of items 21, 22¹ and 26.

EIGHTEENTH SESSION

The provisional agenda for the eighteenth session, established in accordance with rules 10 and 11 of the rules of procedure, was as follows:

1. Adoption of the sessional agenda (rule 14 of the rules of procedure).
2. World economic situation:
 - (a) Consideration of the world economic situation;
 - (b) Full employment;
 - (i) Consideration of replies from governments to the questionnaire on full employment;
 - (ii) Reconversion after the rearmament period (Council resolution 483 B (XVI));
 - (iii) Measures to prevent possible inflation at high levels of economic activity (Council resolution 483 A (XVI));
 - (c) Removal of obstacles to international trade and means of developing international economic relations [Item postponed from the seventeenth session].
3. Economic development of under-developed countries:
 - (a) Financing of economic development:
 - (i) Question of establishing a special fund for grants-in-aid and for low-interest long-term loans (General Assembly resolution 724 B (VIII));
 - (ii) Report of the International Bank for Reconstruction and development on the question of creating an international finance corporation (Council resolution 482 B (XVI) and General Assembly resolution 724 C (VIII), section I;
 - (b) Integrated economic development: reports by the Secretary-General under Council resolution 461 (XV);
 - (c) Methods to increase world productivity (Council resolution 416 E (XIV)) [Item proposed by the Secretary-General].
4. International co-operation with respect to water resource development (Council resolution 417 (XIV)).
5. Annual report of the Economic Commission for Europe.
6. Transport and Communications:
 - (a) Report by the Secretary-General on the results of the London Conference on Pollution

¹ See Council resolution 536 (XVII).

- of Sea Water (Council resolution 518 D (XVII));
- (b) Report by the Secretary-General on the United Nations Conference on Customs Formalities for the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles and for Tourism [Item proposed by the Secretary-General].
7. Report of the Statistical Commission (eighth session).
8. Technical assistance:
 - (a) Regular Programme of Technical Assistance (General Assembly resolutions 200 (III), 418 (V) and 723 (VII));
 - (b) Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance: report of the Technical Assistance Committee (General Assembly resolution 722 (VIII)).
9. United Nations Children's Fund:
 - (a) Reports of the Executive Board;
 - (b) Report by the Secretary-General under General Assembly resolution 802 (VIII).
10. Report of the Commission on Human Rights (tenth session).
11. Report of the Secretary-General on the advisability of convening a conference of non-governmental organizations interested in the eradication of prejudice and discrimination (Council resolution 502 C (XVI)).
12. Status of Women:
 - (a) Report of the Commission on the Status of Women (eighth session);
 - (b) Draft convention on the nationality of married women: letter dated 7 August 1952 from the Chairman of the International Law Commission to the Secretary-General.
13. Allegations regarding infringements of trade union rights (draft resolution A in document E/L.601 postponed from the seventeenth session [Council decision of 29 and 30 April 1954].
14. Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (General Assembly resolution 727 (VIII)).
15. World Calendar reform [Item proposed by India].
16. Question of calling a United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Far East [Item proposed by the Secretary-General].
17. Narcotic Drugs:
 - (a) Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (ninth session);
 - (b) United Nations Narcotics Laboratory (Council resolution 477 (XV));
 - (c) Report of the Permanent Central Opium Board;
 - (d) Problem of the coca leaf (Council resolution 436 E (XIV)) [Item postponed by the Council at its sixteenth session].
18. Report of the International Labour Organisation.
19. Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.
20. Reports of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.
21. Report of the World Health Organization.
22. Report of the International Civil Aviation Organization.
23. Report of the Universal Postal Union.
24. Reports of the International Telecommunication Union.
25. Report of the World Meteorological Organization.
26. Co-ordination of the work of the United Nations and the specialized agencies:
 - (a) Reports of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination;
 - (b) Review of 1955 programmes (Council resolution 497 C (XVI)).
27. Relief and rehabilitation of Korea (General Assembly resolution 410 A (V), paragraph 4 (d) and 13).
28. Non-governmental organizations: hearings and applications for hearings (rules 84, 85 and 86 of the rules of procedure).
29. Organization and operation of the Council and its commissions and amendment of rule 82 of the rules of procedure of the Council (Council resolutions 414 (XIII), 442 (XIV), 443 (XIV), 445 I (XIV), 512 A (XVII) and 530 (XVII) I and General Assembly resolution 735 (VIII)).
30. Calendar of conferences for 1955 (Council resolution 174 (VII) and General Assembly resolution 694 (VII)).
31. Elections:
 - (a) Election of one-third of the membership of the functional commissions of the Council;
 - (b) Election of members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund (General Assembly resolution 417 (V) and 802 (VIII)).
32. Confirmation of members of functional commissions of the Council.
33. Financial implications of actions of the Council (rule 34 of the rules of procedure).
34. Arrangements regarding the report of the Council to the General Assembly.
35. Work of the Council in 1955.²
 - (a) Basic programme for 1955 (rule 9 of the rules of procedure);
 - (b) Provisional agenda for the first regular session of 1955 (rule 11 of the rules of procedure).
36. Disposal of items arising out of the ninth regular session of the General Assembly.³

The following supplementary item was included in the provisional agenda in accordance with rule 13 of the rules of procedure:

Application from the Romanian People's Republic for membership in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

The Council adopted the above agenda at its 792nd meeting on 29 June 1954.

At its 824th meeting, on 3 August 1954, the Council decided to place on its agenda the following item:

Supplementary item No. 2. Application of the Bulgarian People's Republic for membership in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

The Council further decided to postpone consideration of the item until the resumed eighteenth session, on the understanding that it would be discussed before 1 December 1954.

² To be considered at the resumed eighteenth session to take place during or shortly after the ninth regular session of the General Assembly.

³ To be considered at the resumed eighteenth session to take place during or shortly after the ninth regular session of the General Assembly.

Appendix II

Distribution of membership in Commissions of the Council

States	Represented on		Composition of Commissions by States entitled to nominate members						
	Council (18 members)	Functional commissions, ^a including commissions on Narcotic Drugs	Commission on Narcotic Drugs ^a (functional consisting of States members) (15 members)	Transport and communications Commission (15 members)	Statistical Commission ^b (15 members)	Population Commission ^b (15 members)	Social Commission ^b (18 members)	Commission on Human Rights ^a (18 members)	Commission on the Status of Women ^a (18 members)
Afghanistan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Argentina	1954	3	—	—	—	1956	1955	—	1957
Australia	1955	4	—	—	1957	—	1956	1956	1957
Belgium	1954	2	—	—	—	1956	1956	—	—
Bolivia	—	—	—	—	—	1956	1955	—	—
Brazil	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Burma	—	—	—	1956	—	—	1956	—	1957
Byelorussian S.S.R.	—	3	—	—	1955	1956	—	—	—
Canada	—	3	Indefinite	—	—	—	—	1956	—
Chile	—	2	—	1957	—	—	—	1957	—
China	1954	7	Indefinite	1955	1957	1955	1956	—	1957
Colombia	—	1	—	1955	—	1957	—	—	—
Costa Rica	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cuba	1954	2	—	—	1955	—	1955	—	1956
Czechoslovakia	1956	1	—	—	1956	—	—	—	—
Denmark	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dominican Republic	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ecuador	1956	—	—	—	—	—	—	1955	—
Egypt	1954	3	*	1956	—	—	—	—	—
El Salvador	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ethiopia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
France	1954	7	Indefinite	1955	1956	1955	1957	1955	1956
Greece	—	3	*	—	—	—	1957	1956	—
Guatemala	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Haiti	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1955
Honduras	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iceland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
India	1955	6	Indefinite	1957	1955	1957	1957	1955	—
Indonesia	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iran	—	3	*	—	1955	1955	—	—	1957
Iraq	—	1	—	—	—	—	1955	—	—
Israel	—	1	—	—	—	—	1956	—	—
Lebanon	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1957	—
Liberia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Luxembourg	—	—	*	—	—	—	—	1957	—
Mexico	—	2	—	1957	1957	—	—	—	—
Netherlands	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
New Zealand	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nicaragua	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Norway	1956	3	—	1955	—	—	1955	1957	—
Pakistan	1956	3	—	1955	—	—	—	1956	1957
Panama	—	1	—	—	1956	—	—	—	—
Paraguay	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

States	Represented on		Composition of Commissions by States entitled to nominate members						
	Council (18 members)	Functional commissions, ^a including commissions on Narcotic Drugs	Commission on Narcotic Drugs ^a (functional commission consisting of States members) (15 members)	Transport and communi- cations Commission (15 members)	Statistical Commission ^b (15 members)	Pe- culation Commission ^b (15 members)	Social Commission ^b (18 members)	Commission on Human Rights ^a (18 members)	Commission on the Status of Women ^a (18 members)
Peru	—	1	Indefinite	—	—	—	—	—	—
Philippines	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1955	—
Poland	—	4	*	1957	—	—	—	1957	1956
Saudi Arabia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sweden	—	2	—	—	—	1955	—	—	1956
Syria	—	1	—	—	—	1956	—	—	—
Thailand	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Turkey	1955	2	Indefinite	—	—	—	—	1956	—
Ukrainian S.S.R.	—	3	—	—	1955	—	—	1955	—
Union of South Africa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	1956	7	Indefinite	1956	1957	1957	1957	1955	1955
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1956	7	Indefinite	1957	1956	1957	1955	1957	1955
United States of America	1955	7	Indefinite	1956	1957	1957	1957	1956	1955
Uruguay	—	1	—	—	—	—	1956	—	—
Venezuela	1955	2	—	1956	—	—	—	—	1955
Yemen	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Yugoslavia	1955	3	Indefinite	—	1956	—	—	—	1956

* Appointed by the Council for a term of three years on 5 August 1949. See Council resolution 199 (VIII) which states that "The term of office of the members of the Commission shall begin on the day of the first meeting of the session following their election and end on the eve of the first meeting of the session following the election of their successors".

N.B. Of 60 Member States, 43 are on the Council and its functional commissions including the Commission on Narcotic Drugs. Total membership of all seven functional commissions is 117.
^a These Commissions will meet annually.
^b These Commissions will meet biannually.

Appendix III

Calendar of conferences for 1955

as approved by the Council at its 830th meeting on 6 August 1954

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL PROGRAMME (to be held at United Nations Headquarters unless otherwise indicated)		CONFERENCES OF SPECIALIZED AGENCIES ¹
(January – February)	(TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL)	
4 January – (28 January) ²	<i>Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities</i>	
17 January – (4 February)	<i>Commission on International Commodity Trade</i> ³	
7 February – (18 February)	<i>Transport and Communications Commission</i>	
21 February – (24 February)	Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organiza- tions	
7 March – (16 March)	Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund	
14 March – (25 March)	<i>Population Commission</i>	
15 March – (30 March)	<i>Economic Commission for Europe</i> (Geneva, Switzer- land)	
14 March – (1 April)	<i>Commission on the Status of Women</i>	
21 March – (1 April)	<i>Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East</i> (Tokyo, Japan)	
29 March – (15 April)	ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (nineteenth regular session)	
31 March – (30 April)	<i>Commission on Human Rights</i> (Geneva, Switzerland)	
18 April – (13 May)	<i>Commission on Narcotic Drugs</i>	
April		WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION (Geneva, Switzerland)
May	<i>Economic Commission for Latin America</i> (Bogotá, Colombia) ⁴	
2 May – (20 May)	<i>Social Commission</i>	
16 May – (3 June)	ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (nineteenth session resumed)	
May		WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZA- TION (Mexico City, Mexico)
May		UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION (Berne, Switzerland)
May		INTERNATIONAL TELECOM- MUNICATION UNION (Geneva, Switzerland)
June		INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION (Geneva, Switzerland)

¹ The major annual conferences of the specialized agencies, the dates of which are established by the appropriate organs of the agencies themselves, are also shown. Where the biennial or quinquennial conferences of the agencies concerned do not fall in 1955, the probable dates of the session of their governing bodies have been included. The General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization is to be held in 1956.

² The dates shown in parenthesis are target terminal dates based on the best estimates that can be made of the requirements. They do not preclude either the earlier termination of the conference concerned, where the work permits, or necessary extension of the length of the session.

³ First meeting of this Commission in 1955.

⁴ Negotiations are in progress between the Government of Colombia and the Secretary-General regarding arrangements for this session. In this connexion, see the report of the Interim Committee on Programme of Conferences (E/2651, paragraph 7).

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL PROGRAMME

(to be held at United Nations Headquarters unless
otherwise indicated) (*Continued*)

**CONFERENCES OF SPECIALIZED
AGENCIES (continued)**

(June – July)	(TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL)	
12 July – (6 August)	ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (twentieth regular session) (Geneva, Switzerland)	
July	Technical Assistance Committee	
September		INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT (Washington, D. C., USA)
September		INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND (Washington, D. C., USA)
8 September – (19 September)	Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund	
20 September	GENERAL ASSEMBLY (tenth regular session)	
November	Technical Assistance Committee	
November		FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS, (Rome, Italy)
During or shortly after the tenth regular session of the General Assembly	ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (twentieth session resumed)	

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