

United Nations
**GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

FOURTEENTH SESSION
Official Records

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JUN 8 1960

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**THIRD COMMITTEE, 937th
MEETING**

Monday, 26 October 1959,
at 3.15 p.m.

NEW YORK

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Chairman: Mrs. Georgette CISELET (Belgium).

AGENDA ITEM 12

Report of the Economic and Social Council (chapters VI and VII) (A/4143, A/C.3/L.764, A/C.3/L.765/Rev.1, A/C.3/L.766-771) (continued)

GENERAL DEBATE (concluded)

1. Mr. TAHRI (Morocco) thought that, subject to certain reservations, the Economic and Social Council had achieved noteworthy results in the social field during the period under review. His delegation approved of the Council's invitation to Governments (Council resolution 731 E (XXVIII)) to take steps to eliminate the causes of prostitution in their countries and to improve the social and economic conditions of their population. It noted with satisfaction the Council's opinion that a larger percentage of the resources of the United Nations should be accorded to Governments for carrying out their programmes of crime prevention and treatment of delinquents in view of the close relationship between those aspects of social defence and the problems arising out of urbanization and industrialization (A/4143, para. 436). It was regrettable that the Council, in drawing up its programme for the future, had not seen fit to promote the establishment of a regional body in Africa, especially among the countries recently liberated from the yoke of colonialism, to assist them in co-ordinating their efforts towards organizing an effective system of social defence. The Moroccan delegation also welcomed the Council's recommendation (resolution 730 I (XXVIII)) that the General Assembly should include in the regular budget of the United Nations a continuing programme of technical assistance in connexion with the control of narcotics. Adoption of that recommendation would make it easier for several countries to carry out their international obligations and would also encourage the accession of additional Governments to the relevant treaties. It was encouraging to note that the Council was devoting continuous attention to the problems confronting the under-developed countries in the fields of demography, community and rural development and training of social service personnel, and that it had recommended (Council resolution 731 G (XXVIII)) favourable consideration by the General Assembly of the possibility

of increasing technical assistance to those countries for social purposes.

2. Although the second International Survey of Programmes of Social Development (E/CN.5/332)^{1/} had recorded a slowing down in the execution of social programmes in many countries, it had also reported substantial advances in others. Morocco belonged to the latter group: it had taken steps to increase national and individual income, modernized farming methods, carried out an extensive locust-control campaign, encouraged the co-operative movement, expanded agricultural loan facilities, promoted small-scale water supply projects, encouraged savings activity, established a research office, a bank of issue, a bank for economic development and a bank for foreign trade; it had also enacted a law providing that products for industry which were of definite economic and social value should be exempt from customs duties. All those measures would have a beneficial effect on the Moroccan economy and therefore on the social situation also.

3. Realizing the effects of social progress on economic development, the Moroccan Government had set up a system of social security, to which it had allocated 22,000 million francs. The bulk of its efforts, however, were concentrated in the fields of education, public health and housing.

4. Under the Government's education programme, 629,000 children, or 30 per cent of the school-age population, had been enrolled in schools. The country now had a university which included faculties of law, political science, letters, science and medicine, as well as a university centre for scientific research. In that connexion, he wished to mention the role of private initiative and of the cultural associations in assisting the Government's work in the fields of education, culture and eradication of illiteracy.

5. As regards teaching, the number of teachers' training colleges had risen from five in 1956 to twenty-three in 1959, but the requirements of the country were so great that the Government had had to request the assistance of an expert on teacher training from UNESCO. Despite its own shortages in the educational field, France had generously made 500 teachers available to Morocco. The United Nations Children's Fund, which was showing increased interest in the social aspects of the teaching profession, would no doubt be able to provide assistance in the training of teachers.

6. In the field of public health, the Government was carrying out a programme to improve the hygienic conditions and physical well-being of the Moroccan people. The number of infirmaries and dispensaries was growing, and increasing attention was being de-

^{1/} United Nations publication, Sales No.: 59.IV.2.

voted to programmes of disease prevention and to the control of malaria and trachoma. The Moroccan delegation welcomed the Council's recommendations to the international, national and benevolent organizations concerned with medical questions to devote special attention to the possibilities of supplying drugs at prices within the reach of low-income groups (Council resolution 731 I (XXVIII)). While regretting that the International Health and Medical Research Year would not be held in 1961, his delegation welcomed the fact that WHO was holding its congress in Morocco.

7. The improvements in hygiene and living conditions had resulted in a rise in population which would be even more pronounced in the future. With advances in industrialization, there would be increased migration from rural to urban areas and consequently an aggravation of the housing problem. The Moroccan delegation was in favour of a concerted long-term programme in the field of low-cost housing.

8. The main concern of the Moroccan Government was to ensure the development and progress of rural areas in harmony with that of urban areas. It intended to achieve that goal and to solve its demographic, economic and social problems within the framework of community development. His delegation regretted that the Social Commission had not made a closer study of the work accomplished by the United Nations in that vital area.

9. The Moroccan delegation hoped that in 1960 funds for advisory functions in the social field would be increased, thereby enabling many countries, especially those of Africa, to draw up and implement social programmes which had so far been impossible of realization because of inadequate technical assistance funds.

10. Mr. JUVIGNY (France) said that, as his delegation had already expressed its views on social questions, he would confine his remarks to chapter VII of the Council's report (A/4143), dealing with human rights, bearing in mind the close relationship between positive action in the social field and the definition and the protection of human rights by law. After completing what might be called its "legislative" work on the draft International Covenants on Human Rights, the Commission on Human Rights had turned its attention to new fields, but without altogether abandoning its earlier activities. For instance, it had done preliminary work on the definition of certain rights which had either been left out of the draft Covenants or enunciated only in a general way, and had drafted the Declaration of the Rights of the Child. All human rights could not immediately be defined in a legally binding form, and the Commission on Human Rights had therefore adopted the technique of the declaration, for the right of asylum among others. That right was proclaimed in article 14 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, but the Commission on Human Rights had been unable to translate it into a satisfactory provision in the draft International Covenants on Human Rights, because of the difficulty of reconciling the interests of the persecuted person with the rights of sovereign States. Some delegations, including his own, had refused to be discouraged, and he welcomed the fact that the revised draft Declaration on the Right of Asylum submitted by France had been circulated to Governments, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and interested

non-governmental organizations for comment (see A/4143, para. 534).

11. The technique of the declaration could not be adopted in every case, however. Whenever possible, legal instruments providing specific guarantees should be drawn up. The work of the Commission on the Status of Women on the age of marriage, free consent and registration of marriages showed that where a convention was advisable and feasible, the effort should be made to draft it. Recommendations also had their uses, provided that they did not diminish the effectiveness of a convention. He regretted that the Council had not accepted the principle of equality when it had considered the age of retirement and the right to pension of women.

12. The Commission on Human Rights did not always carry out itself the work which it initiated but entrusted part of it to the Sub-Committee on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities. Two examples were mentioned in the report: the study on discrimination in respect of employment and occupation (A/4143, para. 542), which had led to the adoption of the ILO convention on the subject,^{2/} and the draft recommendations on discrimination in education (A/4143, paras. 543-544), as a result of which UNESCO had agreed to draft a convention on that point. A further conclusion which could be drawn from a consideration of the Commission's activities was that a good working relationship had now been established between it and the specialized agencies. He welcomed the improved co-ordination between the United Nations and the specialized agencies in many fields, an excellent example of which was the draft pamphlet on equal pay for equal work (E/CN.6/341).

13. Another point which was obvious from a consideration of the Commission's work was its determination to study subjects which were likely to bring people together rather than those which might divide them. Objective reports, and the analysis of the progress achieved and of the set-backs which had occurred in the field of human rights and of the causes for them were useful, but evils did not disappear merely because they were pointed out. The studies of specific rights undertaken by the Commission on Human Rights had been valuable, and there was every likelihood that the periodic reports on human rights to be submitted by States would provide a fund of knowledge from which positive lessons could be drawn. The mere fact that Governments had to submit such reports would force them to take stock of the human rights situation in their countries, perhaps with the aid of national human rights committees, and that, in itself, would be valuable. An objective committee of experts might study the reports with a view to using them in constructive purposes.

14. The same desire for positive action had been shown in the organization of the seminars under the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights. The results had already been encouraging, thanks to the excellent organizational work done by the Division of Human Rights, the fact that the seminars were organized on a regional basis, the judicious choice of subjects and the high quality of the participants. His delegation regretted that, owing

^{2/} Convention (No. 111) concerning Discrimination in Respect of Employment and Occupation; International Labour Office, *Official Bulletin*, vol. XLI, 1958, No. 2.

to circumstances beyond the French Government's control, there had been no French participants in the seminar on judicial and other remedies against the illegal exercise or abuse of administrative authority, held at Buenos Aires in September 1959. Concentration on a single subject by specialists with a wide knowledge of their field ensured that no time would be wasted on fruitless discussions, and the subjects chosen should be questions which were not or could not be dealt with by a specialized agency. That point should be borne in mind when future seminars were organized. The same principles applied to seminars on subjects of interest to the Commission on the Status of Women as to seminars coming within the purview of the Commission on Human Rights.

15. In spite of the variety of the procedures employed, there was a growing unity of purpose in the work of the United Nations in the field of human rights. Although all Member States were bound by the Charter to promote and encourage respect for human rights, some of the provisions of the Charter itself and the current world situation prevented the immediate adoption of universally applicable protective measures for human rights. When they were adopted, the Covenants would be a great step forward, but that would not be for some time. In the meantime the work must be carried on with patience and perseverance. The Council's report provided encouraging evidence that that was being done.

16. Miss BERNARDINO (Dominican Republic) welcomed the full discussion of the report of the Economic and Social Council and the high level of the debate. The report was of particular interest because of its emphasis on social rather than economic questions as in the past few years. Although she realized the interdependence of economic and social factors, she welcomed the new emphasis on social affairs.

17. One of the most important subjects dealt with in the report was UNICEF, which was concerned not only with nutrition and mother and child welfare but with disease control. It had adapted its tuberculosis, leprosy, yaws, trachoma, and other campaigns to actual needs. She herself, as a representative of the UNICEF Executive Board, had seen some of the excellent work that was being done in Tunisia in the ambulatory treatment of tuberculosis and other diseases and the Tunisian Government's efforts to eradicate endemic disease. She had been impressed by the willingness with which all members of the population submitted to treatment and the warm welcome given to UNICEF representatives in the villages.

18. The United Nations Children's Fund had recently been seeking new solutions to children's problems and had co-operated with the Bureau of Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat in community development projects and social services for children. It had also undertaken some responsibilities with regard to the training of primary school teachers. There was some difference of opinion with regard to that new departure, it being held in some quarters that UNICEF was right in undertaking the new responsibilities, while others felt that it should not expend its limited resources on new activities but use them to consolidate the progress already achieved. There was no real conflict between two views, the problem being not the difference of approach but the lack of funds. It was unfortunate that contributions to UNICEF had fallen off during the current year, but

she did not doubt that they would rise again the following year. Her Government, which had always been a staunch supporter of UNICEF, would certainly make as large a contribution as it could. She paid a tribute to the Executive Director and the Chairman of the Executive Board for the excellent work of the Fund.

19. The work done by the Social Commission was so important that it should hold annual rather than biennial sessions, as at present. At its twelfth session, it had reached the conclusion that housing was a serious problem in most countries and that less progress had been made towards its solution than towards the solution of other social and economic problems. In her country, a vast plan to solve the housing problem had been put into effect some years previously and had produced excellent results.

20. The Bureau of Social Affairs and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs were to be congratulated on the way in which they had carried out their tasks. The Commission on the Status of Women had achieved some commendable results. However, although an increasing number of countries had granted political and other rights to women, there was still much to be done. It was necessary to encourage the participation of women in public life. It was to be regretted that so few women occupied responsible posts in their own countries and even in the United Nations. The Commission's discussion of the status of women in private law had been extremely fruitful, and she welcomed the Council's decision (Council resolution 722 B (XXVIII)) to request the Secretary-General to prepare a draft convention and a draft recommendation on the age of marriage, free consent, and registration of marriage. That was a step towards the elimination of such anachronistic practices as child marriage and the bride-price, which were hurtful to women's dignity. It was deplorable that the ritual practices dangerous to the health of women which had been mentioned by the Swedish representative at the previous meeting had not yet been eradicated. The Dominican Republic had raised the question in the Trusteeship Council, and both the Council and the General Assembly had adopted resolutions on the subject. It was obvious that such practices could not be eliminated without education, both of men and women. She hoped that that point would be borne in mind by WHO.

21. She regretted that the Council had taken no action on the draft resolution proposed by the Commission on the Status of Women concerning the age of retirement and right to pension.^{3/} In her view, there should be no difference between men and women workers in regard to those matters. The fact that women were frequently retired five years earlier than men constituted discrimination and conflicted with the principle of equal rights for men and women. There were no grounds for believing that men were either physically or mentally capable of working longer than women.

22. Despite the Convention on the Political Rights of Women (General Assembly resolution 640 (VII), annex) and the Convention on the Nationality of Married Women (resolution 1040 (XI), annex) and the considerable progress that had been made in many other directions, much remained to be done in the field of women's rights.

^{3/} Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 7, chap. XVII, draft resolution F.

23. Dr. COIGNEY (World Health Organization), answering a question put by the Swedish representative at the preceding meeting, explained that Economic and Social Council resolution 680 E II (XXVI) had come before the Executive Board of WHO at its twenty-third session. The Board had held that the purely medical aspects of the practice of ritual operations on girls were already well known, and that WHO was in possession of all the necessary technical information. It had felt moreover that the study which the Council had called for should deal with the social, cultural and educational backgrounds which permitted such customs to persist and the social and educational measures which could be taken by the Governments concerned to put an end to them. It had doubted whether a study of the physical and psychological consequences of the practice would bring out any fresh facts, and had accordingly felt that it would be more satisfactory if United Nations organs with special competence in the social and cultural fields and in the field of human rights were to study the measures to be adopted to put an end to the practice of ritual operations. Its views were embodied in a resolution of the Executive Board, 1/ in which also the Director-General was requested, if the study envisaged by the Economic and Social Council were to be undertaken by other organizations, to provide any information of a medical character he might have available.

24. The Board's decision had been considered by the Twelfth World Health Assembly. Some representatives there had felt that the Governments of the countries concerned were aware of the practice and were making efforts to eradicate it, others that any intervention in the domestic affairs of a member State, without a specific request for assistance from the Government concerned, would contravene the Constitution of WHO. The majority of the speakers had expressed the view that WHO should not undertake the study in question since the matter did not come within its terms of reference, but that it should provide all the medical information requested. The Executive Board's resolution had been adopted unanimously by the Twelfth World Health Assembly and transmitted to the Economic and Social Council, which had taken note of it without discussion. The resolution made it clear that it was the study of the social and cultural aspects of the ritual operations which was not within the competence of WHO, and not the medical aspects. The World Health Assembly had not intended to throw the responsibility for the study on any other organization but merely to define the extent to which it was competent. He could assure the representative of Sweden that it was the aim of WHO to make the most modern concepts and methods of improving health as widely known as possible, and that in carrying out its health education and maternal and child health programmes in the field, WHO was furthering the objectives sought by the Commission on the Status of Women and the Economic and Social Council.

25. As regards General Assembly resolution 1283 (XIII), concerning the organization of an International Health and Medical Research Year, he observed that a great many representatives in the Third Committee had indicated that they approved the decision taken by the Twelfth World Health Assembly, namely

to obtain the views of Governments on the question (see A/4133). The result of the consultations would be studied by the Thirteenth World Health Assembly.

26. In co-operation with UNICEF, WHO had organized a number of projects to ascertain the best ways of detecting and treating major diseases and arranging mass campaigns against them as well as to evolve methods for the training of personnel, and he was happy to state that great progress had been made.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN NARCOTICS CONTROL (A/C.3/L.771)

27. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the draft resolution submitted to the General Assembly by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 730 I (XXVIII), the text of which was reproduced in a note by the Chairman (A/C.3/L.771). The Committee was required to express its opinion on the substance of the draft resolution.

28. Mr. YATES (Secretariat) explaining the background to the Council's resolution, said that in recent years both the national services and the international bodies concerned with narcotics control had increased their activities in that field under the system laid down in the narcotics treaties. In spite of their efforts, the counter-measures against the illicit traffic were not more than holding the position, and in a few areas the situation had even deteriorated. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs had accordingly felt that the customary methods of control ought to be supplemented by technical assistance, and in 1956 Governments had been invited to apply for technical assistance in narcotics control under the regular technical assistance programmes. It had, however, proved difficult for Governments to fit such requests into their regular programmes, and most requests had had to be met from contingency allocations, which were only available at the beginning of a project and not for continuing use. It had to be recognized that in many cases narcotics control projects benefited other countries more than the country which would have to apply for the technical assistance. The Council had consequently come to the conclusion that the procedure adopted in 1956 was not entirely satisfactory by itself and that the new arrangements proposed in the resolution were necessary. They were intended to supplement the normal procedures and the financial provision for them was accordingly on a modest scale (see A/C.5/777, paras. 42-44 and A/4223, sect. 19a). They would have the advantage of additional financial flexibility without requiring extra staff or machinery in the Secretariat. If the Committee approved the Council's resolution, the financial implications would be considered by the Fifth Committee.

29. In reply to questions from the representatives of the Soviet Union and Saudi Arabia, he said that the sum of \$75,000 proposed in the report of the Secretary-General on the budget estimates for the financial year 1960 (A/C.5/777, para. 43) was to cover operations in the first year. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions had suggested that that sum should be reduced to \$50,000 (A/4223, paras. 18-19).

30. The approved policies referred to in operative paragraph 2 of the draft resolution (A/C.3/L.771) were those which had become common practice in the United Nations technical assistance schemes, but

^{1/} World Health Organization, *Resolutions of the Executive Board*, twenty-third session, resolution EB23.R75.

which had not been set out in full for the sake of brevity. The rules and general provisions in question were administered by the Council mainly through its Technical Assistance Committee.

31. Referring to operative paragraph 5, he said that universities had in the past provided valuable assistance in a number of instances by making specialized studies for instance on the chemical and social welfare aspects of the subject.

32. As regards the references to the specialized agencies, the question of narcotics control had a number of different aspects, namely public health, commerce, agriculture and the police. At the international level, WHO and FAO were thus involved, as well as the United Nations. In Iran, for instance, where technical assistance had been provided, there had been a United Nations expert in administrative services, an expert from WHO to advise on the health aspects, and experts from FAO to advise on substitute crops in place of the opium poppy.

33. The proviso on the avoidance of duplication followed the precedent of previous resolutions which had set up similar schemes.

34. Mr. COLUCCI (Italy) observed that there appeared to be a discrepancy between the English and French texts of the penultimate paragraph of the preamble. He did not think that the words "narcotics control projects" and "projets relatifs à la lutte contre l'abus des stupéfiants" had the same meaning.

35. The CHAIRMAN said that the voting would be on the English text and that the Secretariat would make any alteration in the French text which appeared to be necessary.

36. She put to the vote the draft resolution submitted to the General Assembly by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 730 I (XXVIII), the text of which was reproduced in document A/C.3/L.771.

The draft resolution was adopted by 66 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

LOW-COST HOUSING (A/C.3/L.764)

37. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the Peruvian draft resolution on low-cost housing (A/C.3/L.764).

38. Mr. COX (Peru) said that in submitting its draft resolution, the Peruvian delegation had been inspired by the concern over the housing problem reflected in the Council's report (A/4143), in Council resolutions 731 B (XXVIII) and 603 D (XXIV), in General Assembly resolution 1042 (XI) and in the introduction to the latest annual report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization (A/4132/Add.1), where attention had been drawn not only to a decline in the rate of progress in the field of housing but also to an actual deterioration in housing conditions. The groundwork for the draft resolution had been provided by the excellent International Survey of Programmes of Social Development (E/CN.5/332).

39. The statements made by other representatives in the course of the general debate had shown that Peru was not the only country faced with housing problems. The Peruvian delegation had therefore felt that it could make a positive contribution to the question by submitting its draft resolution.

40. The impact of population growth and the need to improve existing conditions made it absolutely essential that planning for low-cost housing should be intensified. Housing was one of the basic elements of life to which everyone, the farmer, the miner, the factory worker, the technician, the professional worker, the teacher and the scientist, was entitled, just as to all the other basic necessities of life.

41. Peru was devoting great attention to the solution of the housing problem, which was made acute by the pressure of a growing population. The country had begun to produce iron and steel, some of which would be available for housing construction. In response to an appeal by the Head of the Government, industrialists in Lima had recently promised to make available some \$1.1 million for the purpose of guaranteeing loans to housing construction associations. A law had also been enacted concerning the census scheduled for June 1960. The data provided by that census would be an indispensable yardstick for measuring the magnitude of the housing problem.

42. The under-developed countries were not the only ones concerned. The more highly industrialized countries also had housing problems, especially in connexion with the low-income sectors of their population and in areas where full progress had not yet been achieved. In view of the interdependence of the world at the current time, the problem of housing was both national and international in character. Plans for housing should take into account the possibility of better utilization of capital and local materials, acceleration of technical training, development of related industries and encouragement of co-operative housing. He asked the members of the Committee to study the Peruvian draft proposal and consider it as a useful contribution to the problem.

43. Mr. SUTANTO (Indonesia) said that his delegation would be pleased to support the Peruvian draft resolution. Indonesia had expressed its concern over the deterioration in general housing conditions during the twelfth session of the Social Commission^{5/} and during the general debate on the Council's report (933rd meeting). Adequate housing was a prerequisite of healthy family life and of increased productivity on the part of workers. Any improvement in housing would therefore have an important effect on economic development. The Indonesian Government had taken many steps to alleviate the domestic housing situation. There was need for long-range planning and for action by international organizations in the field of housing. He hoped that the Peruvian draft resolution would receive unanimous support.

44. Lady PETRIE (United Kingdom) agreed with the principles and ideas of the Peruvian draft resolution but was not fully satisfied with its wording. As she intended to submit an amendment to that text, it would be preferable if she could defer her remarks until the amendment had been circulated.

45. Mr. MEHTA (India) said that the idea of the Peruvian draft resolution was acceptable to his delegation. He would merely ask the representative of Peru to consider the desirability of simplifying the language of certain parts of the draft, especially of operative paragraph 3, and of extending it to cover research on housing problems. In the latter con-

^{5/} See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 11, chap. II; see also E/CN.5/SR.278.

nexion, he had in mind regional research centres, such as that established in the Netherlands to deal with the rebuilding of Rotterdam after the end of the Second World War. Such research would relate not only to statistics and purely architectural problems but to such problems as the reduction of costs and the availability and distribution of building materials. He was grateful to the Peruvian representative for having focused the Committee's attention on the problem of housing.

46. Mrs. HOLT (Canada) said that her country had been working on the problem of housing for a long time and therefore appreciated the intention of the Peruvian draft resolution. She shared the view of the representative of the United Kingdom that some of the wording of the draft resolution should be changed, and therefore requested that voting on the draft resolution should be deferred until the next meeting.

47. Miss FUJITA (Japan) supported the principle behind the Peruvian draft resolution but agreed with the United Kingdom representative that its wording could be simplified. She supported the request for postponement of a vote on the draft resolution until the following meeting.

48. Mr. VIDAL GABAS (Spain) said that, in the view of the Spanish delegation, the question of housing was a basic problem confronting mankind. The Peruvian proposal was a good one and all its provisions seemed to be fully acceptable: instead of making specific recommendations to Governments, it addressed a

general appeal to mankind. The draft resolution deserved to be adopted and would therefore be supported by his delegation.

49. Mr. FARHADI (Afghanistan) thanked the representative of Peru for submitting a draft resolution on the important social problem of housing. The Afghan delegation would vote in favour of the draft resolution. As the representative of the United Kingdom planned to submit an amendment to the Peruvian draft resolution, it would be desirable for the Peruvian representative to contact her with a view to arriving at a consolidated text.

50. Mr. BAROODY (Saudi Arabia) was in agreement with the principles underlying the Peruvian draft resolution. However, he disliked terms like "Housing Weeks", which were used in operative paragraph 2: Governments should be left to proceed as they saw fit in matters of housing. He agreed with the suggestion of the Afghan representative concerning a consolidated text. Any representatives who were interested in amending the Peruvian text should contact the Peruvian representative, so that the Committee would be able to vote on a single text rather than a series of amendments at its next meeting.

51. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the delegations concerned should endeavour to agree on a combined text.

The meeting rose at 5.50 p.m.