

United Nations
**GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

FIFTEENTH SESSION

Official Records



**SECOND COMMITTEE, 674th
MEETING**

Thursday, 10 November 1960,
at 11 a.m.

NEW YORK

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AGENDA ITEMS 12, 29 AND 74

Report of the Economic and Social Council (chapters II (sections I, II and III A, except paragraphs 189-198), III, IV and VII (section I and paragraph 645)) (A/4415) (continued)

Economic development of under-developed countries (continued):

(a) **International flow of private capital: report of the Secretary-General and recommendations thereon by the Economic and Social Council (A/4487, E/3325 and Corr.1-3);**

(b) **Question of the establishment of a United Nations capital development fund: report of the Secretary-General (A/4488, E/3393, E/3393/Add.1-4);**

(c) **Methods and techniques for carrying out a study of world economic development: report of the Secretary-General and comments thereon by the Economic and Social Council (A/4489 and Add.1, E/3379, E/3379/Add.1-7);**

(d) **Promotion of wider trade co-operation among States: report of the Secretary-General (A/4490, E/3389)**

Land reform (A/4439) (continued)

CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS (A/C.2/L.461 AND ADD.1, AND A/C.2/L.466) (continued)

1. The CHAIRMAN invited comments on the draft declaration on international economic co-operation (A/C.2/L.466) submitted by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

2. Mr. ABDEL GHAFAR (United Arab Republic) said that the purposes and principles of the draft declaration were praiseworthy and commanded his delegation's support. The draft declaration might well prove to be one of the most important documents ever adopted by the United Nations. Although there could be no doubt among delegations concerning the validity of the declaration's aims, many of the ideas it contained were new and required careful study. He therefore supported the proposal made by the Afghan representative at the previous meeting that the draft declaration should be transmitted to the Economic and Social Council.

3. Mr. FRANZI (Italy) also supported that proposal, since the Council was the appropriate body for dealing with draft declarations. The text spoke of signatories and it was clear that Governments would have to study the declaration carefully before signing it. It was arguable that the adoption of a draft resolution might represent a stronger course of action, since the draft declaration really amounted to no more than a statement of intention. In any case, it should be dealt with by the Economic and Social Council at its thirty-second session.

4. Mr. SAMSURI (Albania) stressed that the draft declaration was of the utmost importance to all countries since it sought by concerted action to ensure the peaceful coexistence of States with different social systems in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations. It reflected the new world situation in which many countries had adopted different social systems and many States had gained their independence. It sought to eliminate such obstacles to economic and social co-operation as the establishment of economic groupings, the economic isolation of certain countries, and restrictions on international trade. It stressed the need for assistance to the less developed countries and the importance of respecting their sovereignty and not interfering in their domestic affairs. By contrast, the eight-Power draft resolution (A/C.2/L.461 and Add.1) envisaged only a partial solution to the problem of international economic co-operation.

5. His delegation supported the draft declaration and thought that the Committee could discuss it and adopt it without reference to the Economic and Social Council.

6. Mr. MAHDAVI (Iran), mentioning that his remarks referred only to form and not to substance, observed that the Committee had always dealt with draft resolu-

tions rather than with declarations. He therefore supported the Afghan proposal that the draft declaration should be sent to the Economic and Social Council.

7. Mr. ROA KOURI (Cuba), while agreeing that the Economic and Social Council might be a more appropriate forum for the adoption of the draft declaration, nevertheless felt that the text merited discussion within the Committee. The principles it outlined were of the utmost importance, particularly for under-developed countries like his own. After generations of exploitation, Cuba was seeking to stand on its own feet and to diversify its single-crop economy, despite the acts of economic aggression and discrimination directed against it. The Committee could not afford to ignore the draft declaration and the Council should give it the most careful attention.

8. The declaration would unfortunately have greater moral force than practical significance since certain States were prone to declare that they would do one thing and to do the other. They declared that they would defend the smaller States; and made attacks on them. They declared that they wished to promote the economic development of under-developed countries, and followed policies that undermined their economies. They declared that they were advocates of democracy; and supported dictatorships. They declared that their goal was equality; and practised racial discrimination. Despite those considerations, the enunciation of the valuable and fundamental principles contained in the Soviet Union's draft declaration would be extremely useful. His delegation supported the draft declaration.

9. Mr. FINGER (United States of America) fully agreed with the Afghan representative that the Council was the proper place to discuss the draft declaration. It would be far better if the Council initiated consideration of that document; any discussion of it in the Committee would be premature. If, however, it was decided to take the matter up in the Second Committee, his delegation would oppose the draft declaration in substance and at length. So far, the only support for the draft had come from representatives of the centrally planned countries.

10. Mr. CHERNYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said he would prefer the draft declaration to be discussed within the Committee but in view of the fact that many delegations had asked for further time to study it, he would have no objection to the Afghan proposal.

11. Mr. HASSAN (Sudan) agreed that the draft declaration was an extremely important document, since it reaffirmed the principles of the Charter and stressed the need for peaceful coexistence among States. It was also of considerable interest to the smaller countries, since it advocated the removal of trade barriers. However, although in full agreement with the principles of the draft declaration, his delegation reserved its position with regard to the question whether they should be embodied in a draft resolution or a draft declaration.

12. Mr. SZITA (Hungary) said that the draft declaration embodied the basic principles of economic co-operation, which, although reflected in certain Articles of the Charter and many General Assembly resolutions, needed further elaboration in the light of present-day economic realities and the changes that had taken place in the world since the drafting of the Charter. His delegation firmly adhered to those principles and be-

lieved that the declaration would help to strengthen economic co-operation, which all nations desired. He was of the opinion that the aims of a draft resolution and a draft declaration were not the same. Although formulated in more general terms, the declaration would be a solemn undertaking which, together with more specific resolutions on the subject, could serve as a guide for the development of international economic relations. By adopting it, the United Nations would take a stand against all forms of economic aggression, such as trade discrimination, and would safeguard the interests of the under-developed countries and clear the way for their economic development. While the declaration would not solve all economic problems or eliminate all undesirable practices immediately, it would make a valuable contribution to the improvement of economic relations and his delegation would therefore support it. If the declaration was referred to the Economic and Social Council for consideration, as suggested by some delegations, he hoped that the Council would take account of the views expressed in the Committee.

13. Mr. VIAUD (France) observed that the draft declaration essentially comprised three elements: a statement of general principles emphasizing the need for greater economic co-operation to improve political relations; practical measures affecting economic relations and especially trade policies; and basic rules governing assistance to under-developed countries. He saw no serious objection to the aims of the declaration, which, in a slightly different form, were already enshrined in the Charter and earlier General Assembly resolutions. He nevertheless agreed with the Tunisian representative that it would be more appropriate to refer specifically to provisions of the Charter and relevant resolutions than to restate in different terms what was already generally accepted in principle. The removal of trade barriers and the economic isolation of certain countries was an important but delicate issue, since it involved national trade policies. The ECE had made numerous studies of economic relations between Eastern and Western countries and was endeavouring to formulate precepts that could serve as a basis for trade between countries with different economic systems. The hasty adoption of a declaration such as the one before the Committee, without careful study, might impede ECE's work in that field and he hoped that, if the draft declaration was referred to the Economic and Social Council, the Council would take ECE's studies into consideration. General principles for assistance to under-developed countries could, in his view, be formulated in more appropriate terms, in the light of practical economic realities after careful study by a competent United Nations body. The Economic and Social Council was such a body and his delegation therefore shared the view that the Soviet draft declaration should be referred to the Council.

14. Mr. PENTEADO (Brazil) saw no objection to the USSR's initiative in sponsoring the draft declaration, but was inclined to agree with the representatives of Afghanistan and Portugal that such a declaration might more properly be debated in the Economic and Social Council before being submitted to the General Assembly. He was therefore in favour of referring the document to the Council, together with a record of the views expressed in the Committee, and would vote accordingly.

15. The CHAIRMAN said that as no objections had been voiced, he took it that the Committee unanimously

approved the Afghan representative's proposal to refer the draft declaration to the Economic and Social Council.

16. Mr. PHILLIPS (United States of America) said it was his understanding that the Afghan representative had proposed that the Committee should not consider the draft declaration, but that the USSR might submit it at a forthcoming meeting of the Economic and Social Council.

17. Mr. CHERNYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that in deference to the wishes expressed by a number of representatives his delegation had accepted the suggestion that the draft declaration should be discussed in the Economic and Social Council. As his delegation understood it, the Committee had expressed itself as in favour of referring the matter to the Council. What the United States representative had just suggested, however, was a quite different procedure.

18. Mr. OMAR (Afghanistan), clarifying his suggestion at the previous meeting, said that his delegation proposed that the draft declaration, together with the comments made on it in the Committee, be referred to the Economic and Social Council at its thirty-second session for study and consideration. The draft involved important aspects as well as a number of complex technical questions in regard, for example, to most favoured nation treatment, trade restrictions, dumping, international prices etc., and the Council would, he believed, be the best forum to discuss it. If that proposal was acceptable, he would suggest that a sentence to that effect be included in the Committee's report.

19. Mr. GREEN (New Zealand) observed that he understood the Afghan representative's proposal was intended to meet a situation in which the consensus of opinion within the committee was not in favour of reaching a decision concerning the USSR draft declaration. Any views on the draft which had been expressed in the Committee were therefore those of individual members and not of the Committee itself. He hoped that the sentence to be included in the Committee's report would be worded in a way that made that fact clear.

20. Mr. GURINOVICH (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) said, with reference to the United States representative's remarks, that the Committee could not discuss how a delegation should behave in another organ of the United Nations. The United States representative had been wrong in his statement that the only support for the draft declaration had come from the socialist countries; many delegations had expressed their support, although some had added that they were not yet prepared to adopt the declaration and would like time to give it further study. The fact that the Soviet delegation had agreed to that request did not mean that the Committee should take no further action on the declaration, which was of great importance, particularly to the under-developed countries.

21. He would note also that some representatives seemed to have misinterpreted the scope of the draft declaration, which was intended to refer not merely to Eastern and Western Europe but to all the countries of the world.

22. His delegation considered that the Committee should refer the draft declaration, together with the

views expressed on it by the Committee, to the Economic and Social Council.

23. Mr. OMAR (Afghanistan) proposed that the Committee should include the following sentence in its report:

"The representative of Afghanistan said that the draft declaration was of such importance that it should be discussed by the Economic and Social Council, taking into account the views expressed in the Committee. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, though he would have preferred the adoption of the draft declaration, agreed with the proposal of the representative of Afghanistan."

24. Mr. CHERNYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that he agreed to the Afghan representative's proposal, on the understanding that the draft declaration and the record of the Committee's discussion would be transmitted to the Economic and Social Council not by the Soviet delegation but by the General Assembly.

25. The CHAIRMAN said that the views expressed in the Committee would be recorded in the summary records of its meeting. The inclusion in the paragraph to be inserted into the Committee's report of the phrase "taking into account the views expressed in the Committee" implied that the summary records would be forwarded to the Economic and Social Council.

26. Mr. GURINOVICH (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republics) said he assumed that the addition to the Committee's report proposed by the Afghan representative would be followed by the usual statement to the effect that the Committee had so agreed.

27. The CHAIRMAN said that the mere fact that the paragraph appeared in the report would mean that the Committee had so agreed, especially as the Committee's acceptance of the wording proposed by the Afghan representative would appear in the summary record of the meeting.

The Afghan representative's proposal was adopted.

28. Mr. CHERNYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that what his delegation had agreed to was the suggestion made by some representatives that the draft declaration and the records of the Committee's discussion of it should be transmitted to the Economic and Social Council.

29. Mr. CAMARA Sihé (Guinea) suggested that the Committee should agree that the summary record of the meeting should include the sentence "It was so decided" after the statement just made by the Soviet representative.

30. Mr. FINGER (United States of America) said that agreement had now been reached on the inclusion of a paragraph concerning the draft declaration in the Committee's report; in his view, the matter should be left there.

31. The CHAIRMAN said that the views expressed would be recorded in the summary record of the meeting.

The meeting rose at 12.55 p.m.