



**UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL**



Distr.
GENERAL

E/4945
18 February 1971
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/FRENCH/
SPANISH

Fiftieth session
Agenda item 15

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Report of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

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I. ORGANIZATION OF THE WORK OF THE SESSION

1. The Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations met at United Nations Headquarters on 14, 15, 18, 21 and 22 January 1971.
2. At its 307th meeting, on 14 January 1971, Mr. Munir Akram (Pakistan) was elected Chairman. Mr. H.B. Ejelde (Norway) was elected Vice-Chairman/Rapporteur. At the same meeting the Committee decided not to reintroduce summary records.
3. During the session, the Committee considered a total of twenty applications and reapplications for consultative status from non-governmental organizations as well as nine requests for reclassification. It also considered an item referred to it by the Economic and Social Council at its resumed forty-eighth session concerning the submission of a draft of a special arrangement between the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and the Economic and Social Council. The Committee also considered a request from the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA), an organization in category I consultative status, to have an item placed on the agenda of the fiftieth (or fifty-first) session of the Council. An additional request from the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) to place an item on the agenda of the Council was withdrawn by that organization.
4. The Committee had before it documents E/C.2/R.41 and Add.1-4, containing applications and reapplications for consultative status as well as requests for reclassification. It also had before it a memorandum by the Secretary-General containing the draft of a special arrangement between INTERPOL and the Economic and Social Council (E/C.2/R.42), and two conference room papers (E/C.2/CRP.1 and 2).
5. A list of representatives of the Committee for 1971 is contained in annex I. The names of those representatives of non-governmental organizations who were heard by the Committee appear in annex II.

II. CONSIDERATION OF A SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN INTERPOL AND THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

6. At its 1692nd plenary meeting, on 27 May 1970, the Council endorsed the recommendations contained in paragraphs 17 and 18 of the report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/4799) and decided that the Secretariat, in consultation with INTERPOL, would submit to the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, at its session in 1971, the draft of a special arrangement between INTERPOL and the Council.
7. Pursuant to the above decision by the Council, a draft was submitted to the Committee in the form of a memorandum by the Secretary-General (E/C.2/R.42). In the memorandum it was noted that there had been extensive consultations between the Secretariat and INTERPOL. The draft arrangement was based on the rights and privileges granted to a non-governmental organization in category I under Economic and Social Council resolution 1296 (XLIV), and had also taken into account the other special arrangements in existence between the Council and other intergovernmental organizations.

8. The Secretary-General of INTERPOL, who was present during the entire discussion of this item, answered questions put to him by members of the Committee.

9. During discussion of this item by the Committee, the question of financial implications was raised. The Committee was informed by the Secretary of the Committee that the special arrangement, as drafted, did not have further financial implications because the level and kind of co-operation between INTERPOL and the United Nations would continue just as before.

10. Several delegates expressed satisfaction with the proposed draft arrangement. One representative emphasized the point that the wording of the paragraph in section 4 of the draft arrangement should not be understood to imply legal commitment on the part of any United Nations body other than the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary organs.

11. An amendment to the draft special arrangement was made to the effect that the words "specified by the constitution of INTERPOL" should be inserted after the words "human rights questions" in the penultimate line of the paragraph in section 1 of the draft.

12. The Committee discussed whether it should make any recommendations of a substantive nature regarding the proposed arrangement. Some delegations felt that because of the lateness of the relevant documentation and the special nature of the question, it would be better to take note of the proposed draft arrangement and submit it to the Council for consideration. Other members expressed the view that the Committee, in accordance with its mandate and responsibility, should consider the draft arrangement and make a substantive recommendation.

13. The Committee decided, by 10 votes to none, with 2 abstentions, to submit a draft resolution to the Council which would consist of a short introductory text approving the draft arrangement followed by the text of the arrangement as it had been submitted by the Secretariat and amended by the Committee. A roll-call vote was taken with the following result:

In favour:* Norway, Pakistan, Sudan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, France, Ghana, Indonesia, Jamaica.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Hungary.

14. In an explanation of vote, the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics said that he wished to make it clear that his abstaining in the vote in no way indicated disapproval of the draft arrangement with INTERPOL, but rather that his delegation was not able at the time to take a final position on the matter. He also felt that the Council itself should decide on the form of the arrangement to be reached with INTERPOL. The representative of Hungary joined with the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in these comments.

15. The draft resolution is contained in annex III of the report.

* The delegation of Kenya subsequently informed the Secretariat that it wished to be recorded as having voted in favour of the draft resolution.

III. CATEGORIZATION OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

16. Members of the Committee noted that even though the requests from non-governmental organizations for consultative status as well as requests for reclassification had been received before 1 June 1970, the documentation for the Committee's session had been available only at the end of December owing to the processing of the documentation for the General Assembly. It was felt that the lateness of the documentation had made it difficult for members of the Committee to give the applications appropriate consideration. The Committee therefore agreed that its report to the Economic and Social Council should include a request calling for compliance with the six weeks' rule for the submission of documentation.

17. On the basis of information given by the organizations, as contained in E/C.2/R.41/Add.1-4 and in E/C.2/CRP.1, as well as on additional information requested by the members of the Committee in certain cases, the Committee decided to recommend eleven organizations for category II and eight organizations for the Roster. Nine organizations were moved from the Roster to category II. The Committee could reach no decision on one organization and referred it to the Council for consideration.

- A. Applications from non-governmental organizations previously in consultative status or on the Register which claim to have a valid or technical reason for not having replied to the questionnaire of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations during the review

World Council for the Welfare of the Blind

The Committee recommended that this organization be placed in category II.

- B. Non-governmental organizations put on the Roster by the Secretary-General as an interim measure until they could reapply to remain on the Roster

International Association of Gerontology

The Committee recommended that this organization be placed on the Roster.

International Real Estate Federation

The Committee recommended that this organization be placed on the Roster.

Union of International Associations

The Committee recommended that this organizations be placed in category II.

St. Joan's International Alliance

Having heard a representative of this organization, the Committee recommended that it be placed in category II. On a point of clarification regarding the membership of this organization, additional information was submitted after the Committee had made its recommendation.

C. New application for consultative status

Arab Lawyers Union

The Committee recommended that this organization be placed in category II.

Asian Development Center

The Committee, by 4 votes to 4, with 2 abstentions, rejected the proposal made by the representative of the United States to place this organization in category II status.

The Committee, by 8 votes to none, with 3 abstentions, adopted the proposal of the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to place this organization on the Roster.

European League for Economic Co-operation

Some representatives felt that since this organization was regional in character and its membership and activities were limited, it might be more appropriately placed on the Roster. Other representatives felt that the organization had a wide geographical membership and that its aims, which favoured economic and social integration in different countries, might justify its being recommended for category II.

The Committee, by 7 votes to 3, with 1 abstention, rejected the proposal of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to place this organization on the Roster.

By 7 votes to 3, with 1 abstention, the Committee adopted the proposal of the representative of the United Kingdom to recommend that this organization be placed in category II.

International Association of Lawyers

The Committee recommended that this organization be placed in category II.

International Association for Water Law

Two representatives of this organization were heard by the Committee. Some members felt that, because of its limited scope and membership, it should be placed on the Roster. Other representatives expressed the view that category II status would be justified, particularly in light of its potential contribution to the

work of the Economic and Social Council in the field of natural resources and protection of the human environment. The Committee, by 6 votes to 2, with 3 abstentions, rejected the proposal of the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to place this organization on the Roster.

The Committee, by 8 votes to none, with 3 abstentions, adopted the proposal of Norway to grant this organization category II status.

International Defence and Aid Fund for Southern Africa

The Committee recommended that this organization be placed in category II.

International Federation of Operational Research Societies

The Committee heard a statement from the Secretary of the Committee in reply to its request for additional information on this organization. The Committee then recommended that this organization be placed on the Roster.

International Organization of Experts (ORDINFEX)

After receiving additional information on this organization, the Committee recommended that it be placed on the Roster.

International Union of Police Federations

This organization replied by cable to questions posed by the members of the Committee. Some representatives felt that its sphere of activity was limited and that it might be recommended for the Roster. Other members felt that its work in the field of human rights might justify recommending it for category II.

The Committee, by 5 votes to 5, with 1 abstention, rejected the proposal of the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to place this organization on the Roster.

The Committee, by 5 votes to 5, with 1 abstention, rejected the proposal of the representative of France to grant this organization category II status.

The Committee was unable to take a decision on this organization and decided to refer it to the Council for its consideration.

International Union of Social Democratic Teachers

The Committee recommended that this organization be placed on the Roster.

International Working Group for the Construction of Sports Premises (IAKS)

The Committee heard additional information from this organization. Some representatives felt that because of its limited sphere of activity, it might more appropriately be placed on the Roster. Other representatives felt that because of its wide geographical membership and since its field of activity involved many people, it might be placed in category II.

The Committee, by 6 votes to 3, with 3 abstentions, rejected the proposal of the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to grant this organization category II. By 8 votes to none, with 4 abstentions, the Committee adopted the proposal of the representative of the United Kingdom to place this organization on the Roster.

Pan American Federation of Engineering Societies (UPADI)

The Committee recommended that this organization be placed in category II.

Société internationale de prophylaxie criminelle

The Committee heard additional information on this organization. One representative felt that it might more appropriately be placed on the Roster. Other representatives felt that because of its broad geographical distribution and its contribution to the United Nations in the field of prevention of crime and delinquency it might be placed in category II.

The Committee, by 7 votes to 1, with 2 abstentions, adopted the proposal of the representative of Norway to recommend category II status for this organization.

World Federation for the Protection of Animals

Having heard a representative of this organization, the Committee recommended that it be placed in category II.

Young Lawyers' International Association (AIJA)

Some representatives felt that this organization might more appropriately be placed on the Roster. Others felt it might be recommended for category II.

The Committee, by 6 votes to 1, with 4 abstentions, adopted the proposal of the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to place this organization on the Roster.

In an explanation of vote, the representative of the United States stated that his delegation had abstained not because it opposed placing this organization on the Roster but because it favoured its being recommended for category II. The representative of the United Kingdom stated that her delegation had abstained because of the choice between the Roster and category II.

D. Requests for reclassification

Boy Scouts World Bureau

The Committee recommended that the request of this organization for reclassification from the Roster to category II be granted.

International Chamber of Shipping

On the request of members of the Committee, additional information on the extent and scope of this organization's contribution to the work of the United Nations was provided.

One representative suggested that, because of its limited sphere of activity, it should be recommended for the Roster. A proposal to that effect was rejected by 3 votes to 7, with 3 abstentions. Other representatives suggested that because of this organization's valuable contribution to the work of the United Nations in the field of transport, its request for reclassification from the Roster to category II should be granted. A proposal to recommend it for reclassification to category II was adopted by 10 votes to 2, with 1 abstention.

International Council of Scientific Unions

The Committee recommended that the request of this organization for reclassification from the Roster to category II be granted.

International Council of Social Democratic Women

Some members of the Committee felt that this organization might remain on the Roster since its scope of activity seemed limited. Other members were of the opinion that its interests covered a broad spectrum of the work of the Council and felt it might appropriately be recommended for category II. After hearing a representative of the organization and after further discussion, the Committee decided, by 9 votes to 3, with 1 abstention, to recommend that this organization be reclassified to category II.

International Hotel Association

This organization had been placed on the Roster by the Council at its resumed forty-eighth session. ^{1/} According to the provision of operative paragraph 4C (a) of Council resolution 1296 (XLIV), the reapplication "by an organization for status, or a request for a change in status, shall be considered by the Committee at the earliest at its first session in the second year following the session at which the substance of the previous application or request was considered, unless at the time of such consideration it was decided otherwise".

Several delegations, while stressing the importance of the application of the said provision, considered that in view of the exceptional circumstances referred to in the note on this organization in the report of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, of 14 March 1970 (E/4799, chap. II, section E), the terms of the final phrase of paragraph 40 (a) of Council resolution 1296 (XLIV), quoted above, applied in that case, and that the Committee could therefore reconsider the organization's status. It was decided to recommend reclassification from the Roster to category II.

^{1/} See Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 3, chap. XV, sections A and B.

International Prisoners Aid Association

The Committee received additional information on this organization. Some representatives felt that the information provided on this organization's activities in South Africa was insufficient. Several other delegations felt that because of its very positive work under adverse conditions and because of its very commendable activities involving the relief of prisoners and its promotion of human rights in South Africa and elsewhere, it might be recommended for category II.

The Committee decided to recommend this organization for category II, with the notation that additional information on the organization was requested in order to bring information previously supplied by it up to date.

International Savings Banks Institute

The Committee was given additional information about the assistance provided to developing countries by this organization in the field of domestic savings. Several delegations supported its reclassification from the Roster to category II. One delegation, although recognizing the importance of the organization, felt that its rather limited scope of activity made it doubtful for category II status.

The Committee decided to recommend that this organization be reclassified to category II.

International Touring Alliance

Having heard a representative of this organization, the Committee decided, after some discussion, to recommend its reclassification from the Roster to category II. During the debate, the representatives of France, the United Kingdom and the United States expressed the hope that any future application for reclassification by the International Automobile Federation - presently on the Roster - would receive similar treatment by the Economic and Social Council.

World University Service

The Committee recommended that this organization be placed in category II.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF REQUESTS BY ORGANIZATIONS IN CATEGORY I TO PLACE ITEMS ON THE AGENDA OF THE COUNCIL

18. The Committee considered the request made by the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA), pursuant to paragraph 40 (b) of Council resolution 1296 (XLIV), that an item entitled "Teaching of the purposes and principles, the structure and activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies in schools and other educational institutions of Member States" be placed on the agenda of the Council at its fiftieth or fifty-first session.

19. The Chairman of the Committee recalled that the Council had considered the item at its resumed forty-eighth session 2/ in May 1970, and had decided to request the

2/ Ibid., chap. XI, section E.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) "to prepare a further report on the subject to be submitted to the Council in 1975".

20. Members of the Committee welcomed the active interest in the work of the Economic and Social Council demonstrated by the World Federation of United Nations Associations in submitting its request.

21. In view of the importance of the item and pursuant to the provision of paragraph 2 (c) of rule 10 of the Council's rules of procedure, the Committee decided to transmit the request of WFUNA to the Council for its consideration, expressing the view that the item might more appropriately be considered by UNESCO.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

Review of non-governmental organizations

22. The Secretary of the Economic and Social Council sought the guidance of the Committee with regard to the preparations to be undertaken by the Secretariat in pursuance of the provisions contained in paragraph 40 (b) of Economic and Social Council resolution 1296 (XLIV). He indicated three possible ways of proceeding with the review of non-governmental organizations in consultative status in categories I and II called for in that paragraph. The first would be to review all those organizations in alphabetical order once every four years. The second would be to follow the same procedure, but instead of using alphabetical order, to divide the organizations into groups according to the relationship they may have with the various organizational units within the United Nations Secretariat. The third would be to provide for a more purposeful examination of the effectiveness of the contribution made by the organizations according to broad areas of activity. Such areas could be:

- (a) Development, including environment and the role of youth;
- (b) Social welfare and social defence;
- (c) Human rights;
- (d) Other professional and technical interests.

23. The examination could be spread over four years with the Committee taking up only one broad area of activity each year. The result of the exercise would be not only the reclassification, if necessary, of individual organizations, but also consideration of their individual and collective contribution to a particular area of activity. On the basis of its assessment, the Committee could make appropriate recommendations both to the non-governmental organizations and the Council in order to increase their contribution. In undertaking such a review, he said, it might also be useful to include some organizations on the Roster, although paragraph 40 (b) of resolution 1296 (XLIV) was limited to a review of organizations in consultative status in categories I and II only.

24. In reply to questions raised by some members of the Committee, the Secretary of the Council said that such a review might begin from 1972 with the first broad areas of activity inasmuch as the first biennial review called for under General Assembly resolution 2626 (XXV) on the International Development Strategy for the

Second United Nations Development Decade would be held in 1973 and the United Nations Conference on Human Environment would take place in 1972. Although some of the organizations might be active in more than one of the broad areas of activity suggested by him, in view of the limited number of such organizations it would not be an insurmountable problem to determine their principal field of interest and review them in one of the areas. As for his suggestion to include some organizations on the Roster, he explained that those would be the ones placed on the Roster by action of the Economic and Social Council and not those which were placed thereon by virtue of their consultative status with other members of the United Nations family.

25. The Committee noted with interest the suggestions put forward by the Secretary of the Council and decided that the Secretariat should continue to study the matter and report to the Committee in due course.

Suggestions by members of the Committee concerning
improvements to be made in its future work procedure

26. Several members of the Committee made suggestions on how to improve the work of the Committee in the future. The Committee agreed that those suggestions be included in the Committee's report. The suggestions were the following:

- (1) In future, the Secretariat should take the initiative in obtaining from non-governmental organizations as detailed replies as possible to questions usually raised by the Committee when reviewing applications and reapplications for consultative status. The Secretariat should also press non-governmental organizations for clarification of data submitted in their replies to the Committee's questionnaire;
- (2) Non-governmental organizations applying for category I or category II consultative status should be encouraged to have their representatives present when their applications were being discussed by the Committee;
- (3) The Secretariat should continue to provide members of the Committee with additional information and comments from relevant units within the United Nations regarding co-operation between the non-governmental organizations and those units;
- (4) The previous completed questionnaire from a non-governmental organization should be included in the documentation submitted to the Committee when that organization was applying for reclassification.

Annex I

LIST OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON
NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS FOR 1971

Members

France: Jean-Dominique Paolini

Ghana: Kofi Sekyiamah

Hungary: Cyula Budai

Indonesia: Miss Kustijan Prodjolalito

Jamaica: Dennis Francis

Kenya: Peter Ndungu

Norway: Haakon Hjelde (Vice-Chairman/Rapporteur)

Pakistan: Munir Akram (Chairman)

Sudan: Omer Elsheikh

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics: Yuri Rybakov; Nikifor Yevdokeyev

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: Miss Tessa Solesby;
Philip Hall

United States of America: Arthur Stillman

Uruguay: Augusto Legnani; Alberto D. Fajardo

United Nations Secretariat

Secretary: Curtis Roosevelt

Annex II

REPRESENTATIVES OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS HEARD BY THE COMMITTEE
DURING ITS SESSIONS FROM 14 TO 22 JANUARY 1971

Category II

International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL): Jean Nepote

Roster

International Council of Social Democratic Women: Miss S. Fanny Simon

International Touring Alliance: M. Blankert

St. Joan's International Alliance: Miss Frances McGillicuddy

New applicants for consultative status

International Association for Water Law: Ludwik Teclaff; Robert Hayton

International Defence and Aid Fund for Southern Africa: George Houser

World Federation for the Protection of Animals: Miss H. Lehnoff

Annex III

DRAFT OF A SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL POLICE ORGANIZATION (INTERPOL) AND THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting the relevant recommendations of the Council Committee on
Non-Governmental Organizations (E/_____),

Approves the following arrangement for co-operation between the United
Nations and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL):

1. Matters of concern to INTERPOL

Note is taken that the aims of INTERPOL, as stated in article 2 of its
Constitution, are:

"(a) To ensure and promote the widest possible mutual assistance
between all criminal police authorities within the limits of the laws
existing in the different countries in the spirit of the Universal
Declaration of Human Rights;

"(b) To establish and develop all institutions likely to contribute
effectively to the prevention and suppression of ordinary law crimes;

"and that, according, to article 3 of its Constitution, INTERPOL is
strictly forbidden 'to undertake any intervention or activities of a
political, military, religious or racial character'."

In the execution of these aims, INTERPOL is concerned in all criminal police
matters, including the police aspects of drug abuse, prevention of crime and
treatment of offenders, traffic in persons, certain human rights questions
specified by the constitution of INTERPOL, counterfeiting, and new forms of crime
that may arise.

2. Exchange of information and documentation

The United Nations Secretariat and INTERPOL shall exchange, as may be
appropriate, information and documentation relevant to matters of mutual
interest.

3. Consultations and technical co-operation

The United Nations Secretariat and INTERPOL, at the request of either, shall
consult together on matters of common interest. They may collaborate in the
study of such matters, and may undertake technical co-operation in substantive
projects.

4. Representation by observers

Representatives of the United Nations Secretariat shall be invited to attend in an observer capacity meetings of INTERPOL bodies, and other meetings organized by INTERPOL, which deal with matters of common interest. Representatives of INTERPOL shall be invited to attend in an observer capacity meetings of the Council, of its subsidiary organs, of conferences convened by it and of other United Nations bodies, which deal with matters of common interest. Observers invited pursuant to this paragraph may participate, with the approval of the body concerned and without the right to vote, in debates on questions of concern to their organizations.

5. Written statements

The United Nations Secretariat may submit written statements to meetings of INTERPOL bodies and other meetings organized by INTERPOL, on matters of common interest which are relevant to the work of those bodies. The International Criminal Police Organization may submit written statements to the Council, to its subsidiary organs and to conferences convened by it, on matters of common interest which are relevant to the work of those bodies, subject to the same conditions and procedures as are applicable to written statements by organizations having consultative status in category I with the Council.

6. Proposal of agenda items

The United Nations may propose items for the provisional agenda of INTERPOL bodies and other meetings organized by INTERPOL. The International Criminal Police Organization may propose items for the provisional agenda of the Council and its subsidiary bodies, subject to the same conditions and procedures as are applicable to such proposals by organizations having consultative status in category I with the Council.
