

COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON MATTERS RELATING TO CO-ORDINATION

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE SIXTH MEETING

Lake Success, New York

Friday, 26 February 1948, at 2.30 p.m.

Present:

Chairman: Mr. DAVIDSON (Canada)

Australia	Mr. Tange
Brazil	Mr. Campos
	Mr. Muniz
Canada	Mr. Pollock
China	Mr. Chang
	Mr. Cha
France	Mr. de Folin
Netherlands	Mr. de Stoppelaar
New Zealand	Mr. Lendrum
United Kingdom	Mr. Phillips
	Mr. Veysey
United States of America	Mr. Kotschnig
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	Mr. Chernyshev

Representatives of Specialized Agencies:

International Labour Organization	Mr. Riches
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	Mr. Carnes

NOTE: Corrections of this summary record provided for in the rules of procedure should be submitted in writing within the prescribed period to Mr. Delavenay, Director, Editorial Division, Room CC-87, Lake Success. Corrections should be accompanied by or incorporated in a letter written on headed notepaper and enclosed in an envelope marked "Urgent" and bearing the appropriate symbol number.

Food and Agriculture Organization	
of the United Nations	Mr. Olsen
International Bank for	
Reconstruction and	
Development	Mr. Lopez-Herrarte
World Health Organization	Dr. Calderone
International Refugee	
Organization	Miss Biehle
<u>Secretariat:</u> Dr. S. Sze	(Secretary of the Committee)

CONTINUATION OF THE DISCUSSION OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED
BY THE UNITED STATES (document E/647/Rev.1).

The CHAIRMAN recalled that the Economic and Social Council had referred to the Committee the question of the drafting of resolutions by the Commissions.

Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) submitted the amendments to Document E/647/Rev.1 proposed by a Drafting Committee, as follows (document E/AC.24/W.3):

"Replace lines 78 to 83 on page 4 by the following:

"3. An account of activities and work programmes for the current calendar year including items outlined under (2) above with special reference to any major modifications of work programmes previously transmitted and in indication of the priorities if any applied to these programmes.

"4. As far as feasible an account of the proposed activities and work programmes for the subsequent year".

"Insert the following new paragraph 2 after line 117 on page 5:

"2. To examine the possibility of including in the reports of the specialized agencies such budgetary information related to specific work programmes, current and prospective, as will enable the Council to appraise their relative scope".

At the suggestion of Mr. LENDRUM (New Zealand), the word "feasible" in paragraph 4 of the above text was replaced by the word "possible".

Mr. TANGE (Australia) proposed that the Chairman should request the representatives of the specialized agencies to comment on these texts.

Mr. OLSEN (FAO) said that the FAO already had to produce a large number of annual reports, both those provided for by its own rules of procedure and those which the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization sent to certain Commissions of the Economic and Social Council at their request.

/The proposal

The proposal which had just been mentioned seemed likely to add the production of new reports to this already heavy task. The FAO would be ready to comply with the Council's wishes, but he asked whether it would be necessary to bring out a new edition of the information already submitted to the Economic and Social Council.

Mr. CHERNYSHYEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) drew the Committee's attention to the financial aspect of the proposals being discussed. Who would defray the expenses involved by the writing and printing of these new reports? He pointed out that under the agreements concluded with the various specialized agencies, the United Nations must bear the financial burden of any special studies that it requested of them.

Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) said that an essential point dominated the debate, namely, that the specialized agencies should not waste too much time in producing historical accounts or drawing up programmes for the future. Moreover, if the Committee received over-lengthy reports from these agencies, it would not have time to peruse and analyse them. The drafting of such reports should not become the principal activity of the specialized agencies. Their judgment should be relied on and they should be given only a few suggestions concerning the information they should supply. Reports submitted in an abridged form were preferable to voluminous documents.

Mr. TANGE (Australia), replying to one of the FAO representative's remarks, said that there was no need for the specialized agencies to resubmit in a different form information already furnished in past reports.

Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America), replying to a question from Mr. de STOPPELAAR (Netherlands) concerning a distinction to be drawn between the calendar year and the financial year when applying the text of the amendments which the United States representative had read, expressed the hope that all confusion would disappear when the specialized agencies adopted 1 January as the start of their financial year - which was the case for all the specialized agencies except ICAO, and the latter would make the necessary change very soon.

Mr. LOPEZ-HERRARTE (International Bank) stated that the financial year of the Bank began on 1 April and that of the Fund on 1 July.

Mr. RICHES (ILO) pointed out that the specialized agencies could not provide reports drawn up according to the new directions by 31 March of this year, and that the best way of conforming with the new instructions would be to publish supplementary reports. Moreover, there seemed to be a certain contradiction between the brevity which was requested of the

agencies in the submission of certain parts of their reports and the abundance of details which was also expected.

He therefore, hoped that the institutions would be left some initiative in the preparation of their reports.

Mr. CHANG (China) expressed his agreement with this remark.

The CHAIRMAN proposed that the Committee should adopt the amendments submitted by the Drafting Committee to document E/647/Rev.1, page 4, lines 78 to 83.

The Committee unanimously adopted the following text for paragraph 3 (lines 78 to 80):

"An account of activities and work programmes for the current calendar year including items outlined under (2) above with special reference to any major modifications of work programmes previously transmitted and an indication of the priorities if any applied to these programmes".

The Committee unanimously adopted paragraph 4 (lines 81 to 83) in the text proposed by the Drafting Committee, the word "feasible" being replaced by the word "possible".

The Committee unanimously adopted lines 84 to 86 of the United States draft resolution (document E/647/Rev.1).

The CHAIRMAN proposed that the Committee should proceed to discuss lines 87 to 92 of document E/647/Rev.1, consisting of points 1, 2 and 3.

Mr. CHERNYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) criticized point 2 which referred to: "an account of the current work programmes of the Economic and Social Departments and of the Commissions of the Council". The carrying out of the proposed measures would cost money, while the Fifth Committee was calling for economy. He would not, however, formally oppose this point if the other members of the Committee considered it necessary.

Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) repeated that he shared the opinion expressed by certain members that the reports to be submitted should not be too voluminous. He would therefore not insist on the adoption of point 3 (lines 91 to 92) as follows: "an analytical description of the relation of the major activities of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies".

Mr. PHILLIPS (United Kingdom), referring to point 4 (lines 93 to 99) urged the adoption of the text of lines 323 to 327 of his own draft resolution (document E/AC.24/2/Rev.1). The text was as follows:

"INVITES the Secretary-General, in transmitting reports to the Council from the Co-ordination Committee and the Specialized Agencies, to bring to the notice of the Council

/any matters

any matters to which their attention should be drawn for decision or other action in relation to their responsibilities under Articles 63 and 64 of the Charter".

Mr. MUNIZ (Brazil) doubted the utility of the information provided for in paragraph 2; on the other hand, he thought the analytical description provided for in paragraph 3 would be useful. He accepted paragraph 1 and requested that the drafting of paragraph 4 proposed by the United Kingdom be adopted.

Mr. de FOLIN (France) accepted the drafting of points 1 and 2, the deletion of point 3 suggested by the United States, and as regards point 4, was in favour of the text proposed by the United Kingdom.

Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America), in reply to a remark by the Chairman, stated that the memorandum drawn up by the Secretariat with the title "Provisional Programme of Work for 1948" (document E/626) contained the type of information referred to in paragraph 2 (lines 89 to 90) of the United States draft resolution. He accepted for paragraph 4 of the same draft the text of lines 323 to 327 of the United Kingdom proposal.

Mr. PHILLIPS (United Kingdom), replying to the United States representative, said that his delegation could not accept paragraphs 1 and 2 of the draft resolution. He did not think it necessary to place at the Council's disposal a table showing the exact distribution of staff in the various organs of the specialized agencies or the Secretariat. The United Kingdom delegation thought that the Secretary-General should have full liberty in this respect to act according to the general directives which were given him. In any case, it did not seem necessary to draw up a formal statement on the matter.

Referring to paragraph 2, he pointed out that the Committee was in possession of a memorandum by the Secretary-General concerning the "Provisional Programme of Work for 1948" which had not yet been considered (document E/626). It would be difficult to request in Resolution No. 2 an almost similar report without having examined this document.

Mr. TANGE (Australia) supported the United States proposal because he thought it desirable to make it clear what type of documentation the Committee expected from the Secretary-General. If such documentation already existed, it was obvious that the Secretary-General would use it, without its being necessary to draw up a new report.

In regard to paragraph 1, he thought the Secretary-General should be left free to interpret it. It was desirable that the information provided to the Fifth Committee should also be communicated to the Council.

He thought that paragraphs 2 and 3 were closely related. It was

/difficult

difficult for the Council to examine several documents coming from different sources and dealing with the same problems. The Secretariat could usefully condense the documents furnished by the various Commissions, adding particulars on the activities of the Economic and Social Departments. The Australian delegation had been inspired, in submitting amendment E/AC.24/Rev.1/Add.1, by the United States proposal, but it had wished to extend the scope of that proposal, which appeared to apply only to the specialized agencies.

Mr. PHILLIPS (United Kingdom) explained in reply to Mr. Tange that the word "their" in lines 325 and 326 of the United Kingdom draft resolution (document E/AC.24,2/Rev.1) did in fact refer to the Council. He therefore proposed that they be replaced by the words "the Council's attention".

Mr. TANGE (Australia) said that this paragraph, inserted after paragraphs 1, 2 and 3, might be interpreted as a request to the Secretary-General to draw the Council's attention to any questions raised by examination of the reports. He therefore proposed the deletion of that paragraph.

The CHAIRMAN asked the members of the Committee to make their comments on the various paragraphs when they were discussed item by item.

Mr. LENDRUM (New Zealand) proposed the addition to paragraph 1, after the word "organization", of the words "and allocation of personnel".

Mr. POLLOCK (Canada) agreed that that wording made the text clearer but it appeared difficult for the Council to discuss the number of persons allocated to the various services, and it might be feared that the insertion of these words would oblige the Secretariat to produce too long a report.

The CHAIRMAN said that the United States proposal referred simply to the type of information which the Committee wished to be included in the report.

Paragraph 1, amended as proposed by New Zealand, was adopted by 8 votes, with 3 abstentions.

Mr. CAMPOS (Brazil) supported the Australian proposal to combine paragraphs 2 and 3 into a single paragraph.

Mr. POLLOCK (Canada) proposed that the following text be added at the end of paragraph 2: "...with a description, where applicable, of their relationship to similar activities carried on by the specialized agencies and other organs of the United Nations."

Mr. TANGE (Australia) proposed that paragraph 3 be deleted and that the following text be added at the end of paragraph 2: "...drawing attention
/to the relationship

to the relationship of the activities of the United Nations in these fields with those of the specialized agencies."

Mr. de FOLIN (France) suggested that a separate paragraph be drafted, if necessary in a different form from the paragraph proposed by the United States, but retaining its main idea and taking into account the comments of the representatives of Canada and Australia.

Mr. PHILLIPS (United Kingdom) accepted the proposal to combine the two paragraphs. He asked that reference be made in this text to document E/626.

Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) urged that the text of the resolution be kept clear and explicit. He preferred a detailed description to a reference to document E/626, which was of a purely temporary character. He had no objection to either of the texts proposed by Canada and Australia being added at the end of paragraph 2.

Mr. TANGE (Australia) supported the Canadian text, which provided for reports on the activities of the specialized agencies and of the other organs of the United Nations. He saw no need for a reference to document E/626.

Mr. PHILLIPS (United Kingdom) said that he did not insist on reference being made to document E/626.

The CHAIRMAN said, in reply to a proposal of the Netherlands representative that document E/626 should be referred to in a footnote, that the Secretariat thought that the references to that document made in the summary records would be sufficient.

He read and put to the vote paragraph 2, amended as proposed by the Canadian representative, and reading as follows: "An account of current work programmes of the Economic and Social Departments and of the Commissions of the Council with a description, where applicable, of their relationships to similar activities carried on by the specialized agencies and other organs of the United Nations."

Paragraph 2, thus amended, was adopted by 9 votes, with 1 abstention.

In opening the discussion on paragraph 4 - now numbered 3 - the CHAIRMAN recalled that it was proposed to replace that paragraph by the paragraph appearing in lines 323 to 327 of the United Kingdom draft resolution (document E/AC.24/2/Rev.1).

Mr. TANGE (Australia) proposed that lines 323 to 327 be amended as follows: "INVITES the Secretary-General, in transmitting to the Council reports on co-ordination questions, to bring to the notice of the Council..."

Mr. POLLOCK (Canada) thought that the proposed wording was too vague, and that

and that it would be impossible to understand it without having followed the present discussion in detail.

Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) asked for the retention of the original text proposed by the United Kingdom, which appeared to him to be more precise.

Mr. PHILLIPS (United Kingdom) supported this proposal.

Mr. POLLOCK (Canada) proposed the following amendment: "INVITES the Secretary-General, in transmitting reports to the Council from the Co-ordination Committee and the specialized agencies and any other sources..."

Mr. TANGE (Australia) proposed the following wording: "INVITES the Secretary-General, in transmitting to the Council reports from the Co-ordination Committee and the specialized agencies and other reports on co-ordination questions..."

Mr. CHANG (China) raised the question of the title of the Co-ordination Committee, which, in his opinion, should be called "Secretary-General's Co-ordination Committee."

Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) said that a clear decision on the title of the Committee would have to be made later.

He proposed the following text for lines 323 to 327: "INVITES the Secretary-General, in transmitting to the Council reports from the Co-ordination Committee, the specialized agencies and from other sources and any other relevant reports, to bring to the notice of the Council any matter to which the Council's attention should be drawn for decision or other action in relation to the Council's responsibilities under Articles 63 and 64 of the Charter."

This text of lines 323 to 327 was unanimously adopted. It became paragraph 3 of the United States resolution (document E/647/Rev.1) in which it replaced lines 91 to 99.

The CHAIRMAN opened the discussion on lines 328 to 331 of the United Kingdom draft resolution, reading as follows: "REQUESTS the Secretary-General to report to the next session of the Council on the content and form of reports to be submitted to the Council on the activities, programmes and priorities of work of the Commissions and other subsidiary organs of the Council."

He pointed out that the United Kingdom representative thought that it would be useful to include this paragraph in resolution No. 2, which he then read:

"THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

"REQUESTS its Commissions in submitting their Reports to the Council to include draft texts of any resolution regarding questions contained in
/their reports

their reports which the Commissions recommend to the Council for adoption."

Mr. PHILLIPS (United Kingdom) explained that this paragraph dealt with the content and form of reports submitted by the Secretary-General to the Council, and added that though it might be thought necessary to specify with regard to reports from the specialized agencies, the Secretary-General should be allowed freedom of judgment with regard to the other organs of the United Nations.

Mr. CHERNYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that it was desirable for reports to reflect the different views expressed during debates. The text of the United Kingdom proposal had its advantages, and he proposed that it be combined with the resolution which the Chairman had just read.

Mr. VEYSEY (United Kingdom) thought that it would be preferable for it to be a separate resolution, in order to ensure that the reports submitted to the seventh session of the Council should have a uniform character and should be in the desired form.

Mr. CHERNYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) thought this was more a question of form than of substance, but had no objection to the text of the United Kingdom proposal constituting a separate resolution.

Mr. VEYSEY (United Kingdom), in reply to the Australian and Canadian representatives, said that his intention was to request the Secretary-General, with a view to simplifying the work of the Council, to examine the content and form of the various reports submitted to it.

Mr. TANGE (Australia) pointed out that a resolution asking the Secretary-General to report on the activities of the Council's Commissions had already been adopted. Did the United Kingdom draft allude to the content and form of the regular reports of the Commissions and Sub-Commissions or did it apply to possible supplementary reports?

Mr. de FOLIN (France) thought that this draft resolution, which applied to the next session of the Council, ought not to be dealt with in a resolution which would necessarily have a permanent character.

Mr. CHA (China) said that since every Commission and Sub-Commission had its own special form of activity, it appeared difficult to lay down in advance a uniform plan for the form of reports to be submitted by them.

Mr. POLLOCK (Canada) repeated the Australian representative's arguments and added that paragraph 2 of the draft resolution which had just been adopted asked the Secretary-General to submit an account of the work programmes of the Economic and Social Departments and of the Commissions. If that account was satisfactory, it was unnecessary to ask
/the Secretary-General

the Secretary-General to study the form to be given to such reports. The proposal went too far and threatened to encroach on the prerogatives of the Secretary-General's Co-ordination Committee.

Mr. VEYSEY (United Kingdom) said that recommendations had been made on the form and content of the reports submitted by the specialized agencies. Similar attention should be given to the form and content of the reports of Commissions and Sub-Commissions of the Council and of other organs of the Secretariat.

The meeting rose at 6:15 p.m.
