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**ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL**

**CONSEIL
ECONOMIQUE
ET SOCIAL**

E/CN.4/Sub.1/92
10 June 1949

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Sub-Commission on Freedom of Information
and of the Press

Third session

Item 6 of the agenda and programme of work

MR. KARIM AZKOUL: PROPOSED DRAFT RESOLUTION CONCERNING
THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF NATIONAL INFORMATION AGENCIES
(E/CN.4/Sub.1/80 and Corr.1)

THE SUB-COMMISSION ON FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND OF THE PRESS

Considering that the General Assembly, at its Third Session, approved a Convention on the International Transmission of News and the Right of Correction aimed at encouraging the freest possible flow of information throughout the world;

Considering that Article 12, Paragraph 5, of this Convention provides: "Nothing in the present Convention shall be construed as preventing a Contracting State from taking measures to help the establishment and development of independent domestic information agencies";

Considering that the United Nations Conference on Freedom of Information adopted resolutions No. 19, 20 and 21 on the subject of the development of national information agencies;

Considering that a wider and freer flow of information should be encouraged through the development of national information agencies in countries where such agencies are under-developed;

Considering that where national information agencies are not sufficiently developed, provisional measures should appropriately be taken to encourage their development as independent information agencies; and

Considering that any increase in the amount of information should apply without exception and in equal measure to all countries with a view to obtaining an ever wider and more accurate knowledge of their problems, achievements and contributions to international co-operation and world peace;

Recommends that the Economic and Social Council, in its consideration of Item 9 of the provisional agenda of its Ninth Session (document E/1326)

"Economic Development of Under-developed Countries," pay special attention to the encouragement and development of national information agencies in countries where these are under-developed, so that such national information
/agencies may

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agencies may be strengthened and the flow of information accordingly increased with a view to improving understanding between peoples and developing friendly relations among nations.
