

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

SUB-COMMISSION ON FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND OF THE PRESS  
SECOND SESSION, 19 JANUARY TO 3 FEBRUARY 1948

DISPOSITION OF AGENDA ITEMS

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A. INTRODUCTION

1. Membership

The composition of the Sub-Commission was determined by Resolution No. 46  
(IV) of the Economic and Social Council, adopted 28 March 1947 (E/325,  
reproduced in E/437), to be:

Mr. George Ferguson	(Canada)
Mr. P. H. Chang	(China)
Mr. Lev Sychrava	(Czechoslovakia)
Mr. André Géraud	(France)
Dr. Gerrit Jan van Heuven Godehart	(Netherlands)
Mr. A. R. Christensen	(Norway)
Mr. José Isaac Fábrega	(Panama)
Mr. Salvador López	(Philippine Republic)
Mr. Yakov M. Lomakin	(Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)
Mr. Robert James Cruikshank	(United Kingdom)
Mr. Zechariah Chafee, Jr.	(United States of America)
Mr. Roberto Fontaina	(Uruguay)

/During

During the second session of the Sub-Commission, 19 January to 3 February 1948, at Lake Success, New York, Mr. Cruikshank (United Kingdom), Mr. Fábrega (Panama) and Mr. Fontaina (Uruguay) were unable to attend, and were represented by alternates Mr. Archibald R. K. Mackenzie, Mr. Jorge E. Illueca and Mr. José A. Mora, respectively. Mr. López ~~(Philippines), who attended the first three meetings of the second session of the Sub-Commission, was represented thereafter by Mr. José D. Inglés.~~

Representatives of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, and the Interim Commission of the World Health Organization attended the meetings of the Sub-Commission during its second session. Also present were consultants from the American Federation of Labor, the International Organization of Journalists, and the Co-ordinating Board of Jewish Organizations.

Dr. John Peter Humphrey represented the Secretary-General, and Mr. Charles Hogan served as Secretary of the Sub-Commission.

## 2. Officers

Mr. van Heuven Goedhart (Netherlands) was the Chairman, Mr. Sychrava (Czechoslovakia) was the Vice-Chairman, and Mr. Chang (China) was Rapporteur.

## 3. Ad hoc Drafting Committees

In order to facilitate the work of the Sub-Commission two drafting Committees were established.

(a) A Drafting Committee on an Article for the Declaration on Human Rights, composed of Mr. Ferguson (Canada), Chairman; Mr. Mackenzie (United Kingdom), Rapporteur; and Mr. Géraud (France), was established on 19 January 1948. The Drafting Committee made two reports to the Sub-Commission: E/CN.4/Sub.1/45 and E/CN.4/Sub.1/48.

(b) A Drafting Committee on Article 17 of the Drafting Covenant on Human Rights, composed of Mr. Christensen (Norway), Chairman;

/Mr. Chafee

Mr. Chafee (United States of America), Rapporteur; and Mr. Mora (Uruguay), was established on 20 January 1948. The Drafting Committee made three reports to the Sub-Commission: E/CN.4/Sub.1/46, E/CN.4/Sub.1/59 and E/CN.4/Sub.1/65.

# B. CHECK LIST OF MEETINGS

<u>Meetings of the Second Session</u>	<u>Date, 1948</u>	<u>Summary Record</u>	<u>Press Release</u>
1	19 January	E/CN.4/Sub.1/SR.24	PRESS RELEASE SOC/337
2	19 January	E/CN.4/Sub.1/SR.25	PRESS RELEASE SOC/339
3	20 January	E/CN.4/Sub.1/SR.26	PRESS RELEASE SOC/342
4	20 January	E/CN.4/Sub.1/SR.27	PRESS RELEASE SOC/343
5	21 January	E/CN.4/Sub.1/SR.28	PRESS RELEASE SOC/345
6	21 January	E/CN.4/Sub.1/SR.29 & Corr.1	PRESS RELEASE SOC/346
7	22 January	E/CN.4/Sub.1/SR.30	PRESS RELEASE SOC/348
8	22 January	E/CN.4/Sub.1/SR.31	PRESS RELEASE SOC/349
9	23 January	E/CN.4/Sub.1/SR.32	PRESS RELEASE SOC/350
10	23 January	E/CN.4/Sub.1/SR.33	PRESS RELEASE SOC/351
11	26 January	E/CN.4/Sub.1/SR.34	PRESS RELEASE SOC/352
12	26 January	E/CN.4/Sub.1/SR.35	PRESS RELEASE SOC/353
13	27 January	E/CN.4/Sub.1/SR.36	PRESS RELEASE SOC/354
14	27 January	E/CN.4/Sub.1/SR.37	PRESS RELEASE SOC/355
15	28 January	E/CN.4/Sub.1/SR.38	PRESS RELEASE SOC/356
16	28 January	E/CN.4/Sub.1/SR.39	PRESS RELEASE SOC/357
17	29 January	E/CN.4/Sub.1/SR.40	PRESS RELEASE SOC/358
18	29 January	E/CN.4/Sub.1/SR.41	PRESS RELEASE SOC/359
19	30 January	E/CN.4/Sub.1/SR.42 & Corr.1	PRESS RELEASE SOC/361
20	30 January	E/CN.4/Sub.1/SR.43	PRESS RELEASE SOC/362
21	2 February	E/CN.4/Sub.1/SR.44	PRESS RELEASE SOC/363
22	2 February	E/CN.4/Sub.1/SR.45	PRESS RELEASE SOC/364
23	3 February	E/CN.4/Sub.1/SR.46	PRESS RELEASE SOC/365
	3 February	E/CN.4/Sub.1/SR.47	PRESS RELEASE SOC/366

/C. AGENDA

## C. AGENDA

The documents and discussions concerning each item of the agenda are grouped in Part D under the relevant subject-headings indicated beneath each item. For an index to statements by members of the Sub-Commission and other representatives, see Part E.

1. Opening of the Session

See: Freedom of Information, Sub-Commission (II) - opening of the session

2. Adoption of the Agenda (E/CN.4/Sub.1/35/Rev.1)

See: Freedom of Information, Sub-Commission on (II) - agenda

3. Election of Officers

See: Freedom of Information, Sub-Commission on (II) - officers - election

4. Consideration, pursuant to a resolution of the Second Session of the Commission on Human Rights (document E/600), of Articles concerning Freedom of Information for inclusion in a Draft Declaration on Human Rights and a Draft Covenant on Human Rights

## (a) Draft Declaration

See: Human rights - declaration (draft)

## (b) Draft Covenant

See: Human rights - covenant (draft)

5. Examination of the Rights, Obligations and Practices which should be included in the Concept of Freedom of Information

See: Freedom of information - definition

6. Other Items

## (a) United Nations Conference on Freedom of Information (1948)

See: Freedom of Information (1948), UN Conference on

7. Programme of future work

See: Freedom of Information, Sub-Commission on (III)

8. Adoption of the Report of the Sub-Commission to the Commission on Human Rights

See: Freedom of Information, Sub-Commission on (II) - report (draft)

/D. SUBJECT-INDEX

D. SUBJECT-INDEX TO THE ITEMS DISCUSSED

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION:

DEFINITION

Documents from Members of the Sub-Commission:

Mr. Ferguson (Canada). Statement. E/CN.4/Sub.1/61 and

Mr. Fontaina (Uruguay). Preliminary comments on a definition

E/CN.4/Sub.1/41.

Mr. Sychrava (Czechoslovakia). Draft resolution prepared for

the General Meeting of the Association of Czech Journalists, and circulated to the members of the Sub-Commission. E/CN.4/Sub.1/47 (Original: Czech).

The principles of free exchange of information E/CN.4/Sub.1/50. Statement. E/CN.4/Sub.1/58 (Original: Czech). E/CN.4/Sub.1/62 and Add.1.

Mr. Geraud (France). Memorandum. E/CN.4/Sub.1/51.

Amendments to paper of Mr. Ferguson (E/CN.4/Sub.1/61). E/CN.4/Sub.1/66.

Mr. van Heuven Goedhart (Netherlands). Memorandum.

E/CN.4/Sub.1/39.

Mr. Mackenzie (United Kingdom). Proposals concerning the rights to be included. E/CN.4/Sub.1/57.

Mr. Fontaina (Uruguay). Preliminary comments on a definition of rights and obligations of liberty of information. E/CN.4/Sub.1/41.

Documents from the Secretariat:

Discussion of the concept of freedom of information in organs of the United Nations. E/CN.4/Sub.1/38. Memorandum on constitutional provisions concerning freedom of information. E/CN.4/Sub.1/40 and Corr.1

/Document

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (continued):

DEFINITION (continued)

Document from the representative of UNESCO:

Description of the main obstacles to the international dissemination of information. E/CN.4/Sub.1/63

Replies to UNESCO questionnaire on human rights:

Extracts relating to freedom of information.

E/CN.4/Sub.1/49, E/CN.4/Sub.1/49/Rev.1 (English only).

Discussion at Sub-Commission Meetings: 4, 13, 14, 19-24.

See Report (E/CN.4/30), Chapter IV.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION, SUB-COMMISSION ON (II):

AGENDA

E/CN.4/Sub.1/35/Rev.1 adopted, after discussion, at first meeting.

OFFICERS - ELECTION

Mr. van Heuven Goedhart, Chairman, Mr. Sychrava, Vice-Chairman;

Mr. Chang, Rapporteur, elected at first meeting.

OPENING OF THE SESSION

Session opened by the Chairman, Mr. van Heuven Goedhart,

19 January 1948.

REPORT (DRAFT)

Discussed at Sub-Commission Meetings: 22, 24.

REPORT. E/CN.4/80, adopted (9-1) at 24th meeting,

3 February 1948 (E/CN.4/Sub.1/SR.47).

See Report (E/CN.4/80), Chapter V.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION, SUB-COMMISSION ON (III):

Proposal by Mr. Christensen (Norway) recommending that third session of

Sub-Commission, scheduled for 31 May 1948, be postponed until

January 1949. Adopted (5-1) at 24th meeting, 3 February 1948

(E/CN.4/Sub.1/SR.47).

See Report (E/CN.4/80), Chapter V.

/FREEDOM

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (1948), UN CONFERENCE ON

Document from Delegation:

U.S.S.R. Statement [on agenda of Conference]. E/AC.7/30.

Document from member of the Sub-Commission:

Mr. Sychrava (Czechoslovakia). The principles of free exchange  
of information. E/CN.4/Sub.1/50.

Document from the Economic and Social Council:

Reference to U.S.S.R. statement (E/AC.7/30) in Sub-Commission Report  
on information E/CN.4/Sub.1/37.

Document from the Secretariat:

Draft rules of procedure for the international Conference.

E/CN.4/Sub.1/34

Discussed at Sub-Commission meetings: 20, 24.

See Report (E/CN.4/80), Chapter V.

## HUMAN RIGHTS:

## COVENANT (DRAFT)

Report of the Commission on Human Rights, Second Session. E/600.

## Documents from members of the Sub-Commission:

Mr. Sychrava (Czechoslovakia). Amendment to the texts  
submitted Mr. Geraud (E/CN.4/Sub.1/52) for insertion in  
Article 17 of the Draft Covenant on Human Rights.  
(E/CN.4/Sub.1/55. Suggestions for draft article of the  
Draft Covenant. E/CN.4/Sub.1/58.

Mr. Geraud (France). Texts to be inserted in the Draft Covenant  
on Human Rights. E/CN.4/Sub.1/52. Proposal to be  
inserted in Draft Covenant. E/CN.4/Sub.1/53/Rev.1

Mr. Mackenzie (United Kingdom). Statement regarding monopolies  
delivered on 26 January 1948. E/CN.4/Sub.1/64 and Add.1.

Mr. Lomakin (U.S.S.R.). Statement and proposals made at the  
seventh meeting (22 January 1948). E/CN.4/Sub.1/54.  
Draft article for the Declaration on Human Rights.  
E/CN.4/Sub.1/56.

/Document



HUMAN RIGHTS (continued):

COVENANT (DRAFT) - continued

Document from the Representative of UNESCO:

Description of the main obstacles to the international dissemination of information. E/CN.4/Sub.1/63.

Document from the Secretariat:

Draft articles for a Covenant and Declaration of Human Rights  
[excerpts from E/600]. E/CN.4/Sub.1/36.

Reports by the Drafting Committee on Article 17 of the Draft

Covenant on Human Rights. E/CN.4/Sub.1/46, E/CN.4/Sub.1/59,  
E/CN.4/Sub.1/65.

Discussed at Sub-Commission meetings: 3-12, 15-19, 45.

See Report (E/CN.4/80), Chapter III.

DECLARATION (DRAFT)

Report of the Commission on Human Rights, Second Session. E/600.

Documents from Members of the Sub-Commission:

Mr. Bychrava (Czechoslovakia). Suggested text of article on  
freedom of information for international Declaration on  
Human Rights. E/CN.4/Sub.1/60.

Mr. MacKenzie (United Kingdom). Suggested text for the Draft  
Declaration on Human Rights. E/CN.4/Sub.1/43. Statement  
regarding monopolies delivered on 26 January 1948.  
E/CN.4/Sub.1/64 and Add.1.

Mr. Lomakin (U.S.S.R.). Statement and proposals made at the  
seventh meeting (22 January 1948). E/CN.4/Sub.1/54.  
Draft article for the Declaration on Human Rights.  
E/CN.4/Sub.1/56.

Document from the Representative of UNESCO:

Description of the main obstacles to the international  
dissemination of information. E/CN.4/Sub.1/63.

/Document

HUMAN RIGHTS (continued):

DECLARATION (DRAFT) - continued

Document from the Secretariat:

Draft articles for a Covenant and Declaration of Human

Rights [excerpts from E/6007. E/CN.4/Sub.1/36.

Reports by the Drafting Committee on an article for the Declaration

on Human Rights. E/CN.4/Sub.1/45, E/CN.4/Sub.1/48.

Discussed at Sub-Commission meetings: 2,4,5,22.

See Report (E/CN.4/80), Chapter II.

E. SUBJECT-INDEX TO STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS, OTHER  
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<u>1. Statements by Members of the Sub-Commission</u>	<u>Meetings</u>
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<u>Mr. Chang (China)</u>	
Freedom of information:	
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<u>Mr. Sychrava (Czechoslovakia)</u>	
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<u>Mr. Geraud (France)</u>	
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Mr. <u>Chafee</u> (U.S.A.)	
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Mr. <u>Mora</u> (Uruguay)	
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2. Statements by Representatives of Specialized  
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F. SKELETON CHECK LIST OF DOCUMENTS OF THE SECOND SESSION

Unless otherwise indicated, documents have been issued in English and French editions.

Document numbers in series E/CN.4/Sub.1/ :

34 to 66, and  
Corr.1 to document 40 (English only)  
Add.1 to document 62  
Add.1 to document 64 (English only)  
Rev.1 to documents 35, 53, 61  
Rev.1 to document 59 (English only)  
Rev.2 to document 61

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