



GENERAL

E/AC.36/SR.7 *
27 October 1951

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON FORCED LABOUR
SUMMARY RECORD OF THE SEVENTH MEETING

held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
on Saturday, 27 October 1951, at 10 a.m.

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Consideration and adoption of the First Progress
Report of the Committee

* The sixth meeting of the Committee was held in closed session, and the summary record (E/AC.36/SR.6) has therefore been given restricted distribution.

Present:

Members:

Chairman: Sir Ramaswami MUDALIAR

Mr. BERG

Mr. PALAVICINI

Representatives of non-governmental organizations:

Category B and Register

International Federation of
Free Journalists

Miss de SZEKULA

Secretariat:

Mr. Salkin

Secretary of the Committee

Mr. Zwahlen

Technical adviser

CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE FIRST PROGRESS REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE (E/AC.36/L.1)

1. The CHAIRMAN referred to the resolution of the Economic and Social Council containing the terms of reference of the Committee, in which the Committee was asked to report on its progress to the Economic and Social Council and to the Governing Body of the International Labour Office. He pointed out that only after the session of the Committee would it be possible to prepare a full report, but a progress report on the work of the session was before the Committee. He wished first to refer briefly to the future work programme of the Committee. The second session would be convened on 26 May 1952. At that session, non-governmental organizations which had submitted memoranda would be heard, and might be examined at length. Moreover, in view of the fact that the material furnished by those organizations was not first-hand, so that their representatives were unable to give direct evidence on it, they would be asked whether they wished to bring witnesses to establish the authenticity of the material which they had furnished. The Committee would study all the material thus received, together with the replies of governments to the questionnaire to be sent to them. It was his hope that governments would reply fully to that questionnaire. The Committee could then decide whether it needed to examine witnesses, and if it did a third session would be held in Geneva and New York, followed by a fourth session at which the final report of the Committee would be drawn up. The present progress report contained a brief account of the work already done and of the Committee's future programme of work. He asked the SECRETARY to read the draft report to the Committee.

2. The SECRETARY read out the draft report.

3. The CHAIRMAN, replying to Mr. PALAVICINI, said that it was understood that, if the Committee did not wish to call witnesses, its third session would not be held in two parts; the Committee would simply meet in one place to adopt its final report, the fourth session proposed being abandoned.

He also explained that a draft resolution for consideration by the Economic and Social Council was annexed to the draft report in accordance with the Council's

practice. No similar resolution for consideration by the Governing Body of the International Labour Office was annexed, as that body followed a different procedure in such matters.

4. The Committee adopted its first progress report (E/AC.36/L.1)

5. The CHAIRMAN stated that he proposed to send the report, with covering letters signed by himself, on behalf of the Committee, to the Secretary-General for consideration by the Economic and Social Council and to the Director-General of the International Labour Office for consideration by the Governing Body.

6. Mr. BERG and Mr. PALAVICINI agreed.

7. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the present session had lasted only three weeks instead of the six weeks expected, but the information that had been made public did not entirely reflect the amount of work which had been accomplished. He thought that a great strain had been placed on the Secretariat and, on behalf of the Committee, he thanked the Secretary and the Technical Adviser for their help. He also thanked the other members of the Secretariat and the very efficient technical services which had been made available to the Committee. He expressed the hope that, in the future, a greater degree of technical assistance, especially translators, could be made available to the Committee. Finally, he expressed his satisfaction at having had such experienced colleagues as the other members of the Committee and thanked them for their help and advice.

8. Mr. BERG joined with the Chairman in thanking the Secretariat, and assured him that the effective collaboration achieved in the Committee had been due to his excellent conduct of the Committee's work.

9. Mr. PALAVICINI fully associated himself with Mr. Berg's remarks.

The first session closed at 11.5 a.m.