

United Nations
ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL

Nations Unies
CONSEIL
ECONOMIQUE
ET SOCIAL

UNRESTRICTED
E/CN.1/SR.43
22 April 1948
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC AND EMPLOYMENT COMMISSION

THIRD SESSION

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FORTY-THIRD MEETING

Lake Success, New York
Tuesday, 20 April 1948, at 3 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. Roland Wilson Australia

Members:

**Mr. Jules Woulbroun	Belgium
*Mr. Jose Garrido Torres	Brazil
Mr. John Deutsch	Canada
Mr. Franklin Ho	China
*Mr. Nicassio Silverio	Cuba
Mr. Rudolf Bystricky	Czechoslovakia
Mr. Jacques Rueff	France
**Mr. J. Devinat ¹	
*Mr. D. P. Karmarkar	India
Mr. Gunnar Boe	Norway
*Mr. George Lutoslawski	Poland
*Mr. Marcus Fleming	United Kingdom
Mr. Isador Lubin	United States of America
Mr. A. P. Morozov	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Representatives of Specialized Agencies:

Mr. A. A. Evans	International Labour Organization
Mr. D. Gordon	International Bank

Consultants:

Mrs. Lena Spiegel	World Federation of Trade Unions
Miss Tony Sender	American Federation of Labor
Mr. Joseph Botton	International Federation of Christian Trade Unions

Secretariat:

Mr. A. Goldet	(For the Assistant Secretary-General)
Mr. D. Weintraub	Commission Secretary

*Alternates for the third session

**Observers

¹Mr. Devinat sat for Mr. Rueff during the first part of the meeting.

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DISCUSSION OF ITEM 6 - ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION 88 (V)
DEALING WITH THE PROVISIONAL QUESTIONNAIRE ADOPTED
BY THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL UNDER ARTICLE 88 OF THE
CHARTER

The CHAIRMAN turned to the questionnaire (document T/44) which, he explained, was already in use and was submitted to the Commission for suggestions regarding possible changes which might make the replies of greater benefit to the Trusteeship Council.

The Chairman then drew attention to document E/CN.1/49, page 7, paragraph 8, dealing with aspects of the questionnaire the Commission might wish to consider.

Mr. WEINTRAUB (Commission Secretary) in reply to a question by Mr. LUBIN (United States of America), remarked that the questionnaire had been worked out by the Trusteeship Council on the basis of drafts prepared by the Secretariat and by individual Governments. The Secretariat draft included questions in the economic field, prepared by the Trusteeship Secretariat in co-operation with the Department of Economic Affairs.

Mr. LUBIN (United States of America), wondered whether the Commission should examine the entire questionnaire in the light of the information it desired. He felt that the questions should be more specific. Using as examples questions 43 and 53, he said that the problem of mobilization of domestic capital was not reflected in them. The information obtained from the questionnaire would affect the Commission's recommendations concerning economic development in those areas. He inquired whether the Commission was expected to make definite and specific suggestions on types of questions.

The CHAIRMAN, in reply to the United States representative's query, said that other Commissions had examined the questionnaire in the light of their special interests as indicated in document E/CN.1/49.

/He

He suggested that specific proposals on items should be studied in a sub-committee, while the Commission should confine itself to the general aspects of the questionnaire.

Mr. KARMARKAR (India) felt that questions pertaining to economic development needed broadening as well as more specific formulation. As was pointed out by the Secretariat in document E/CN.1/49, the Commission could only examine items in the questionnaire to the extent that they fell into its terms of reference. He suggested that the Commission might first have a general discussion on the matter and refer detailed discussions of the individual items to a sub-committee.

Mr. FLEMING (United Kingdom) supported the Chairman's suggestion for the establishment of a sub-committee. As regards the general aspect of the questionnaire, he pointed out that replies to those questions would take a great deal of the respective government authorities' time. While agreeing with the United States representative on the vagueness of some of the questions, he pointed out that the Commission could later draw up ad hoc questionnaires to obtain the necessary information needed by it for recommendations in the economic field. The sub-committee, instead of adding new items, should therefore concentrate on re-formulating the questions in a more precise manner.

The CHAIRMAN welcomed the United Kingdom representative's remarks. The questionnaire had been submitted to the Commission for the main purpose of assisting the Trusteeship Council in its work.

Mr. LUTOSLOWSKI (Poland) felt that responsibility for a reasonable questionnaire lay with the authors. The Commission, however, should include questions useful to itself for consideration by the Trusteeship Council. More items might be added to the final questionnaire. Referring

/to

to questions 37, 41, 52, 151, 160 and 162, he pointed out how an additional sentence could, by clarifying and sharpening the text, both improve the quality of and help to prepare them. All that information would make up the basic record of those territories' economic development.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that some aspects of the questions which the representative of Poland felt should be added could be found in other parts of the report. Items 107 to 110, for instance, dealt with industry, items 111 to 112 related to investments, and the statistical appendix, page 16, Section 10, contained further detailed information. He suggested, however, that the arrangements of the questionnaire might possibly be improved. After preliminary discussion, the questionnaire should be referred to a sub-committee which would report to the Commission with regard to separate items. The members of the Commission should pass on their specific suggestions to the sub-committee and then expedite the word of the Commission.

Mr. WOULBROUN (Belgium) agreed with the views of the Chairman and the United Kingdom representative. He believed that there was an excessive number of questionnaires and that the Trusteeship Questionnaire appeared to be quite complete. He supported the proposal to set up a sub-committee.

Mr. RUEFF (France) shared the views of the representatives of the United Kingdom and Belgium. The sub-committee should keep in mind the magnitude of the administering authorities' task of replying to such a full questionnaire. Furthermore, the questions should avoid tendentiousness or prejudging the answers.

Mr. MOROZOV (USSR) reserved the right to revert to some remarks made by the preceding speaker, in particular to the observation that the questionnaire should not overburden the administering authorities with involved and detailed replies. The importance of industrialization, stressed in many Economic and Social Council documents, could not be ignored by the Commission, a subordinate body to the Council. Furthermore, the Commission dealt with the questionnaire at the Council's request. Other Commissions had the same request from the Council. The Commission could give more exact and concrete formulations of some of the questions. Referring to section F of the questionnaire dealing with economic advancement, he said that it would be desirable to show the proportions of various branches of economic activity in total production. He felt it was the matter of proper formulation. He consequently felt that the suggestions made by the representative of Poland would assist in the discussion of specific questions.

/Mr. RUEFF

Mr. RUEFF (France) wished to reassure the Soviet Union representative that his suggestion had been motivated solely by the desire to keep the task of the governments responsible for answering the questionnaire within reasonable limits.

The CHAIRMAN put the question of whether a sub-committee should be established to deal with the questionnaire to a vote by a show of hands.

It was decided by eleven votes to one that the sub-committee should be created.

Mr. FLEMING (United Kingdom) supported by Mr. Deutsch (Canada) suggested that the sub-committee should prepare a draft report which might simplify as well as add to sections of the questionnaire.

Mr. WOULBROUN (Belgium) felt that the membership of the sub-committee should be limited and that members of the Commission who were not members of the sub-committee should have an opportunity to present their views.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that the sub-committee should be composed of three members and proposed the representatives of the United States, Poland and France. It was an established practice, he said, that non-members of the sub-committee might participate in its work.

The Chairman's suggestion concerning the composition of the sub-committee was adopted.

Mr. EVANS (International Labour Organization) suggested that the members of the sub-committee bear in mind during their discussions the recommendations made by the governing body of the ILO in document T/49.

/CONSIDERATION OF

CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMISSION ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
(document E/CN.1/47)

Mr. WEINTRAUB (Commission Secretary) drew the Members' attention to the following documents: E/CN.1/50, E/CN.1/52, and E/CN.1/54, pp 3, 4, and 5 which all had a bearing on the problem under consideration.

Mr. FLEMING (United Kingdom), supported by Mr. KARMARKAR (India) and Mr. HO (China) felt that it might be more advisable to start the discussion at the next meeting to allow the members sufficient time to study the relevant documents.

Mr. LUTOSLOWSKI (Poland) shared their view but thought it might be helpful to formulate at the current meeting a plan which the discussion should follow.

Mr. MOROZOV (USSR) considered, however, that a general debate should be undertaken first and that it would be premature to try to establish a framework for the discussion before that. He also disagreed with the suggestion previously made by Mr. GORDON (International Bank) that the topical arrangement of the Bank's comments on the report (document E/CN.1/50), might serve as a convenient guide for the discussion.

After some discussion in which Mr. TORRES (Brazil), Mr. FLEMING (United Kingdom), Mr. MOROZOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) and Mr. Lutoslowski (Poland) took part, the CHAIRMAN noted the unanimous agreement of the Commission with general comments by each member in which they would indicate their opinion regarding the disposition of the report.

The meeting rose at 4:30 p.m.