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AND  
SOCIAL COUNCIL****CONSEIL  
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TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS  
COMMISSIONREPORT TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ON THE THIRD  
SESSION OF THE COMMISSION, HELD FROM  
21 TO 30 MARCH 1949

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## I. INTRODUCTION

The third session of the Transport and Communications Commission opened at 3 p.m. on Monday, 21 March 1949 at United Nations headquarters, Lake Success, New York. The following members of the Commission attended:

|   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Chairman: Mr. Jan J. Oyevaar                          | Netherlands                         |
| Vice-Chairman: Mr. N. Y. Bezroukov                    | Union of Soviet Socialist Republics |
| Mr. Augustin Hunceus                                  | Chile                               |
| Mr. Ching-Yuen Hsiao                                  | China                               |
| Mr. Pavel Baracek-Jacquier                            | Czechoslovakia                      |
| Mr. Shoukry Abaza Bey                                 | Egypt                               |
| Mr. J. Goursat  | France                              |
| Mr. Y. N. Sukthankar                                  | India                               |
| Mr. Frederik Od fjell                                 | Norway                              |
| Dr. A. Blicher (alternate)                            | Poland                              |
| Brigadier-General Sir Osborne Mance                   | United Kingdom                      |
| Mr. George P. Baker                                   | United States                       |
| Dr. Manuel Reyna                                      | Venezuela                           |
| Mr. Leon Dekleva (alternate for<br>Mr. Slavko Pezelj) | Yugoslavia                          |
| Absent member:  |                                     |
| Mr. E. C. Smith                                       | Union of South Africa               |

The following representatives of specialized agencies were present at the session.

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Mr. A. A. Evans     | International Labour<br>Organization                        |
| Mr. E. R. Marlin    | International Civil<br>Aviation Organization                |
| Mr. A. Wubnig       | International Bank for<br>Reconstruction and<br>Development |
| Mr. Gerald C. Gross | International<br>Telecommunications Union                   |
| Dr. M. S. Ingalls   | World Health Organization                                   |

The following consultants from non-governmental organizations were also present at the session:

|                            |                              |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Category (a): Mr. J. Stolz | American Federation of Labor |
| Mr. Frank Perrin           | International Chamber of     |
| Miss E. Sanson             | Commerce                     |

/Category (b):



Category (b): Mr. J. S. Gavigan

Central Committee,  
International Touring  
Alliance and the  
International Automobile  
Organization (AIT/FIA)  
International Union of  
Official Travel  
Organizations  
National Association of  
Manufacturers

Mr. H. A. Wilkinson

Mr. E. Gregg )  
Miss O. Jensen )

The Commission re-elected as its Chairman Mr. Jan J. Oyeveaar (Netherlands) and as its Vice-Chairman Mr. N. Y. Bezroukov (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics).

The Secretariat consisted of:

Mr. B. Lukac (Secretary of the Commission) Director, Transport and  
Communications Division

Miss Helen M. Moats

Chief, Inland Transport  
Section

Mr. Louis Delaney

Chief, Aviation, Shipping  
and Communications Section

The provisional agenda was adopted by the Commission.

After having considered the items on the agenda, including certain matters brought up under item 13, "Any Other Business", the Commission adopted the present report and concluded its third session on 30 March 1949.

## II. COMMUNICATIONS BY THE SECRETARIAT

(Agenda item 12)

The Commission was informed by the Secretariat of further developments concerning matters discussed by the Commission at previous sessions, as well as of other developments in the field of transport and communications which the Secretariat considered advisable to bring to the attention of the Commission.

### 12 (a) United Nations Road and Motor Transport Conference

The Commission noted that the United Nations Conference on Road and Motor Transport, which had been recommended by the Commission at its second session, would meet in Geneva in August 1949 and noted the provisional agenda of the Conference, which the Secretary-General had prepared for circulation to the Governments in accordance with the resolution of the Economic and Social Council authorizing the holding of the Conference.

/12 (b) Future



12 (b) Future organization in the field of inland transport in Asia and the Far East

The Commission noted that its recommendation at its second session that a meeting of inland transport experts of countries represented in the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE) be convened had been endorsed by the ECAFE and by the Economic and Social Council. The Commission noted that the meeting of inland transport experts is proposed to be held in the autumn of 1949. The Commission was of the opinion that this meeting should be convened in advance of the next session of ECAFE so that the report of the experts would be available to ECAFE at its next session.

12 (c) Future organization in the field of inland transport in the Middle East

The Commission was informed that, owing to the postponement by the Economic and Social Council until its ninth session of its consideration of the question of the establishment of an Economic Commission for the Middle East, the Commission's recommendation concerning a meeting of inland transport experts of the Middle East to be convened by an Economic Commission for that area had similarly been postponed by the Council.

12 (d) Future organization in the field of inland transport in Africa

The Commission took note of the decision by the Economic and Social Council at its seventh session not to take action on the Commission's recommendation that the Secretary-General be requested to undertake a study and to report on the needs for, and problems concerning, a regional organization or regional organizations in the field of inland transport in Africa. The Council's decision was noted to have been based on the opinion that Africa was not a unit from the point of view of transport. The Commission had itself at its second session, in making its recommendation for a study by the Secretary-General, suggested that the latter in addressing an enquiry to Governments include among his questions one as to whether the Governments concerned were of the opinion that Africa should be considered as constituting one or two regions for this purpose. Where Governments were of the latter opinion, they were to be asked to indicate what they considered the line of demarcation. The Commission noted the information communicated by the member from the United Kingdom as to the steps now being taken to organize international collaboration in transport matters in southern and central Africa.

12 (e) Co-ordination among inland transport experts of the different regions

The Commission took note of the resolution of the Economic and Social Council at its seventh session, adopted on the recommendation of the Transport  
/and Communications



and Communications Commission, drawing the attention of the regional economic commissions to the advantages of permitting the participation, in the work of their meetings of experts in the field of inland transport, of experts from other regions when questions which might affect these latter regions are under consideration.

12 (f) Provisional Trusteeship Questionnaire

The Commission noted the information supplied by the Secretariat that the Economic and Social Council had decided to transmit the reports of its functional commissions, including that of the Transport and Communications Commission, with respect to the Provisional Trusteeship Questionnaire, to the Trusteeship Council with the summary records of the meetings of the Economic and Social Council which contained comments by members of the latter Council concerning the recommendations of the functional commissions. The Trusteeship Council had set up a sub-committee on the Provisional Questionnaire, which would submit its report to the Trusteeship Council at its next session in June 1949. The Chairman hoped that the sub-committee would take account of the suggestions of the Transport and Communications Commission.

12 (g) Travel questions

The Commission took note of the report on "Travel Questions - Further Developments" (document E/CN.2/62) which had been prepared by the Secretariat to assist the Commission in its implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 35 (IV), adopted on 28 March 1947, which instructed the Commission to follow international developments in the field of travel and to report from time to time to the Council. Since the previous session of the Commission a number of international bodies had been active in this field, their activities in some cases being of a world-wide character while in other cases the activity had occurred within the American and European regions.

12 (h) Establishment of priorities

In view of the difficulties set forth in the Commission's report on its second session in the establishment of priorities, and taking into account the fact that the proposals formulated in the report of the present session of the Commission would not entail any special budgetary commitments, the Commission refrained from trying to establish an order of priority among the various matters on its programme of work resulting from the present report, as this in its opinion was not practicable. A minority believed that the instructions of the Economic and Social Council called for a priority listing and that this should have been done.



12 (1) Transport and Communications Review

The Commission welcomed the inauguration by the Secretariat during the past year of the quarterly "Transport and Communications Review", which the Commission considered a great improvement over the Monthly Summary of Important Events in the Field of Transport and Communications which the Review replaced. The new Review contained articles, including contributions from members of the Commission and heads of some specialized agencies and a section entitled "Survey of World Transport and Communications". It was noted that the desirability of continuing that part of the survey which is based on published periodical material was under review by the Secretariat, and that in particular it might be desirable to discontinue the brief descriptions of events other than international meetings and events of lasting interest. A report of the current session of the Commission and some of the papers considered by the Commission would be published in forthcoming issues of the Review.

12 (j) Unification of maritime tonnage measurement

The Commission had before it a document (E/CN.2/57) prepared by the Secretariat summarizing the history of the international efforts to achieve unification of maritime tonnage measurement. A conference held at Oslo in 1947 with representatives of eight countries and observers from two others, had signed a Convention to which had been annexed the draft "International Regulations for Tonnage Measurement of Ships" prepared by a technical committee of the League of Nations, which had been completed and circulated to Governments in 1939. The members of the Commission were in agreement that this was an urgent question and one which should be considered on a world-wide basis. There was also agreement that the Inter-governmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO) would be the appropriate body to consider the question. As IMCO had not, however, started to function, it was felt necessary in the meantime to bring the question before the Governments on a world-wide basis. The Commission therefore adopted the following resolution:

Resolution I

UNIFICATION OF MARITIME TONNAGE MEASUREMENT

The Transport and Communications Commission,

Having considered the memorandum of the Secretariat on the problem of unification of maritime tonnage measurement,

Being of opinion that this problem requires a speedy solution on a world-wide basis, that the Inter-governmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO) would eventually be the appropriate agency to

/handle this



handle this subject, but its activities have not yet started, and desiring to avoid the delay resulting therefrom,

Notes that the Oslo Conference provides for the adoption of rules which were the result of a lengthy study and that there is no prospect in the near future of altering the present rules applicable to ships passing through the Suez and Panama Canals; and

Resolves to recommend the Economic and Social Council to instruct the Secretary-General

1. To circulate the Secretariat's memorandum and the Oslo Rules to the Member Governments
  - (a) inviting their views on the desirability and practicability of promoting a more general and closer adherence to the Oslo Rules
  - (b) informing them that the memorandum is also being forwarded to the preparatory Committee of IMCO for information;
2. To forward the Secretariat's memorandum and the Oslo Rules to the Preparatory Committee of IMCO for information;
3. To report to the next session of the Commission on the results of the enquiry to Governments.

12 (k) Co-ordination of the activities of specialized agencies in the field of transport and communications

The Commission noted the information contained in a report by the Secretariat on co-ordination of the activities of specialized agencies in the field of transport and communications (document E/CN.2/52). The Chairman, in summarizing the discussions, stated that the Commission was very favourably impressed by the broad scope of the co-ordination of the activities concerned, and by the many instances in which collaboration between the interested agencies and other international bodies was being efficiently carried on, as well as by the satisfactory results which have already been obtained. It would be very useful if this close collaboration were continued and expanded in the future, by bilateral action, and also on a multilateral basis wherever matters of interest to specialized agencies in this field make it desirable jointly to examine and co-ordinate their various relevant activities.

12 (1) Distribution of Commission documents

The Commission decided that the agenda and documents for the Commission's sessions should be distributed at least six weeks before the opening of a session.



### III. BARRIERS TO THE INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT OF GOODS (Agenda item 3)

The Commission had before it a paper by the Secretariat (document E/CN.2/49) prepared, on the instruction of the Economic and Social Council, in conjunction with the Executive Secretary of the Interim Commission for the International Trade Organization (ITO). The Commission, at its second session, had considered a report of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) on the problem of barriers to the international transport of goods and recommended to the Council the preparation by the Secretariat of a report containing a study of the respective competence of the various international bodies concerned with this problem, and of the aspects which might usefully be considered by the Commission. The report of the ICC contained twelve recommendations, two of which according to the Secretariat's memorandum were more particularly the concern of the Transport and Communications Commission. This refers to numbers 1 and 4, relating to the reduction of the number of documents required in international transport of goods and to the abolition of the transit manifest. The other questions were more specifically within the purview of ITO, except for certain ones which came within the scope of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), IMCO, or the World Health Organization (WHO). It was, however, emphasized that all of the questions were closely related and most of them could not be successfully studied by one of the bodies mentioned exclusively.

The Commission, having discussed the respective competence of the various bodies as set out in the Secretariat's report, while agreeing that items 1 and 4 fall more particularly within the competence of the Commission, recognized that these as well as other elements of the problem of barriers had both trade and transport aspects which were in fact closely inter-related. The problem was one which urgently required consideration by Governments. A difficulty lay however in the fact that the ITO was not yet in being, and the Commission did not know whether the Interim Commission of the ITO would consider itself competent to deal with the matter or not.

Having considered this problem of procedure at some length, the Commission adopted the following resolution:

#### Resolution 2

##### BARRIERS TO THE INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT OF GOODS

##### The Transport and Communications Commission,

Having considered the note by the Secretariat on barriers to the international transport of goods, with special reference  
/to the



to the division suggested therein of the responsibilities between the inter-governmental bodies primarily concerned with the various aspects of the problem,

Recognizes that

1. All the aspects of the problem mentioned in the Secretariat's note are closely inter-related,
2. Items 1 (Reduction of the Number of Documents Required in the International Transport of Goods) and 4 (Abolition of the Transit Manifest) relate equally to all fields of transport and therefore fall more properly within the field of competence of the Transport and Communications Commission than any one specialized agency, although in respect of these items it would be highly desirable to have the co-operation in their consideration of the International Trade Organization (ITO) and other specialized agencies concerned, and the regional economic commissions of the United Nations,
3. Many of the recommendations proposed by the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) relate to matters already under consideration by various specialized agencies and other international organizations,

Expresses the hope that the Member States will find it possible to relax or remove existing restrictions in the field covered by the report of the Secretary-General without waiting for such international action as may be taken in the matter,

Requests that the ICC furnish details of their proposals dealing with restrictions in the movement of vessels, as referred to in paragraph A.2 of their resolution of 8 June 1948

Recommends to the Economic and Social Council that the Secretary-General be instructed:

1. To transmit to the Members of the United Nations the Secretariat's report, "Barriers to the International Transport of Goods" (E/CN.2/49) and the report of the ICC (E/C.2/59), and
2. With respect to the recommendations of the ICC report numbered 1 through 12, to request that the Members report their views

(a) on recommendations 1 and 4 to the Secretary-General of the United Nations;

(b) on the



(b) on the remaining recommendations, (with certain exceptions):

(i) to the Interim Commission of the ITO if it will accept the responsibility of dealing with the matter, or if it appears after enquiry by the Secretary-General that it will not

(ii) to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

The exceptions are those recommendations or parts thereof relating to:

Public Health formalities - falling within the purview of the World Health Organization;

Negotiable air consignment note - now being dealt with by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO);

Maritime Tonnage Measurement - covered in resolution 1 of the third session of the Transport and Communications Commission.

3. To report to the next session of the Transport and Communications Commission on the results of the enquiry to Governments,

4. To draw the attention of the Member Governments to the work already done in the field by ICAO in its "International Standards and Recommended Practices on Facilitation of International Air Transport".

#### IV. INTERNATIONAL ROAD TRANSPORT - FURTHER PROBLEMS AND DEVELOPMENTS (Agenda item 4)

The Commission had before it a report on "International Road Transport - Further Problems and Developments" (document E/CN.2/54) prepared by the Secretariat in response to a request by the Commission at its second session. The Commission at that time, having recommended that a world conference be convened to conclude a new convention to supersede the obsolete Conventions of 1926 on Road and Motor Traffic, noted that there were other problems in the field of road transport besides those covered by the two Conventions, and asked the Secretariat to report to the Commission on further developments. The Economic and Social Council, in deciding to hold the world conference, had added a third Convention to those mentioned by the Commission which were to be revised by the Conference, namely the 1931 Convention on Road Signals. The three Conventions under revision by the 1949 Conference would  
/therefore be



therefore be those concerned with technical conditions for international road transport. There would remain a number of problems concerning international road transport on which agreement might be sought. Among the more important problems relating to road traffic in general were those of customs formalities, civil liability and compulsory insurance, and fiscal charges. There were in addition problems peculiar to commercial road transport, including that of authorization for the operation within the various countries of commercial vehicles registered abroad, and the problem of the road transport contract. On one of the questions mentioned, that of customs formalities, the Sub-Committee on Road Transport of the Inland Transport Committee of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) had prepared three draft Customs Conventions, on Touring, on Commercial Road Vehicles, and on the International Transport of Goods by Road, respectively.

While the 1949 world Conference on Road and Motor Transport is concerned with the specific task of concluding a world-wide Convention to supersede the Conventions of 1926 on Road and Motor Traffic, and the Convention of 1931 on Road Signals, the Secretary-General considered that it would be desirable while so many road transport experts of the various countries were assembled, to bring to their attention the questions referred to above - including the three ECE draft Customs Conventions - in the hope that their views might be secured on the further steps which should be taken internationally in the near future in the field of road transport. The Secretariat paper had therefore been prepared for the double purpose of informing the Commission and the world Conference of the existence of these further problems.

The Commission noted with satisfaction the progress which had been made, particularly by the Inland Transport Committee of the ECE and by the Secretariat in its preparatory work for the world Conference. The Commission was of the opinion that while it was desirable that the question of the further steps which should be taken internationally, (including that of holding a further conference to deal with some of the questions), be considered by the world Conference, the European Governments should not consider themselves precluded from putting into effect in the meantime the provisions of the ECE draft Customs Conventions on an interim basis if they so desired, perhaps through unilateral or other provisional action by the Governments concerned.

#### V. TRANSPORT IN LATIN AMERICA

(Agenda item 5)

The Commission noted on the basis of a report by the Secretariat

/(E/CN.2/50) that



(E/CN.2/50) that the Economic and Social Council, after considering a recommendation by the Commission at its second session and a recommendation by the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA) adopted at the first session of the latter, on 28 August 1948 adopted a resolution concerning Transport in Latin America. With respect to inland transport, the Transport and Communications Commission had recommended that the Council refer to ECLA the consideration of the means best suited to promote the solution of problems in the field of inland transport in Latin America. The Council in its resolution recognized that this question should be studied by ECLA with appropriate assistance from the Transport and Communications Commission. The Commission would therefore await a request from ECLA for assistance.

The Council, in accordance with the recommendation by ECLA, requested the Transport and Communications Commission to make a further study of the problems of maritime shipping, including freight rates, affecting Latin America, in order to facilitate consideration of these matters as soon as possible in ECLA.

The Commission on the basis of the extracts from the discussions of the latter question during the first session of ECLA and during the seventh session of the Economic and Social Council contained in the report of the Secretariat, came to the conclusion that the nature and details of the problem had not been sufficiently brought out and that therefore the Commission was unable to consider in what manner the problem should be dealt with. The Commission adopted the following resolution:

#### Resolution 3

##### PROBLEMS OF MARITIME SHIPPING AFFECTING LATIN AMERICA

##### The Transport and Communications Commission,

With reference to the request from the Economic and Social Council to make a further study of problems of maritime shipping, including freight rates, affecting Latin America (resolution 147 (VII) D.),

Considering that the information at present available to the Commission does not constitute a sufficient basis for the examination of the matter,

Recommends to the Economic and Social Council to instruct the Secretary-General

1. To request either directly from the Governments of the Latin American countries, or through the intermediary  
/of the



of the Economic Commission for Latin America, the precise views of these Governments on the matter, which would enable the Commission to determine the elements of the problem;

2. To communicate the extracts of the summary records of the Commission's discussion concerning this problem to the above-mentioned Governments; \*
3. On the basis of the replies of the Governments to collect any further relevant information;
4. To forward the views of the Governments and such information as the Secretary-General may have collected to the Commission in order to enable the Commission at its next session to consider in what manner the problem can best be dealt with.

VI. CO-ORDINATION OF ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELDS OF AVIATION,  
SHIPPING, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND METEOROLOGY  
IN REGARD TO SAFETY AT SEA AND IN THE AIR  
(Agenda item 6)

The Commission had before it a report by the Secretariat summarizing developments with respect to the co-ordination of activities in the fields of aviation, shipping, telecommunications and meteorology with regard to safety of life at sea and in the air, since the second session of the Commission (document E/CN.2/51 and E/CN.2/51/Add.1). The report, which was prepared on the instructions of the Economic and Social Council, was concerned particularly with action taken by the Safety of Life at Sea Conference, and activities undertaken by the specialized agencies in the light of the report of the Preparatory Committee of Experts on Co-ordination of Safety at Sea and in the Air, which met in London in January and February 1948. The Commission, having considered this report, adopted the following resolution:

Resolution 4

CO-ORDINATION OF ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELDS OF AVIATION,  
SHIPPING, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND METEOROLOGY IN REGARD  
TO SAFETY AT SEA AND IN THE AIR

The Transport and Communications Commission,

Having noted the report on Co-ordination of the Activities  
of Specialized Agencies in the Field of Transport, Communications  
and Meteorology (E/CN.2/51 and E/CN.2/51/Add.1) in connection  
/with the report



with the report of the Preparatory Committee of Experts on Co-ordination of Safety at Sea and in the Air,

Commends the international organizations in the field of transport and communications for the steps already taken by them to co-ordinate their activities; and

Recommends that the general measures for assuring such co-ordination in future, proposed in paragraph 21 of the Report of the Preparatory Committee of Experts on Co-ordination of Safety at Sea and in the Air (London, 6 February 1948) should be followed by the organizations in co-ordinating their work on all problems of interest to two or more of the organizations.

#### VII. PASSPORTS AND FRONTIER FORMALITIES (Agenda item 7)

The Commission discussed a report (document E/CN.2/63, Parts I and II) prepared by the Secretariat at the request of the Economic and Social Council, containing replies of Member Governments to an enquiry concerning the progress which had been made with respect to the reduction, simplification and unification of passports and frontier formalities, with particular reference to the recommendations made by the Meeting of Experts on Passports and Frontier Formalities held in Geneva in 1947. On the basis of the replies it appeared that some progress had been made since the Secretary-General's 1947 enquiry on the same subject, with respect particularly to the elimination by a number of countries on a bilateral or unilateral basis of the visa requirement. Most of the Governments replying to the Secretary-General's two enquiries had indicated that their practices conformed with the recommendations of the Meeting of Experts insofar as was compatible with existing conditions. The Commission noted also in this connection Annex V of the Secretariat report on travel questions (document E/CN.2/62) containing data relating to passports, visas and frontier formalities collected by the International Union of Official Travel Organizations (IUOTO). The Commission requested the Secretariat to express its appreciation to the IUOTO for this information and for its offer to supply any further information that might be desired by the United Nations, and to invite the IUOTO to provide a similar report concerning passports and frontier formalities for the next session of the Transport and Communications Commission.

The members of the Commission from Czechoslovakia, Poland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Yugoslavia were of the opinion that the question of passports and frontier formalities was one of domestic concern  
/to Governments,



to Governments, and not within the competence of the Commission or of the United Nations. This view was not shared by the majority of the members of the Commission, who felt that the question was one with which the Commission should continue to concern itself.

The Commission adopted the following resolution:

Resolution 5

PASSPORTS AND FRONTIER FORMALITIES

The Transport and Communications Commission,

Having considered the Secretary-General's report on the "Reduction, Simplification and Unification of Passports and Frontier Formalities",

Takes note of the progress already made in the implementation by Governments of the recommendations of the Meeting of Experts on Passports and Frontier Formalities,

Recommends to the Economic and Social Council

1. That the Secretary-General be instructed to continue to follow the progress in this field, and to keep the Transport and Communications Commission duly informed;
2. That any further enquiries to Governments be deferred until after the fourth session of the Commission.

VIII. TRANSPORT STATISTICS

(Agenda item 8)

The Commission considered a preliminary report which had been prepared by the Secretariat on the subject of transport statistics (document E/CN.2/53 - E/CN.3/54). The Economic and Social Council, on the recommendation of the Commission, at its second session, had instructed the Secretary-General to make a study of the problems of establishing the economic and technical statistical requirements in the transport field (giving priority to the statistical requirements of an economic nature), of achieving comparability in respect of the information to be collected, and of standardizing forms for the collection of this information. The preliminary report was a study of the first of these questions, namely the problem of establishing the economic and technical statistical requirements in the transport field. It contained a minimum list of statistical series of international interest which it would be useful to have available on an internationally comparable basis. The series were considered from the standpoint of availability, as well as from that of their economic and technical importance. This document would be transmitted to the Statistical Commission with the comments made by the members of the

/Transport and



Transport and Communications Commission. The other problems, namely those of achieving comparability and of standardizing forms would be studied later. The Council had instructed the Secretary-General to make the study in consultation with the specialized agencies and regional economic commissions concerned. This consultation would take place before the study was put into final form. It was explained to the Commission by the Secretariat that the recommended statistical series were based on officially published figures in the various countries. The Statistical Office compiled statistics and based all its studies on the official statistics of Governments, supplemented where necessary by correspondence with the Governments concerned. The published series would be sufficient in the preliminary stages of the present study. As a final stage the report would be circulated to the governments for comment.

The Commission adopted the following resolution:

Resolution 6

Transport Statistics

The Transport and Communications Commission

Takes note with appreciation of the preliminary report prepared by the Secretariat for the Transport and Communications Commission and the Statistical Commission on transport statistics;

Having in mind the resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its seventh session concerning collaboration with the specialized agencies and regional economic commissions with respect to the matter,

Requests the Secretariat to continue the study on the lines indicated in the preliminary report, taking into consideration the views expressed during the Commission's discussion of this report; and

Expresses the wish that the Secretariat, at the appropriate moment, consult the Governments concerning the present or future availability of the statistical series, the collection of which is recommended in the report.

IX. CO-ORDINATION OF INLAND TRANSPORT

(Agenda item 9)

The Commission considered a report on the question of the co-ordination of inland transport prepared by the Secretariat on the instruction of the Economic and Social Council. The Council's instruction had been based on the Commission's recommendation at its second session that the Secretary-General prepare documentation for the Commission, taking into account such  
/results of a



results of a study to be made by the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) as might be communicated to the Secretariat and, inter alia, such other pertinent information as the Secretariat might obtain from interested specialized agencies, the regional economic commissions of the Economic and Social Council or any other competent international bodies. The ICC had been unable to complete its study of co-ordination, but had submitted a brief preliminary statement. The Secretariat, in its paper, had incorporated the statement of the ICC, together with information received from the International Union of Railways (UIC), the Pan-American Railway Congress Association, as well as certain other available published information. The regional economic commissions had only tentatively approached the problem. In accordance with its instructions, the Secretariat had not asked Governments to submit their comments on the subject, although it was felt that their collaboration would eventually be needed in order to make a really complete and authoritative survey.

Members of the Commission drew attention to various aspects of the problem of co-ordination, inter alia, to the existence of three points of view with respect to this problem, namely those of Governments, of carriers and of transport users. They pointed out that the comments of the UIC were made from the point of view of railway carriers, whilst those of the ICC were made from the point of view of users. It was also pointed out that there were two aspects of co-ordination which should be distinguished, namely (1) the physical integration of transport, e.g., the use of road transport to supplement railways, and (2) the division of function between the different forms of transport. The latter was the difficult economic question. It was also stressed that insufficient attention had been paid to the international aspects of the problem of co-ordination. The interest of the International Labour Organisation was reiterated. The question had been brought before the Commission originally at the request of the Inland Transport Committee of the ILO which was concerned with the influence of the structure of the inland transport industry on conditions of labour and employment.

The Commission was of the opinion that, while it was desirable to receive the completed report of the ICC, in the meanwhile the Secretary-General should proceed without delay with the further study of the problem, to this end seeking the views of additional organizations in the field of transport in order to supplement the information already in hand.

The Commission adopted the following resolution:



## Resolution 7

## CO-ORDINATION OF INLAND TRANSPORT

The Transport and Communications Commission

Commends the Secretariat and the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) for their progress, and notes the conclusions of the International Railway Union (UIC) and the Pan-American Railway Congress Association;

Notes that the ICC is continuing its study and expresses the interest and appreciation of the Commission for their effort;

Notes that the information contained in the reports of the UIC and the ICC should be supplemented with more information in respect of the viewpoint of highway and inland waterway interests or systems;

Requests the Secretariat

(1) To seek the views of international organizations concerned with inland transport, on this general subject and more particularly on the Secretariat report E/CN.2/58;

(2) To follow developments in this field including the studies by the ICC and other bodies with a view to presenting to the fourth session of the Commission an analysis of the completed studies if available, and to make a recommendation to the Commission as to (a) the advisability and practicability of a formal survey by the Secretary-General with the collaboration of Governments, and (b) the form such a survey should take, i.e., a questionnaire, and if so, what questions should be included.

X. APPLICATION OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF INTERNATIONAL TOURING FOR  
CONSULTATIVE STATUS

(Agenda item 10)

The Commission at its second session had considered a request from the Economic and Social Council to give its opinion on the application for consultative status of five non-governmental organizations in the field of transport. The Commission had made recommendations with respect to four of the organizations. Concerning the fifth organization, the Central Council of International Touring, the Commission had requested the Secretariat to supply further information with respect to two questions, namely whether the Central Council had authority to speak for its members through its authorized representatives, and whether the granting of consultative status to it needed consideration, in view of the fact that

/certain



certain of the organizations which constitute its membership had already applied individually for consultative status, and their applications had either been granted or were under consideration by the Economic and Social Council. The information available concerning these two questions had been put before the Commission in document E/CN.2/59. The Secretariat, on the basis of this information, thought that the Central Council of International Touring did not have authority to speak for its members through authorized representatives. Two of the seven principal members of the Central Council had received category (b) consultative status while two others had also been granted it subject to the exclusion of their Spanish affiliates. The other three had not applied for consultative status.

The Commission, on the basis of this information, adopted the following resolution:

Resolution 8

RESOLUTION ON THE APPLICATION OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF  
INTERNATIONAL TOURING FOR CONSULTATIVE STATUS

The Transport and Communications Commission,

Having been requested by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution of 3 March 1948 to advise the Council on the application for consultative status of the Central Council of International Touring,

On the basis of information submitted by the Secretariat,

Does not recommend the granting of consultative status.

XI. CLASSIFICATION OF INLAND TRANSPORT

(Agenda item 11.)

The Commission had before it a paper (document E/CN.2/61) prepared by the Secretariat discussing the use of the term "inland transport", in various international bodies. The question of the means of transport which should be understood by the term "inland transport" had arisen during the second session of the Transport and Communications Commission. The Secretariat had been instructed to bring the matter to the attention of the Commission at its third session.

The Commission was of the opinion that it would be desirable for practical purposes to arrive at an agreement on the fields of transport to be understood within the meaning of the term "inland transport", particularly with reference to avoiding overlapping and conflict of competence. However, although there was general agreement on the inclusion of certain means of transport in the term "inland transport", namely rail, road and inland waterway transport, as well as pipelines, difficulty was encountered with respect to the inclusion or exclusion of certain other means of transport, particularly seaports, coastal shipping, and aviation within continental



limits. Some members held that the problem had not yet been sufficiently studied, and therefore were of the opinion that the question of a definition or classification in the field of inland transport should be postponed to a later session.

Other members of the Commission felt that regional inland transport bodies should be able, when necessary, to consider in conjunction with inland transport matters problems in other fields than inland transport.

As a result of its discussions, the Commission came to the conclusion that a classification could usefully be made of the means of transport which unquestionably fall within the field of inland transport. It accordingly adopted the following resolution:

Resolution 9

CLASSIFICATION OF INLAND TRANSPORT

The Transport and Communications Commission,

Noting the advantages of classification for purposes of clarity in discussion and study, and with a view to the avoidance of overlapping and conflict of competence,

Decides to classify as, within the field of inland transport:

rail

road

inland waterways

pipelines.

It being understood that this classification is not designed to preclude regional economic commissions of the United Nations from considering, if necessary, in conjunction with inland transport, problems in other fields of transport, in co-operation with the specialized agencies concerned within the framework of the agreements between these specialized agencies and the United Nations.

XII. PROBLEMS IN THE FIELDS OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE ORGANIZATION  
AND THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL MARITIME CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION

A majority of the members of the commission, in the course of the discussion, particularly with respect to tonnage measurement and barriers to the international transport of goods, was impressed with the difficulties which it encountered in dealing with some urgent problems because they fall within the fields of the proposed International Trade Organization and the proposed Inter-governmental Maritime Consultative Organization, the Conventions of which have not yet been ratified by the requisite number of countries. The Commission accordingly adopted the following resolution:



Resolution 10

PROBLEMS IN THE FIELDS OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE ORGANIZATION AND THE  
INTER-GOVERNMENTAL MARITIME CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION

The Transport and Communications Commission

On the basis of its experience during its present session

Draws the attention of the Economic and Social Council, to the fact that the Conventions establishing the International Trade Organization and the Inter-governmental Maritime Consultative Organization have not yet come into force and that the solution of various urgent and important problems affecting international transport will be greatly facilitated when these organizations have started to function.

XIII. DRAFT RESOLUTIONS OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

In accordance with the wish expressed by the Council at its sixth session, the Commission is proposing the following draft resolutions to the Council. The reasons which determined the Commission to propose these draft resolutions may be found in the preambles to the relevant resolutions of the Commission itself, which are reproduced in the preceding section of this report.

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note of the report of the third session of the Transport and Communications Commission.

A. Unification of maritime tonnage measurement

The Economic and Social Council

Instructs the Secretary-General:

1. To circulate the Secretariat's memorandum on the Unification of Maritime Tonnage Measurement and the Oslo Rules to the Member Governments
  - (a) inviting their views on the desirability and practicability of promoting a more general and closer adherence to the Oslo Rules,
  - (b) informing them that the memorandum is also being forwarded to the Preparatory Committee of the Inter-governmental Maritime Consultative Organization for information;
2. To forward the Secretariat's memorandum and the Oslo Rules to the Preparatory Committee of the Inter-governmental Maritime Consultative Organization for information;
3. To report to the next session of the Transport and Communications Commission on the results of the enquiry to Governments



B. Barriers to the international transport of goods

The Economic and Social Council

Instructs the Secretary-General:

1. To transmit to the Members of the United Nations the Secretariat's report on Barriers to the International Transport of Goods (E/CN.2/49) and the report of the International Chamber of Commerce (E/C.2/59), and
2. With respect to the recommendations of the International Chamber of Commerce report numbered 1 through 12, to request that the Members report their views
  - (a) on recommendations 1 and 4 to the Secretary-General of the United Nations;
  - (b) on the remaining recommendations, (with certain exceptions):
    - (i) to the Interim Commission of the ITO if it will accept the responsibility of dealing with the matter, or if it appears after enquiry by the Secretary-General that it will not;
    - (ii) to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

The exceptions are those recommendations or parts thereof relating to:

  - Public Health formalities - falling within the purview of the World Health Organization;
  - Negotiable air consignment note - now being dealt with by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO);
  - Maritime Tonnage Measurement - covered in Resolution No. 1 of the third session of the Transport and Communications Commission.
3. To report to the next session of the Transport and Communications Commission on the results of the enquiry to Governments.
4. To draw the attention of the Member Governments to the work already done in the field by the International Civil Aviation Organization in its International Standards and Recommended Practices on Facilitation of International Air Transport.



C. Problems of maritime shipping affecting Latin America

The Economic and Social Council

Instructs the Secretary-General:

1. To request either directly from the Governments of the Latin American countries, or through the intermediary of the Economic Commission for Latin America, the precise views of these Governments on the problems of maritime shipping, including freight rates, affecting Latin America, which would enable the Transport and Communications Commission to determine the elements of the problem;
2. To communicate the extracts of the summary records of the Transport and Communications Commission's discussion concerning this problem to the above-mentioned Governments;
3. On the basis of the replies of the Governments to collect any further relevant information;
4. To forward the views of the Governments and such information as the Secretary-General may have collected to the Transport and Communications Commission in order to enable the Commission at its next session to consider in what manner the problem can best be dealt with.

D. Co-ordination of activities in the fields of aviation, shipping, telecommunications and meteorology in regard to safety of life

The Economic and Social Council

Instructs the Secretary-General to bring to the attention of each of the organizations represented at the Preparatory Committee of Experts which considered the co-ordination of activities in the fields of shipping, aviation, telecommunications and meteorology with regard to safety of life at sea and in the air, the resolution adopted on this matter by the Transport and Communications Commission at its third session.

E. Passports and frontier formalities

The Economic and Social Council

Instructs the Secretary-General to continue to follow the progress in the fields of passports and frontier formalities, and to keep the Transport and Communications Commission duly informed;

Decides to defer any further enquiry to Governments concerning this matter until after the fourth session of the Transport and Communications Commission.

/F. Application



F. Application of the Central Council of InternationalTouring for consultative status

(The Transport and Communications Commission's opinion on this matter may be found in resolution 8 of the third session of the Commission, which the Council might wish to forward for consideration to its Committee on Negotiations with Non-Governmental Organizations).



ANNEX

Agenda of the Third Session of the Transport and  
Communications Commission

(Document E/CN.2/48)

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Election of the officers of the Commission.
3. Barriers to the international transport of goods. (Decision of the Economic and Social Council, seventh session).
4. International road transport - further problems and developments. (Decision of the second session of the Commission).
5. Transport in Latin America. (Decision of the Economic and Social Council, seventh session):
  - (a) Problems of inland transport.
  - (b) Problems of maritime shipping, including freight rates.
6. Co-ordination of activities in the fields of aviation, shipping and telecommunications in regard to safety at sea and in the air. (Decision of the Economic and Social Council, seventh session).
7. Passports and frontier formalities - further developments. (Decision of the Economic and Social Council, seventh session).
8. Transport statistics. (Decision of the Economic and Social Council, seventh session).
9. Co-ordination of inland transport. (Decision of the Economic and Social Council, seventh session).
10. Application of certain non-governmental organizations for consultative status. (Decision of the Economic and Social Council, sixth session, and of the second session of the Commission).
11. Definition of inland transport. (Decision of the second session of the Commission).
12. Communications by the Secretariat:
  - (a) United Nations Road and Motor Transport Conference. (Decision of the Economic and Social Council, seventh session).
  - (b) Future organization in the field of inland transport in Asia and the Far East. (Decision of the Economic and Social Council, seventh session).
  - (c) Future organization in the field of inland transport in the Middle East. (Discussion at the seventh session of the Economic and Social Council).

/(d) Future



- 8
- (d) Future organization in the field of inland transport in Africa. (Discussion at the seventh session of the Economic and Social Council).
  - (e) Co-ordination among inland transport experts of the different regions. (Decision of the Economic and Social Council, seventh session).
  - (f) Provisional Trusteeship Questionnaire. (Decision of the Economic and Social Council, seventh session).
  - (g) Travel Questions - further developments. (Decision of the Economic and Social Council, fourth session).
  - (h) Establishment of priorities. (Further developments).
  - (i) "Transport and Communications Review". (Information by the Secretariat).
  - (j) Unification of maritime tonnage measurement. (Information by the Secretariat).
  - (k) Co-ordination of the activities of specialized agencies in the field of transport and communications. (Information by the Secretariat).
  - (l) Distribution of Commission documents. (Decision of the second session of the Commission).

13. Any other business.

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