

**STATISTICAL COMMISSION****TRANSFER TO THE UNITED NATIONS OF FUNCTIONS AND POWERS PREVIOUSLY  
EXERCISED BY THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNDER THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION  
RELATING TO ECONOMIC STATISTICS (1928)**

**Note Prepared by the Secretariat  
For Consideration Under Item 10 of the Provisional Agenda**

By resolution adopted on 12 February 1946, the General Assembly decided with certain reservations to take the steps necessary to ensure the uninterrupted exercise of the functions and powers of a technical and non-political nature, vested in the League of Nations by virtue of international conventions, including those relating to statistical activities.

The Statistical Commission considered this matter at its first session and requested that the Secretary-General prepare a draft of a protocol amending the International Convention Relating to Economic Statistics (1928) and to submit the draft for consideration by the Commission at its next session (E/CN.3/SR.4).

Accordingly, the Secretariat has prepared the attached Draft Protocol amending the Convention and an Annex containing the amendments to particular Articles of the Convention which are to be superseded by new provisions as a result of the transfer of functions under this Convention to the United Nations (Annex II). There are attached also two draft resolutions (Annex I) which the Statistical Commission will wish to consider for recommendation to the Economic and Social Council and to the General Assembly, in order to effectuate the transfer of functions.

ANNEX I

DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

A. Draft Resolution for Submission to the Economic and Social Council  
at its Forthcoming Session

TRANSFER TO THE UNITED NATIONS OF FUNCTIONS AND POWERS EXERCISED BY  
THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNDER THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION  
RELATING TO ECONOMIC STATISTICS SIGNED AT GENEVA ON 14 DECEMBER 1928

WHEREAS, under the International Convention of 14 December 1928 relating to Economic Statistics, the League of Nations was entrusted with certain functions and powers, and

WHEREAS in its Resolution adopted on the report of the League of Nations Committee on 12 February 1946 the General Assembly declared the willingness of the United Nations to assume the exercise of certain functions and powers previously entrusted to the League of Nations under International Agreements, and referred to the Economic and Social Council to take the necessary measures with respect to functions of a technical and non-political character, and

WHEREAS the Economic and Social Council recognizes the desirability of ensuring continuity in international co-operation relating to economic statistics,

THEREFORE:

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

RECOMMENDS that the General Assembly approve the assumption by the United Nations of the functions and powers exercised by the League of Nations in respect of economic statistics under the above-mentioned International Convention, as provided in the attached draft resolution and draft protocol

REQUESTS the Secretary-General to inform the Members of the United Nations of this recommendation in order that their representatives at the next Session of the General Assembly may be given authority to sign the Protocols;

CONSIDERS that, in view of the Resolution of the General Assembly on the relations of the Members of the United Nations with Spain, adopted on 9 February 1946, all action under these Protocols and the Conventions mentioned above should be suspended with respect to the Franco Government in Spain as long as this Government is in power.

B. Draft Resolution to be Submitted by the Economic and Social Council  
to the General Assembly

TRANSFER TO THE UNITED NATIONS OF FUNCTIONS AND POWERS EXERCISED BY  
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/THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Desirous of continuing international co-operation relating to economic statistics

APPROVES the Protocols which accompany this Resolution;

URGES that they shall be signed without delay by all the States who are Parties to the above-mentioned Convention;

RECOMMENDS that, pending the entry into force of the aforesaid Protocol, effect be given to its provisions by the Parties to the Convention;

INSTRUCTS the Secretary-General to perform the functions conferred upon him by the aforesaid Protocol upon its entry into force, and

DIRECTS the Economic and Social Council and the Secretary-General in view of the General Assembly's Resolution on the Relations of Members of the United Nations with Spain, adopted on 9 February 1946, to suspend all action under the Protocol and the Convention mentioned above with respect to the Franco Government in Spain as long as this Government is in power.

DRAFT PROTOCOL TO AMEND THE INTERNATIONAL  
CONVENTION RELATING TO ECONOMIC STATISTICS,  
SIGNED AT GENEVA ON 14 DECEMBER 1928

The Parties to the present Protocol, considering that under the Convention on Economic Statistics, signed at Geneva 14 December 1928, the League of Nations was invested with certain duties and functions for whose continued performance it is necessary to make provision in consequence of the dissolution of the League of Nations, and considering that it is expedient that these duties and functions should be performed henceforth by the United Nations, hereby agree as follows:

Article I

The Parties to the present Protocol, undertake that as between themselves they will, in accordance with the provisions of the present Protocol, attribute full legal force and effect to, and duly apply the amendments to those instruments as they are set forth in the Annex to the present Protocol.

Article II

The Secretary-General shall prepare a text of the Convention as revised in accordance with the present Protocol and shall send copies for their information to the Governments of every Member of the United Nations and every State Non-Member of the United Nations to which this Protocol is open for signature or acceptance. He shall also invite parties to the aforesaid Convention to apply the amended text of this instrument as soon as the amendments are in force, even if they have not yet been able to become parties to the present Protocol.

Article III

The present Protocol shall be open for signature or acceptance by any of the Parties to the Convention of 14 December 1928 relating to Economic Statistics, to which the Secretary-General has communicated for this purpose a copy of this Protocol.

Article IV

States may become parties to the present Protocol by (a) signature without reservation as to approval; (b) acceptance which shall be affected by the deposit of a formal instrument with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Article V

The present Protocol shall come into force on the date on which two or more States shall have become parties thereto.

The amendments set forth in the Annex to the present Protocol shall come into force when the majority of parties to the Convention of

/14 December 1928

14 December 1928 on Economic Statistics have become parties to the present Protocol and consequently any State becoming a Party to the Convention after the amendments thereto have come into force shall become a Party to the Convention as so amended.

#### Article VI

In accordance with paragraph (1) of Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations and the regulations pursuant thereto adopted by the General Assembly, the Secretary-General of the United Nations is authorized to effect registration of the present Protocol and of the amendments made by the present Protocol on the respective dates of their entry into force and to publish the Protocol and the revised text of the Convention of 14 December 1928 on Economic Statistics as soon as possible.

#### Article VII

The present Protocol of which the Chinese, English, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited in the Archives of the United Nations Secretariat. The Convention to be amended in accordance with the Annex being in the English and French languages only, the English and French texts of the Annex shall equally be authentic texts and the Chinese, Russian and Spanish texts shall be translations. A certified copy of the Protocol, including the Annex, shall be sent by the Secretary-General to each of the States Parties to the Convention relating to the Economic Statistics Convention of the 14 December 1928, as well as to all States Members of the United Nations.

IN FAITH WHEREOF the undersigned being duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments signed the present Protocol on the date appearing opposite their respective signatures.

DONE at . . . . . this . . . . . day of . . . . . 194 . .

## ANNEX II

### INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION RELATING TO ECONOMICAL STATISTICS

In Article 2, Section III (A): "Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations" shall be substituted for "International Institute of Agriculture".

Article 8 shall read: "In addition to the particular functions which are entrusted to the Statistical Commission of the United Nations under the provisions of the present Convention and the instruments annexed thereto, it may make any suggestions which appear to be useful, for the purpose of improving or amplifying the principles and arrangements laid down in the Convention concerning the classes of statistics dealt with therein. It may also make suggestions in regard to other classes of statistics of a similar character in respect of which it appears desirable and practicable to secure international uniformity. It shall examine all suggestions to the same end which may be submitted to it by the Governments of any of the High Contracting Parties.

The Commission shall not make any suggestions in respect of statistics relating to public or private finance (public debt, revenue and expenditure, banking, the money market, stock exchange, etc.), or without the previous agreement of the appropriate international institutions or organizations in respect of statistics relating to agriculture, labour or transport.

The Economic and Social Council of the United Nations is requested, if at any time a desire to that effect is expressed by not less than half of those Members of the United Nations and non-member States to which the Secretary-General of the United Nations has communicated a copy of this Convention, to convoke a conference for the revision and, if it seems desirable, the amplification of the present Convention.

Article 10: In its first paragraph "Statistical Commission of the United Nations" shall be substituted for "Committee of Experts referred to in Article 8".

In its second paragraph "Commission" shall be substituted for "Committee".

Article 11 shall read: Any High Contracting Party may, at the time of signature, ratification or accession, declare that, in accepting the present Convention, he does not assume any obligations in respect of all or any of his colonies, protectorates, overseas territories or all trust territories for which he acts as administering authority; and the present Convention shall not apply to any territories named in such declaration.

Any High Contracting Party may give notice to the Secretary-General of the United Nations at any time subsequently that he desires that the

/Convention

Convention shall apply to all or any of his territories which have been made the subject of a declaration under the preceding paragraph, and the Convention shall apply to all the territories named in such notice one year after its receipt by the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Any High Contracting Party may, at any time after the expiration of the five years' period mentioned in Article 16, declare that he desires that the present Convention shall cease to apply to all or any of his colonies, protectorates, overseas territories or all trust territories for which he acts as administering authority, and the Convention shall cease to apply to the territories named in such declaration six months after its receipt by the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall communicate to all the Members of the United Nations and non-member States to which he has communicated a copy of this Convention, all declarations and notices received in virtue of this article.

Article 12. Its second paragraph shall read: The present Convention shall be ratified. As from the date of entry into force of the Protocol signed at \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ to amend this convention the instruments of ratification shall be transmitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations who shall notify their receipt to all Members of the United Nations and to all non-member States to which he has communicated the present Convention.

Article 13 shall read: From the date of entry into force of the Protocol signed at \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ to amend this Convention the present Convention may be acceded to on behalf of any Member of the United Nations or any non-member State to which the Economic and Social Council may decide officially to communicate the present Convention.

The instruments of accession shall be transmitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall notify their receipt to all the Members of the United Nations and to the non-member States to which he has communicated a copy of this Convention.

In Article 15, "the Secretary-General of the United Nations" shall be substituted for "the Secretary-General of the League of Nations".

Article 16. In its first paragraph "Secretary-General of the United Nations" shall be substituted for "Secretary-General of the League of Nations" and "Member of the United Nations" shall be substituted for "Member of the League".

Its second paragraph shall read: The Secretary-General shall notify all the members of the United Nations and the non-member States to which he has communicated a copy of this Convention of any denunciations received.

/In its third

In its third paragraph "Members of the United Nations" shall be substituted for "Members of the League".

Article 17. Its second paragraph shall read: The Governments of countries which are ready to accede to the Convention under Article 13, but desire to be allowed to make any reservations with regard to the application of the Convention may inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations to this effect, who shall forthwith communicate such reservations to the Governments of all countries on whose behalf ratifications or accessions have been deposited and enquire whether they have any objection thereto. If within six months of the date of the communication of the Secretary-General no objections have been received the reservation shall be deemed to have been accepted.

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