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COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONSULTATION
WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Communication received from the INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION
OF CHRISTIAN TRADE UNIONS (Confédération Internationale
des Syndicats Chrétiens).

Circulated to the members of the Council for their
information in pursuance of paragraph 2 of Chapter IV
of the Report of the Committee on Arrangements for
Consultation with Non-Governmental Organizations approved
by the Council on 21 June 1946 (Resolution No. 2/3 of
21 June 1946, Official Records of the Economic and Social
Council, first year, second session, pages 360-365).

The President of the
Economic and Social Council,
Palais des Nations,
Geneva.

Our Ref. Av/Un/g.

6/8/48

Sir,

Ref: Item 22 of the Provisional Agenda,
Principle of equal pay for equal work
for men and women workers.

On behalf of the International Federation of Christian Trade Unions (I.F.C.T.U.), I venture to express to you my deep regret that the Economic and Social Council has deleted the above item from its agenda for the present session.

The principle of "equal pay for equal work" was already embodied in Part XIII of the Treaty of Versailles under which the International Labour Organization was established. On 20 April 1944 the 26th Session of the International Labour Conference, meeting at Philadelphia, adopted a recommendation concerning women workers urging, inter alia "..... fair treatment, corresponding to that of men, with regard to remuneration". Again, the International Labour Conference which has just closed at San Francisco has submitted a document on this subject to the present session of the Council (Doc. E/881-26 July 1948).

The Council and several of its Commissions have already had occasion to deal with this important question which trade union and women's organizations of all countries and of all kinds have included in their programmes.

Finally, the highest authorities have endorsed this principle. Among them His Holiness Pius XII, Pope of the Roman Catholic Church.

Comparing such statements with Articles 55, 73 and 76 of the Charter, we deplore the Council's reluctance to take up a problem which interests public opinion so deeply. Therefore the I.F.C.T.U. reserves the right to raise this question again in due course.

I have the honour to be, etc.,

(sgd.) A. VANISTENDAEL

Deputy Secretary General.