

UNITED NATIONS  
**ECONOMIC AND  
 SOCIAL COUNCIL**  
 OFFICIAL RECORDS



ELEVENTH SESSION, **425th**  
 MEETING  
 THURSDAY, 26 OCTOBER 1950, AT 4 P.M.  
 LAKE SUCCESS, NEW YORK

**C O N T E N T S**

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Plans for relief and rehabilitation of Korea (A/1435, E/1851/Rev.1, E/1851/Add.1, E/1852, E/1858/Rev.1, E/1858/Rev.1/Corr.1, E/1858/Rev.1/Add.1, E/1859, E/L.112/Rev.2, E/L.113 and E/L.114) *(continued)* ..... 405

**President: Mr. Hernán SANTA CRUZ (Chile).**

*Present:* Representatives of the following countries:

Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, India, Iran, Mexico, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Representatives of the following specialized agencies:

International Labour Organisation, Food and Agriculture Organization, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, World Health Organization.

**Plans for relief and rehabilitation of Korea (A/1435, E/1851/Rev.1, E/1851/Add.1, E/1852, E/1858/Rev.1, E/1858/Rev.1/Corr.1, E/1858/Rev.1/Add.1, E/1859, E/L.112/Rev.2, E/L.113 and E/L.114) *(continued)***

JOINT DRAFT RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY AUSTRALIA AND THE UNITED STATES (E/1858/Rev.1, E/1858/Rev.1/Corr.1 and E/1858/Rev.1/Add.1)

1. The PRESIDENT opened the discussion on the joint draft resolution of Australia and the United States on the administration of the relief programme.

2. Mr. ARUTIUNIAN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked the President to suspend the meeting for several minutes to enable the members of the Council to study the draft, which had only just been circulated.

*It was so decided.*

*The meeting was suspended at 4.30 p.m. and was resumed at 4.45 p.m.*

3. Mr. LUBIN (United States of America) presented the joint draft resolution. He stated that its purpose was to set up the necessary machinery for the implementation of the programme of relief and rehabilitation of Korea. The draft provided for the establishment of a United Nations Korean reconstruction agency under the direction of an agent general. The latter would be responsible to the General Assembly and would apply the programme in accordance with the policy adopted by the Assembly.

4. The agent general would also be governed by recommendations made to him by the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea, related to the geographical areas in which he was to operate, and the authorities in Korea with which he could establish relationships. The relations to be established between that Commission and the agent general were defined in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the operative part of the draft.

5. Paragraph 4 gave directions to the agent general concerning the practical measures that he should take to implement the programme, the consultations which he should hold with the Korean Authorities, the reports which he should submit to the General Assembly and the administrative methods which he should follow.

6. Paragraph 5 provided for the establishment of an advisory committee consisting of representatives of five Member States, who would advise the agent general on major financial, procurement, distribution and other economic questions.

7. Paragraph 6 requested the Secretary-General to appoint the agent general, after consulting the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea and the advisory committee, and authorized the agent general to appoint a deputy agent general, in consultation with the Secretary-General.

8. Paragraph 7 recommended that the agent general should collaborate as closely as possible with the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations which were concerned with the problem of Korea.

9. Paragraph 8 authorized the agent general to enter into agreements with such Korean authorities as the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea might designate, concerning the distribution and utilization of the supplies and services furnished under the programme.

10. Paragraph 9 requested the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to make available to the agent general all the necessary services.

11. Paragraph 10 requested the Economic and Social Council to review the reports of the agent general and any comments which the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea might submit thereon. Furthermore, it laid down that

the Council should make reports and recommendations on the question to the General Assembly.

12. In conclusion, in order that there might be no delay or diminution of aid to the people of Korea, pending the setting up of the machinery for relief and rehabilitation, paragraph 12 called upon all governments, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to continue to furnish assistance through the Secretary-General to the Unified Command for the Korean people.

13. Mr. WALKER (Australia) drew the attention of members of the Council to the first part of document E/1858/Rev.1, which contained a draft resolution to be adopted by the Economic and Social Council. That part of the previous Australian draft resolution (E/1852) dealing with organizations had been withdrawn. Since the new draft resolution did not as yet contain any financial provisions, he wished to make it clear that the third Australian draft resolution on finance had not been withdrawn.

14. With regard to the substance of the document, he pointed out that all the members of the Council were in agreement on the following three points: in the first place, the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea would have to play a very important part in the rehabilitation of that country, since the political and economic problems arising in Korea were closely inter-connected; in the second place, it was essential to set up an efficient body to implement the relief programme; thirdly, the countries which would contribute to the economic rehabilitation of Korea should be in a position to control and, to some extent, to plan the implementation of that programme.

15. The Australian delegation would have preferred that the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea should have the widest possible powers and had therefore proposed in its original text (E/1852) that it should be the Commission which should appoint the agent general. Nevertheless, in view of the heavy political responsibilities to be borne by the Commission, the Australian delegation had expressed its willingness to accept the solution proposed by the United States, namely, that the agent general should be responsible to the General Assembly and that he should not be subject to detailed control by the Commission.

16. In any case, the Commission had to carry out important tasks in the economic field and it was therefore essential to establish the closest possible co-operation between that Commission and the United Nations Korean reconstruction agency. Of course, the Commission should not interfere in the day-to-day administration of the relief programme. That was provided for in paragraph 2 (d) and in paragraph 3 of the joint draft resolution.

17. The Commission's political tasks in connexion with rehabilitation were listed in paragraph 2. The authors of the draft had deliberately worded subparagraph (c) of that paragraph in a very flexible manner, to enable the Commission to determine, according to the circumstances, the authorities with which the agent general might establish relationships and to define the nature of such relationships. There were now two different authorities in Korea, namely, the Government of

the Republic of Korea, which exercised its authority over South Korea, and the United Nations Unified Command, which was assuming the provisional administration of the northern part of the country. Relations might also be necessary with local authorities.

18. He then stated that he had given up his proposal concerning the appointment of the agent general and that paragraph 6 of the joint draft resolution provided that that official would be appointed by the Secretary-General after consultation with the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea and the proposed advisory committee.

19. Although the joint draft resolution differed somewhat from the original Australian proposal, it made it possible to entrust the solution of political problems to the United Nations Commission, to give the agent general the necessary freedom of action in the economic field and to ensure co-operation between the Commission and the agent general.

20. The PRESIDENT recalled that the Council had decided at its previous meeting to hear the representative of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

*At the indication of the President, Miss Sender, representative of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, took a seat at the Council table.*

21. Miss SENDER (International Confederation of Free Trade Unions) stated that the organization which she represented was anxious to contribute to the relief of the victims of the aggression perpetrated against South Korea. The United Nations' action had been the first example in contemporary history of the application of the principle of collective security, a principle which had been championed in the League of Nations by Mr. Litvinov. The events that had taken place in Korea had made it possible to pass a final judgment on the real nature of the two opposing regimes, democracy on the one hand and, on the other hand, communism, which carried death and suering in its wake and threatened the independence of small nations.

22. In implementation of the Council's resolution 323 (XI) calling upon non-governmental organizations to co-operate in bringing about popular understanding of and support for the action taken by the United Nations in Korea, the ICFTU had organized an information campaign for that purpose. Its efforts had helped to enlighten public opinion and to demonstrate the importance of the existence of a world organization of free workers. It would also help to strengthen the bonds of solidarity between the free countries of the West and of the Far East. The participation of free trade unions in the work of the rehabilitation of Korea represented a further guarantee of the maintenance of the independence of that country.

23. She stated that the ICFTU had requested its affiliated organizations to make an active contribution to the relief of the victims of aggression, and gave some provisional information on what had already been done for that purpose, especially by trade unions in the United States.

24. The American Federation of Labor (A F of L) had decided to send 10,000 CARE parcels to Korea as its initial contribution. It also wished to be authorized

to send a representative to Korea to help in re-establishing the trade union movement. The Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) had offered goods to the value of \$7,000 and had requested its affiliated trade unions to make large contributions. The collection campaign had already begun. The CIO also wished to send a representative to Korea.

25. In other countries, federations affiliated to the ICFTU were either organizing collections themselves, or were participating in collections organized on the national plane.

26. The ICFTU had special obligations towards the 800,000 members of South Korean trade unions which were affiliated to it. It had to help them to re-establish their unions and to obtain a guarantee of their trade union rights. The existence of free and powerful trade unions was indispensable to the establishment of a real democracy. It was therefore important to give priority to the re-establishment of the trade union movement in Korea; the ICFTU would co-operate in that work.

27. With regard to the question of the relief and rehabilitation programme, she considered that, instead of setting up a complicated machinery, it would be preferable to call upon philanthropic organizations to the greatest possible extent.

28. The United Nations had promised the people of Korea that after victory had been won over the aggressor, it would receive all the necessary assistance to enable it to set up an independent, democratic republic. Nevertheless, military victory was not enough in itself. It was also essential to carry out fundamental reforms and to improve the conditions of the people, especially of the most needy classes. In that connexion, it was important not to support reactionary elements, but to help those who were prepared to apply the principles of the Charter, not only in the international sphere, but especially in their own country.

29. The action taken by the United Nations to implement the principle of collective security had revived the hopes of the peoples of the world. It was essential to finish the task in a fitting manner, so that those hopes were not deceived.

*Miss Sender withdrew.*

30. The PRESIDENT asked whether the representatives of the specialized agencies wished to make any statements.

31. Mr. FORREST (World Health Organization) said that he was glad to see that the joint draft resolution asked the agent general to call upon the services of the specialized agencies. The World Health Organization would give its support to the task undertaken by the United Nations in Korea.

32. Mr. ARUTIUNIAN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that in listening to the representative of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, the Council had heard the voice of the State Department. Her speech had once again demonstrated how intolerable was the attitude taken by the United States Authorities who refused to admit the representative of the World Federation of Trade Unions while admitting the representatives of other trade union organizations. The organization whose representative had just been

heard represented only reactionary leaders responsible for the split in the world trade union movement.

33. The members of the Council would have noted that, thus far, the debates of the present session had been purely technical. Now for the first time, a political element had been injected into the discussion. That was in conformity with the attitude of the Anglo-American bloc, and served to hinder the Council from accomplishing successful work. If the question of aggression was raised, no one could be ignorant of the fact that an American aggression was concerned. Hitherto, however, efforts had been made to avoid entering into purely political polemics in the Council.

34. Mr. Arutiunian protested against the attitude taken by the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, which ought to have known that a speech made by the representative of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions would be of a political character and not confined to the question of assistance to Korea.

35. That speech served the interests of the enemies of the United Nations. He categorically rejected the accusations which had just been made and expressed the hope that there would be no further speeches of that kind and that the Council's discussions would be confined to technical questions. Thus alone could results be achieved.

36. Mr. CORLEY SMITH (United Kingdom) said that he would not have made any comment on the USSR representative's remarks if the latter had not hinted that in recommending that the representative of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions should be granted a hearing, the Council NGO Committee had yielded to State Department pressure. Although the Committee's meetings were closed, he believed he would not be committing an indiscretion if he categorically declared as Chairman of the NGO Committee that the USSR representative's statements were contrary to the truth.

37. Mr. ARUTIUNIAN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that it was not a question of pressure exercised within the NGO Committee. The United States representative might even have preferred that the representative of the ICFTU should not be heard; statements which so crudely revealed the policy of the State Department might indeed embarrass it. It was a question, however, of a preliminary screening carried out by the State Department.

38. The fact was that the representative of the WFTU, Mr. Fischer, had been arrested on his arrival in the United States, imprisoned for three days and sent back to France. It was therefore plain that the State Department carried out a process of selection, arbitrarily deciding what opinions should be expressed before the NGO Committee and the Council and granting access to those bodies only to such persons as it considered reliable from its standpoint. As a result, only those who had broken the unity of the world trade union movement, dissident trade unions supported by the Anglo-Saxon bloc, could be heard. The representative of the ICFTU had not confined her speech to the technical questions before the Council, and those questions had been almost completely submerged under political considerations. That revealed the convictions of

the authorities who carried out the screening process and enabled certain representatives of non-governmental organizations to appear before the Council while others were refused access. Those were the indisputable facts.

39. Mr. CORLEY SMITH (United Kingdom) said that he had no desire to enter into a rebuttal of the USSR representative's case, argument by argument. It was the precise opposite of the facts; but it was hardly surprising that the USSR representative should be unaware of that, for in order to know the facts he would have had to be present at the meeting at which the NGO Committee had decided to grant a hearing to the representative of the ICFTU. But though the USSR representative was a member of the NGO Committee, he had in fact been the only member absent at that meeting.

40. Mr. KATZ-SUCHY (Poland) strongly protested against the hearing of the "so-called representative" of the elements organized in the "so-called International Confederation of so-called Free so-called Trade Unions". If constructive work was to be achieved, speeches of that defamatory or slanderous nature must be barred.

41. The Chairman of the NGO Committee was in the wrong, since he should have known, when the Committee had recommended granting a hearing to the representative of that non-governmental organization, that her speech would be of a political nature. It was deplorable that representatives of the elements responsible for the aggression in Korea, on whose account so much blood had been and still continued to be shed, should come forward to make statements of that kind before the Council.

42. The Chairman of the NGO Committee was to blame, since he had done nothing to ensure that representatives of non-governmental organizations should confine themselves to the matters before the Council, which were technical and not political.

43. It was clear that an attempt was being made to give a hearing to those who were pouring oil on the flames in order to spread the conflagration, but to stop the mouths of those who came to make constructive proposals for the solution of the problem.

44. Mr. SCHNAKE VERGARA (Chile) said that he would have taken no part in the discussion if the representative of Poland had not accused the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions of making slanderous statements alleging that it was composed of warmongers. He had also called it a dissident organization. The ICFTU was an organization highly respected in his country. It embraced all the American workers and most European workers who did not hold communist views. It was therefore impossible to remain silent when an organization of that nature was made the object of slanderous statements. It was true that the Council's discussions had been calm. That calm, however, while it was not due to a compromise—since there had been no compromise—had been possible only because members of the Council were conscious of their responsibilities.

45. Furthermore, to allow the allegation that the United Nations was the aggressor in Korea to pass without reply would be to undermine the force of the convictions of the United Nations and weaken the enthusiasm with which it was working.

46. Korea had been the victim of an act of aggression, and it was the United Nations which had come to its defence. There could therefore be no question of accepting the Polish representative's protest.

47. Mr. LUBIN (United States of America) said that the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions enjoyed universal respect among American citizens. It embraced 12 million American workers—members of the A F of L and the C I O—who were entirely free to express their opinions and to criticize the State Department when they wished. To describe such an organization as non-representative and irresponsible was, if he might be allowed to use the terms employed by the Polish representative, defamatory and slanderous.

48. Mr. WALKER (Australia) proposed that the Council should adjourn.

*The motion for adjournment was adopted.*

The meeting rose at 5.55 p.m.