



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Forty-second Session
OFFICIAL RECORDS

Friday, 2 June 1967,
at 11 a.m.

NEW YORK

CONTENTS

	Page
<i>Agenda item 23:</i>	
<i>Implementation of the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies (concluded)</i>	83
<i>Agenda item 24:</i>	
<i>Work programme of the United Nations in the economic, social and human rights fields and its budgetary requirements</i>	
<i>Agenda item 27:</i>	
<i>Consideration of the provisional agenda for the forty-third session</i>	84
<i>Credentials of representatives</i>	87
<i>Organization of work</i>	87

President: Mr. Milan KLUSÁK
(Czechoslovakia).

Present:

Representatives of the following States, members of the Council: Belgium, Cameroon, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, France, Gabon, Guatemala, India, Iran, Kuwait, Libya, Mexico, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Romania, Sweden, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Venezuela.

Observers for the following Member States: Austria, China, Cuba, Italy, Japan, Yugoslavia.

Representatives of the following specialized agencies: International Labour Organisation, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, World Health Organization.

AGENDA ITEM 23

Implementation of the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies (concluded) (E/4318)

AGENDA ITEM 24

Work programme of the United Nations in the economic, social and human rights fields and its budgetary requirements (E/4331/Add.1-19 and Corr.1, E/4331/P.1 and Corr.1 and Rev.1 (annex) and Corr.1, E/4355 and Corr.1 and Add.1)

1. Mr. MacLAREN (Canada) regretted that the Council did not now have time to give item 23 the attention it deserved, and that the Secretariat had found

it impossible to report at greater length on the implementation of the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies.^{1/} It was particularly unfortunate that the Council had not been informed of steps taken in that direction by the United Nations itself. As a result, at its forty-third session, the Council would have before it reports from both the specialized agencies and the United Nations on their implementation of the recommendations, despite the agreement, reached in 1966, that spring sessions should henceforth be devoted mainly to the work of the United Nations and summer sessions to that of the agencies.

2. Mr. VIAUD (France) said that the implementation of the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendations should be a continuing process, for the field was so broad and involved so many organizations that the results desired by the General Assembly could not be achieved overnight. The Council would have several opportunities to discuss the subject, particularly in examining item 24 when it would take up the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination,^{2/} some elements of which were intimately linked with the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee. He doubted whether the Council was in a position to take any action on that report, which was the result of protracted deliberations, and suggested that consideration of it should accordingly be deferred until the forty-third session.

3. He emphasized the need for full co-operation on the part of the executive heads of the various organizations in the United Nations system if the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee were to be implemented satisfactorily. He hoped the Council would try to get a medium-term view of activities, since no co-ordination was possible on a day-to-day basis. He was not sure, however, that the responsible members of the Secretariat took the same view. The Secretariat should avoid too narrow an approach. In his delegation's view, the role of the Council should be to harmonize trends rather than to dwell on budgetary details, the latter being the job of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly. He hoped, therefore, that when it took up the question of the implementation of the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendations at its forty-third session, the Council would be in a position to have a thorough discussion of trends over a number of years, as well as the immediate work programme.

4. Mr. BLAU (United States of America) said that the Council had no choice but to defer item 23 until

^{1/} See Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-first Session, Annexes, agenda item 80, document A/6343, chaps. VII, VIII and IX.

^{2/} Subsequently circulated as document E/4383.

the summer session. But he wished to emphasize the overwhelming importance his delegation attached to the early implementation of the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendations, unanimously approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 2150 (XXI). He was concerned lest the principle that not more than one "major special conference" should be held in any one year become a dead letter. It was in effect impossible to implement the principle until, as had been suggested by the Ad Hoc Committee,^{3/} the Secretary-General proposed a generally acceptable definition of "major special conference". Time and again representatives of the Secretary-General came forward in various bodies and informed delegations that what looked like a substantial conference was not in fact a "major special conference". The result was that many large conferences continued to be held every year, to the increasing cost and inconvenience of all delegations, even those of the largest countries. There was urgent need for the Secretary-General's assistance in getting the conference programme under control, and he therefore appealed to the Secretary-General to present to the Council, at its forty-third session, a working definition of the term "major special conference". the conference programme under control, and he therefore appealed to the Secretary-General to present to the Council, at its forty-third session, a working definition of the term "major special conference".

5. He agreed with the French representative that the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination could not be adequately considered at the present session, and that it should accordingly be postponed until the summer session.

6. Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) likewise agreed with the French representative's proposal. The reports on the implementation of the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendations could then be considered at the forty-third session together with the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, both parts of the latter being taken together.

7. Mr. MUZIK (Czechoslovakia) agreed that item 23 should be held over until the forty-third session. The recommendations were more important than the note by the Secretary-General (E/4318) appeared to indicate, and he hoped that delegations would be given more detailed information when the item was discussed at the summer session.

8. There was a close connexion between the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee and the work of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination. He agreed with the French representative's suggestion that item 24 should likewise not be considered now, but deferred until the forty-third session.

9. Mr. ONKELINX (Belgium) noted that the Council seemed to be agreed that consideration of the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination should be deferred until the forty-third session. If so, the Council could greatly ease the work of the Secretary-General by taking a decision to that effect now.

10. Sir Edward WARNER (United Kingdom) agreed that the Council was not in a position to discuss the

substance of item 23 and that it should therefore be put off until the forty-third session. He had no objection to the Belgian proposal, which would indeed be a kindness to the Secretariat. He emphasized his delegation's strong support for the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendations as a whole, as endorsed by the Assembly in its resolution 2150 (XXI).

11. Mr. ATTIGA (Libya), supported by Mr. MUZIK (Czechoslovakia), asked that the documents to be discussed at the forty-third session be made available the following week. He agreed that the Council should not press for the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination if it did not intend to discuss it at the present session, but it should still be made available in plenty of time.

12. Mr. DE SEYNES (Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs) said that the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination had itself recommended that its report should be referred to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. If it concurred, the Council could take a decision to that effect at the same time that it decided to defer consideration of the report to the forty-third session.

13. Mr. PEREZ GUERRERO (Venezuela) supported that suggestion.

14. Mr. VIAUD (France) also thought that it was a good idea. It had taken the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination four weeks of intensive work to complete its report, and the Council could not possibly hope to deal adequately with it in a few minutes at the end of its session. The report should, however, be transmitted to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Question for information, not as a document approved by the Council.

15. Mr. BLAU (United States of America) agreed that the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination could be transmitted for information only.

16. The PRESIDENT suggested that the Council should take note of the note of the Secretary-General (E/4318), on the understanding that item 23 would be taken up again at the forty-third session.

It was so decided.

17. The PRESIDENT suggested that the Council take note that the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination had drawn up its report on agenda item 24, approve the recommendation of the Committee that the report be transmitted to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for information, and decide to postpone consideration of the item to the forty-third session.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 27

Consideration of the provisional agenda for the forty-third session (E/4323 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and 2, E/L.1160, E/L.1162)

18. Mr. RAHNEMA (Iran) noted that the Secretary-General had suggested, in paragraph 5 of document E/4323/Add.1, that the Council might consider in-

^{3/} See Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-first Session, Annexes, agenda item 80, document A/6343, para. 104 (e).

cluding an item on relations between the Economic and Social Council and non-United Nations inter-governmental organizations in the economic and social field. His delegation would have no objection to the inclusion of the item proposed by the representatives of Iran, Pakistan and Turkey (E/4323/Add.2) under that general heading, provided it was listed as a separate sub-item.

19. Mr. VIAUD (France) said that, while he could take no position at present on the substance of the proposal in document E/4323/Add.2, he had no objection to the proposed item being included in the draft provisional agenda. It might, however, be best to discuss it as part of the general heading suggested by the Secretary-General in paragraph 5 of document E/4323/Add.1, rather than to include it as a separate sub-item, since similar requests might be forthcoming before the next session.

20. Mr. S.K. SINGH (India) supported that view.

21. Mr. RAHNEMA (Iran) said that any similar requests could be included, if necessary, as additional sub-items.

22. Mr. ATTIGA (Libya) said he had no objection to the inclusion of the additional item proposed in document E/4323/Add.2; the way in which the item was taken up could be discussed at the Council's next session.

23. He noted that agenda item 24 of the draft provisional agenda of the forty-third session, concerning the reports of the World Bank group and of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), would not be taken up until the Council's resumed session. It would be useful if a way could be found to make preliminary summaries of those reports available to the Council at its next session since they could be of value in its discussion of agenda item 5: "External financing of economic development of the developing countries".

24. Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said he had no objection to the draft provisional agenda as it stood, particularly since it would only be finally approved at the next session. He could support the Iranian proposal for the addition of a sub-item to the general item suggested by the Secretary-General.

25. Mr. BLAU (United States of America) felt it quite desirable for the Council to discontinue its practice of making ad hoc decisions with regard to inter-governmental organizations and to consider the question of such organizations in a more general way. Nevertheless, he was apprehensive that the already heavy agenda for the Council's next session would be overburdened by an item on which extensive discussion might be expected. It might be advisable to consider the item proposed in document E/4323/Add.2 on an ad hoc basis and to leave the more general item suggested by the Secretary-General for a later session.

26. A lengthy discussion had taken place at the Council's resumed forty-first session on the question of the reports of the World Bank group and IMF. Since the reports could not be made available to the Council until they had been submitted to the relevant govern-

ing bodies for their approval, the World Bank group and IMF had agreed to send senior representatives to the Council's forty-third session who would be able to provide information on topics in which the Council was interested.

27. The fact that the next session of the Council would begin less than six weeks after the end of the present session should not be invoked as a reason for abrogating the six-week rule for the submission of documents. After reading the note by the Secretary-General on the documentation for the forty-third session (E/L.1162), he was particularly concerned at the number of documents which would not be available within the proper time-limit. Representatives could only fulfil their functions properly if documents were available in sufficient time for Governments to be able to study them and to issue their instructions.

28. Mr. HUDA (Pakistan) said that the fact that the provisional agenda for the Council's forty-third session was already heavy should have no bearing on whether or not the item proposed in document E/4323/Add.2 should be included in it. He endorsed the United States representative's views regarding the timely submission of documents.

29. The PRESIDENT proposed that the Council should adopt items 1 to 27 of the provisional agenda (E/4323), subject to revision in the light of the Council's further decisions on the subject at its current session.

It was so decided.

30. The PRESIDENT proposed that the Council should adopt the proposal to include in the provisional agenda of the Council's forty-third session the item entitled: "Transfer to the United Nations of the responsibilities and assets of the International Relief Union" (E/4323/Corr.1, para. 3).

It was so decided.

31. The PRESIDENT proposed that the Council should, in accordance with the Iranian representative's proposal, include in the provisional agenda an additional item entitled: "Relations between the Economic and Social Council and non-United Nations intergovernmental organizations in the economic and social field: (a) Report of the Secretary-General (E/4342); (b) Proposal of Iran, Pakistan and Turkey (E/4323/Add.2)."

32. Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) suggested that the new item should be inserted between item 23 and 24 of the provisional agenda.

33. Mr. MUZIK (Czechoslovakia) said that he could see no need for the two sub-items; the two documents in question could merely be listed under that item in the annotations to the provisional agenda.

34. Mr. S. K. SINGH (India) supported the Czechoslovak representative's view, particularly since the inclusion of sub-items might extend the scope of the discussion.

35. Mr. RAHNEMA (Iran), supported by Mr. AKSIN (Turkey), said that the question raised by the dele-

gations of Iran, Pakistan and Turkey in document E/4323/Add.2 should be included as a sub-item of the proposed additional item as a courtesy to the three Governments concerned. There were ample precedents for such a course.

36. Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) supported the inclusion of the two sub-items. He also supported the additional item proposed in paragraph 5 of document E/4323/Add.1 on the understanding that it would include the consideration of relations between the Economic and Social Council and the non-governmental organizations, especially those which had been accorded category A and B consultative status with the Council. The existing list of some 400 such organizations, many of which no longer deserved that status, should be revised. That was a question which the Council would have to face sooner or later.

37. Mr. ATTIGA (Libya) supported the inclusion of the two sub-items. The existing list of non-governmental organizations in consultative status required revision but that was a separate question which should not be discussed in connexion with the proposed additional item.

38. Mr. MUZIK (Czechoslovakia) said he had not meant to suggest that the sub-item proposed by the three delegations should be omitted; he had merely felt that it was covered in substance by the proposed additional item and that reference could be made to the two documents in the annotations to the provisional agenda.

39. Mr. PEREZ GUERRERO (Venezuela) felt the Council must discuss both documents. It might perhaps insert an additional sentence in paragraph 5 of document E/4323/Add.1 to the effect that the contents of the letter submitted by the delegations of Iran, Pakistan and Turkey would also be discussed under the additional item.

40. Mr. BLAU (United States of America) pointed out that the Iranian proposal fell under rule 10 (e) of the Council's rules of procedure and must therefore be included in the provisional agenda.

41. The PRESIDENT proposed that the Council should decide to include the additional item together with the two sub-items.

It was so decided.

42. In reply to a question by Sir Edward WARNER (United Kingdom), Mr. MUZIK (Czechoslovakia) said that the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination would be dealt with under item 17 (a) of the provisional agenda; however, the annotation to that item should specify that the Council would take up that Committee's reports on both the first and second parts of its fifth session.

43. Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the Secretariat would issue a revised version of the provisional agenda when it had been adopted in final form and that the resolutions which the Council had adopted at its forty-second session would be issued as soon as possible in a single volume.

44. The PRESIDENT drew the Council's attention to the organization of the work of the Council's forty-third session proposed in the note by the Secretary-General (E/L.1160).

45. Mr. ATTIGA (Libya) said he hoped the Secretariat would, as far as possible, ensure that similar or related items would be discussed together or in succession. It might be useful, for example, if item 8 of the provisional agenda could be discussed after the conclusion of item 4, since the development and utilization of human resources had a definite bearing on economic planning and projections. Item 16, concerning the report of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), was also related to the question of human resources. Similarly, agenda item 9 on increasing the production and use of edible protein might be made a sub-item of agenda item 13 concerning multilateral food aid.

46. Mr. VIAUD (France) said he assumed that the Secretariat would take account in its revised draft agenda of the Council's recent decisions concerning the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the recommendations of the *Ad Hoc* Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies, as well as any other decisions which might be made before the end of the current session. He agreed with the Secretary-General's proposal that items 17 (d) and 18 should be considered at the resumed session, after the session of the enlarged Committee for Programme and Co-ordination. While he generally agreed with the Libyan representative that related topics should be grouped together, he pointed out that it was customary to consider the report of UNITAR as a separate item.

47. With regard to the order of consideration of items, he suggested that, since items 9 and 13 on the use of edible protein and multilateral food aid, respectively, were related, they should both be discussed by the Economic Committee during the second and third weeks of the session. Since the Co-ordination Committee was to meet for only three weeks—a shorter period than at previous sessions—he would suggest it should begin its meetings at the end of the first week, before the end of the general debate. Moreover, in view of the importance of the recommendations of the *Ad Hoc* Committee of Experts, he would propose that the Co-ordination Committee should take up item 19 during the third week of the session and items 3 and 12, on the United Nations Development Decade and evaluation, respectively, during the fourth week. The fact that the recommendations of the Interim Committee on Programme of Conferences, after approval by the Council, were now to be submitted to the Committee on Conferences of the General Assembly for final decision should mean that less time would be required for discussing the calendar of conferences.

48. Mr. MUZIK (Czechoslovakia) said he supported the French representative's proposal that the Co-ordination Committee should take up the recommendations of the *Ad Hoc* Committee of Experts during the third week of the session.

49. Mr. S.K. SINGH (India) hoped that the revised order of discussion of the items of the provisional

agenda would take account of the question of the co-ordination of the calendar of conferences and the comments of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on the work of the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts.

50. In reply to a question by Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Mr. HILL (Under-Secretary for Inter-Agency Affairs) said that the Secretariat expected that the Co-ordination Committee would do most of its work on item 17 (d), which was closely related in substance to item 18, at its session to be held in September 1967 and that the Council would merely consider the Committee's report at its resumed forty-third session.

51. Mr. BLAU (United States of America) observed that some of the substantive aspects of item 3, "United Nations Development Decade", such as the survey of principles, directives and guidelines in the field of development and the framework of international development strategy for the 1970's, should be discussed in the Economic Committee rather than in the Co-ordination Committee. The Secretariat might include a foot-note in the annotations to the agenda making that clear. The Co-ordination Committee should of course consider the co-ordination aspects of that item.

52. The PRESIDENT proposed that the Council should approve the recommendations made in document E/L.1160 regarding the organization of work of the forty-third session of the Council in the light of the suggestions made.

It was so decided.

Credentials of representatives

53. The PRESIDENT proposed that the Council should take note of the report on credentials of representatives to its forty-second session (E/4384).

It was so decided.

Organization of work

54. Mr. ATTIGA (Libya), supported by Sir Edward WARNER (United Kingdom) and Mr. VIAUD (France), hoped that the Council would not be further delayed in its work by the need to defer items discussed by the Social Committee until the representatives who had attended its meetings could be present. The Council could, for example, take up the report of its Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/4321), which had been ready since the beginning of the session.

55. The PRESIDENT observed that consultations were in progress on the report to which the Libyan representative had referred. The question of representation during the discussion of the items considered by the Social Committee was one for delegations themselves to decide.

56. Mr. VARELA (Panama) proposed that the Council should include as the first item of the agenda of its meeting on Monday morning, 5 June 1967, the consideration of the report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 1.30 p.m.

