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ACTIVITIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION
IN THE FIELD OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY, AND
PARTICIPATION BY THE ORGANISATION IN THE PROPOSED
INTERNATIONAL HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH YEAR

Resolution II adopted by the International Labour Conference
at its 43rd session

The Secretary-General has received on 7 January 1960 the following
communication from the Assistant Director of the International Labour Office:

"In accordance with a decision taken by the Governing Body of
the International Labour Office at its 143rd session (Geneva, November 1959),
I am to draw your particular attention to Resolution No. II concerning
I.L.O. Activities in the Field of Occupational Health and Safety and
Participation by the I.L.O. in the Proposed International Health and
Medical Research Year, which was adopted unanimously on 24 June 1959,
with the request that it be transmitted to the Economic and Social
Council and the General Assembly."

A copy of the above-mentioned resolution is annexed hereto.

* Also issued as document E/3326.

ANNEX

ACTIVITIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION
IN THE FIELD OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY, AND
PARTICIPATION BY THE ORGANISATION IN THE PROPOSED
INTERNATIONAL HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH YEAR 1/

The General Conference of the International Labour Organisation,

Bearing in mind the main purpose of the International Labour Organisation, as set forth in its Constitution, which is the improvement of the working conditions and well-being of the workers by various means, among which the protection of workers against sickness, occupational disease and employment injury occupies an important place,

Bearing in mind the successes of modern medicine in combating disease, including the wider use of radioactive substances in public health,

Considering the pressing need for raising public health standards in all countries of the world, which in its turn will increase labour productivity and the level of production of material wealth in general,

Recalling the solemn obligation embodied in the Declaration of Philadelphia of the International Labour Organisation to promote the adoption by the countries of the world of programmes designed to expand medical services and to protect the life and health of the workers,

1. Fully appreciates the initiative of the United Nations concerning the possibility of holding an International Health and Medical Research Year with the aim of securing active international co-operation and exchange of knowledge and experience in the fight against the wide-spread diseases which still constitute a grave danger to the health and well-being of the population;

2. Invites each member State which has not already done so to consider the possibility of ratifying the international labour Conventions relating to workers' health and medical services and of extending them to all workers under its jurisdiction;

3. Draws the attention of the United Nations and the World Health Organization, as well as the States members of the International Labour Organisation, to the fact that workers are still subject to a number of dangerous

1/ Adopted unanimously on 24 June 1959.

occupational diseases such as silicosis, poisoning by white phosphorus, lead and other harmful substances produced in the course of industrial processes, atomic radiation, etc., and particularly emphasizes the special danger of occupational diseases for women owing to their biological role and tasks in bringing up the younger generation;

4. Invites the Governing Body of the International Labour Office, within the framework of the agreements between the World Health Organization and the International Labour Organisation, to take whatever steps may be required, if necessary using the good offices of the Joint ILO-WHO Committee on Occupational Health, to ensure that, in the event of the holding of the International Health and Medical Research Year, programmes designed to protect the life and health of workers shall be developed to the maximum extent practicable;

5. Notes with satisfaction the recent decision of the Governing Body relating to the setting-up by the International Labour Office, in collaboration with the International Social Security Association, of an International Occupational Safety and Health Information Centre;

6. Invites the member States of the International Labour Organisation and of the World Health Organization to give their fullest support to the activities of that Centre;

7. Invites the Director-General of the International Labour Office to submit this resolution to the twenty-eighth session of the United Nations Economic and Social Council and also to the fourteenth session of the United Nations General Assembly.
