



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Forty-fourth Session

OFFICIAL RECORDS

Thursday, 23 May 1968,
at 10.55 a.m.

NEW YORK

CONTENTS

	Page
<i>Agenda item 9:</i>	
<i>Report of the Population Commission</i>	
<i>Report of the Social Committee.</i>	13
<i>Agenda item 12:</i>	
<i>Narcotic drugs</i>	
<i>Report of the Social Committee.</i>	14
<i>Agenda item 18:</i>	
<i>Non-governmental organizations (continued) .</i>	14
<i>Agenda item 16:</i>	
<i>Allegations regarding infringements of trade union rights.</i>	17

President: Mr. Manuel PEREZ GUERRERO
(Venezuela).

AGENDA ITEM 9

Report of the Population Commission (E/4454 and Add.1)

REPORT OF THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE (E/4513)

1. The PRESIDENT drew attention to paragraph 3 of the report of the Social Committee (E/4513), which indicated that the Committee had discussed only chapters IV, V, VI, VII and XI of the report of the Population Commission on its fourteenth session (E/4454), postponing consideration of the remaining chapters until the forty-fifth session of the Council. Paragraph 4 stated that the Committee had subsequently decided to postpone to the forty-fifth session consideration of the draft resolution contained in chapter XI of the Commission's report, and recommended that the Council should take note of chapters IV, V, VI and VII of the report.

2. Mr. ZAKHAROV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that, while his delegation had no objection to the Council's considering the report of the Population Commission (E/4454), which in the twenty years of its existence had made a useful contribution to the economic and social activities of the United Nations, it would like to emphasize its view that the discrepancy between the rate of population growth, on the one hand, and the rate of increase in the production of material goods and cultural development, on the other, was an urgent problem in many countries, particularly the developing ones. Failure to make full use of natural wealth and human resources kept the level of living and the rate of capital formation from rising. The solution to that problem was to be found only in far-reaching social and economic reforms which would promote the development of the economy, industrialization, increased labour productivity, higher agricultural output and the raising of the cultural and educational level of the population. Demographic fac-

tors should not be viewed in isolation from other, more important economic and social factors, and in all cases the methods of applying demographic policy should be based on the principle of respect for fundamental human rights.

3. There was a widespread belief that the preservation of peace would depend to a considerable extent on how the so-called population problem was solved. However, history showed that it was not countries with high birth rates and low levels of living that launched major wars. The two world wars had been caused, not by population problems, but by the imperialistic policies of certain developed countries.

4. Mr. GOLDSCHMIDT (United States of America) supported by Mr. VERCELES (Philippines), said it was his understanding that consideration of the section of the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination dealing with population programmes (E/4493/Add.1) had also been postponed until the forty-fifth session, and he thought that that action should have been mentioned in paragraph 3 of the Social Committee's report.

5. Mr. KASSUM (Secretary of the Council) said that the Social Committee had not actually taken a decision to that effect.

6. The PRESIDENT said that, if there was no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to postpone consideration of document E/4493/Add.1 until the forty-fifth session and to have that decision reflected in its report.

It was so decided.

7. The PRESIDENT proposed that the Council should take note of the report of the Social Committee (E/4513).

It was so decided.

8. Mr. VIAUD (France) observed that the most important part of the Social Committee's report (E/4513) was the recommendation in paragraph 4 that the Council should take note of chapters IV, V, VI and VII of the report of the Population Commission on its fourteenth session (E/4454). The Council's action on that recommendation should be recorded in more explicit terms, and he therefore proposed that the Council should expressly take note of those chapters of the Population Commission's report.

9. His second comment related to the reports of all the functional commissions. The change in the Council's working methods which had been introduced in 1966 and developed by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination tended to single out in the reports of the functional commissions, for postponement until the Council's summer session, anything which related to the work programmes, while the reports themselves

were normally considered at the spring session. That might lead in the long term to certain difficulties in the practical organization of the Council's proceedings, which would necessitate further changes in its methods of work.

10. The PRESIDENT suggested that the Council should adopt the proposal of the representative of France and expressly take note of chapters IV, V, VI and VII of the report of the Population Commission (E/4454).

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 12

Narcotic drugs (E/4455)

REPORT OF THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE (E/4516)

11. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to vote on the following draft resolutions, contained in paragraph 6 of the Social Committee's report (E/4516), the adoption of which that Committee recommended to the Council.

I. REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS AND FINAL REPORT OF THE PERMANENT CENTRAL NARCOTICS BOARD AND THE DRUG SUPERVISORY BODY

II. REGIONAL CO-OPERATION IN THE NEAR AND MIDDLE EAST IN THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN NARCOTIC DRUGS

III. THE ABUSE OF CANNABIS AND THE CONTINUING NEED FOR STRICT CONTROL

IV. REPLACEMENT OF CANNABIS CULTIVATION IN LEBANON

V. NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE MEASURES FOR THE CONTROL OF PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES NOT UNDER INTERNATIONAL CONTROL

VI. URGENT CONTROL MEASURES FOR LSD AND SIMILAR HALLUCINOGENIC SUBSTANCES

VII. DOPING

Draft resolutions I to VII were adopted unanimously.

12. Mr. VIAUD (France) suggested that, in view of the great importance to the peoples of the world of the draft resolutions which had just been adopted, the Secretary-General should be asked to request the Office of Public Information, when giving publicity to those resolutions, to treat them with particular gravity and in more detail than was usual.

13. The PRESIDENT said that he entirely agreed with the representative of France, and requested the Secretary-General to give the resolutions the fullest publicity.

AGENDA ITEM 18

Non-governmental organizations (*continued*) (E/4476 and Corr.1, E/4485 and Corr.1)

14. Mr. FORSHELL (Sweden), speaking as Chairman of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, said that the Committee hoped to complete its task under operative paragraph 2 of Council resolution 1225 (XLII) in time to submit its recommendations to the forty-sixth session. Recalling his remarks

at the previous meeting concerning the last preambular paragraph of the draft resolution annexed to the report of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/4485 and Corr.1) he suggested that the Council's report should include a foot-note referring to the draft resolution and reading as follows:

"The Council agreed that this resolution would not take effect until after the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations had completed its review of organizations currently in consultative status, as requested in Council resolution 1225 (XLII) of 6 June 1967, and after the Council at its forty-sixth session had acted upon the Committee's report."

In carrying out its task under resolution 1225 (XLII), the Committee would, of course, be guided by the criteria set forth in the draft resolution now before the Council. At the same time, organizations which had been granted consultative status under Council resolution 288 B (X) would continue to be consulted and granted hearings in accordance with the machinery established under that resolution.

15. Mr. NASINOVSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the Chairman of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations had not explained which resolution would be applied to organizations applying for consultative status during the period when the Committee was making its review. In his opinion, any decisions with regard to them should be taken in accordance with the provisions of the new draft resolution. If his understanding was correct, he thought that that point should be made clear in the Council's report. He also thought that organizations whose reclassification was to be decided upon at the forty-fifth session should then be subject to the provisions of the new text.

16. Mr. FORSHELL (Sweden), speaking as Chairman of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, said that the understanding of the representative of the USSR was correct. The Committee had agreed that all applications pending at the time when the review was undertaken, and any received thereafter, would be treated in accordance with the criteria set forth in the draft resolution and that recommendations for action by the Council on such applications would be submitted to the Council together with any recommendations for reclassification of organizations already in consultative status. There would thus unavoidably be a period during which the provisions of the draft resolution would apply to reclassified organizations and to new organizations whose applications had been acted on, while the old resolution would still apply to organizations which had been granted status thereunder and whose status had not yet been reviewed.

17. The PRESIDENT said that, if there was no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to include in its report the foot-note suggested by the Chairman of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations.

It was so decided.

18. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to vote on the draft resolution contained in the report of the

Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (see E/4485 and Corr.1, annex).

19. Mr. VIAUD (France) requested a separate vote on the last sentence of paragraph 9 of the draft resolution.

The last sentence of paragraph 9 was adopted by 19 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

20. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) requested a separate vote on the word "other" in the last sentence of paragraph 17 and, if that word was retained, on the paragraph as a whole.

The word "other" was adopted by 15 votes to 4, with 3 abstentions.

Paragraph 17, as a whole, was adopted by 18 votes to none, with 4 abstentions.

The draft resolution, as a whole, was adopted unanimously.

21. Mr. KASSUM (Secretary of the Council) recalled that the representatives of France and Belgium had raised the question of the financial implications of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General (E/4476 and Corr.1). The projects recommended would be covered by the appropriations currently available to the Office of Public Information.

22. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) said that his delegation, while not opposed to the Council's approving the report, did not favour the regional conferences of non-governmental organizations proposed in paragraph 41 because it doubted whether they would constitute a fruitful use of United Nations funds.

23. Mr. NASINOVSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation wished to make some observations, in connexion with the report of the Secretary-General (E/4476 and Corr.1), concerning non-governmental organizations listed with the Office of Public Information. At the time of the adoption of Council resolution 1225 (XLII), attention had been drawn to the fact that most of those organizations were national organizations based in the United States, whose activities were often unrelated to the work of the United Nations. The increase in the number of national organizations listed was partly explained by the desire of those organizations to promote and publicize the work of the United Nations. Sometimes, however, organizations used their listing merely to increase their own prestige or to lobby delegations or members of the Secretariat. Such activities on the part of some organizations had been exposed in the Press as being linked to the activities of the United States Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). The Secretariat should take steps to revise the Office of Public Information list by eliminating those United States national organizations which engaged in questionable activities and expanding the geographical representation of organizations based in other countries. Closer attention should be paid to the standards established in the draft resolution just adopted, which should serve as a useful guide for listing non-governmental organizations with the Office of Public Information. It was important to ensure balanced participation by non-governmental organizations in the Office's important work.

24. Mr. PIPARSANIA (India) said that his delegation supported the recommendations in paragraph 41 of the Secretary-General's report. It had no objection to the proposed regional conferences, but it might be appropriate to determine how the conferences which were already being held annually might be improved before proceeding to organize regional ones.

25. Mr. SQUIRE (United States of America) said that while he supported the idea of conferences on a regional basis, the maximum possible encouragement should be given to non-governmental organizations themselves to organize and finance those seminars. He shared the view of some other delegations that, in that case, United Nations funds could be used for other purposes.

26. In regard to the observations made by the representative of the USSR, he agreed that the list of organizations associated with the Office of Public Information was weighted towards Western organizations and contained many United States national organizations. That situation was unfortunate, but the basic question was how it should be changed. In his view, it would be more appropriate to achieve a balance by encouraging additional organizations from other areas to become affiliated with the Office of Public Information than by eliminating some which were already listed. He did not consider it necessary to add to past comments on the question of CIA involvement with some non-governmental organizations.

27. The purpose of listing organizations with the Office of Public Information was different from the Council's purpose in making consultative arrangements under either the old or the new resolution. Organizations were listed in order to disseminate information on the United Nations, and it was clear that the largest possible number should be on the list. The work of non-governmental organizations had the effect of supplementing the budget and the efforts of the United Nations, which had not enough funds nor staff available to disseminate adequate information on itself. The organizations generally accomplished their work in a commendable manner, at no cost to the United Nations, and he hoped that many more would desire to be listed. His Government, unlike some others, believed that views of any nature should have the right to be disseminated. The question of consultative status was a completely different issue.

28. Mr. WALDRON-RAMSEY (United Republic of Tanzania) felt that regional conferences would make an important contribution to the effective dissemination of information about the United Nations and should therefore be encouraged. He agreed with the representative of the United States that non-governmental organizations should be encouraged to initiate such conferences themselves, but they should be held under the auspices of the United Nations. Regional conferences had already been held in Europe, Latin America, Asia and the Middle East; his delegation would insist that the next one should be held in Africa.

29. The fact that most of the non-governmental organizations listed with the Office of Public Information were based in the United States was no cause for concern, in view of the fact that United Nations Headquarters was situated in that country. However, his

delegation was troubled by the fact that only one organization representing the interests of Afro-Americans was listed. It appeared that some organizations had been excluded by the United States Government, either alone or in collusion with the Office of Public Information. Not only were the black citizens of the United States especially concerned with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations in relation to human rights and the dignity and worth of the human person, but they also had special experience of value to the world as a whole. Organizations representing the specific interests of Afro-Americans should immediately be listed with the Office of Public Information, and his delegation would be unable to endorse the report of the Secretary-General (E/4476 and Corr.1) until some provision was made to give special consideration to non-governmental organizations representing the interests of black people in the United States and to African non-governmental organizations of a national or regional character.

30. The spirit and letter of paragraphs 9 and 17 of the draft resolution just adopted by the Council on arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations should be taken into account, in order to make the aims of the Council quite clear. All delegations were aware that Afro-American organizations in the United States had "special experience" of the kind referred to in paragraph 9. With respect to paragraph 17, it was interesting that the United States, the United Kingdom, France and Belgium had urged that the word "other" should be deleted, in order to remove the implication that colonialism, apartheid and racial intolerance were gross violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms; for those four countries had been colonialist and imperialist Powers and were rife with racial intolerance and discrimination. The Office of Public Information should take careful note of paragraph 17 in processing applications by organizations whose aims were among those mentioned in that paragraph, particularly if they were based in the United States, the United Kingdom and Africa.

31. Lastly, the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations should take note of applications by organizations for listing with the Office of Public Information.

32. His delegation intended to submit a formal proposal reflecting the views he had expressed.

33. Mr. SQUIRE (United States of America) categorically rejected the allegation made by the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania that his Government, either alone or in collusion with the Secretariat, had deliberately kept any United States organizations from being listed with the United Nations Office of Public Information. That allegation was absolutely untrue. Many of the organizations listed in the annex to the Secretary-General's report (E/4476 and Corr.1) were concerned with, and actively contributed to, the solution of his country's racial problems, which his delegation had discussed with candour in many United Nations bodies. He disagreed with the assertion that the black man in the United States had "special interests"; the interests of the black man were the same as those of other United States citi-

zens, although his problems were unfortunately more severe. The black man in the United States was represented by many organizations. He noted with some surprise that some of those organizations, with which he was personally associated, were not listed with the Office of Public Information, and would find out why that was. It should be noted that the non-governmental organization itself had to take the initiative if it wished to be associated with the Office of Public Information, and he would like to know how many requests for association had in fact been rejected by the Office of Public Information.

34. Mr. BABAA (Libya) supported the proposal made by the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania that the next regional conference of non-governmental organizations should be held in Africa.

35. It was true that most of the non-governmental organizations listed with the Office of Public Information were United States organizations, many of them being agents of international Zionism whose activities were designed to mislead world public opinion. Some of those organizations supported aggression and expansionism through the control of mass media in many parts of the world. They also financed mass media campaigns to silence any opposition to Zionist expansionist goals in the Middle East. Thus, they represented the special interests of a minority that sought to impose its will on the majority.

36. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) noted that the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania seemed to think that the purpose of his delegation's request for a separate vote on the word "other" in the last sentence of paragraph 17 of the draft resolution just adopted on arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations had been to cloak its alleged defence of the practices of apartheid and racial intolerance. That was not so. His delegation was concerned solely with the implications of the sentence in respect of the United Kingdom's policy in its few remaining colonial territories. His Government detested apartheid, and was doing its best to encourage racial tolerance and harmony in the United Kingdom.

37. Mr. COX (Sierra Leone) supported the views of the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania. The time had come for certain delegations to recognize that their statements in the Council should be directed towards the advancement of social progress, and not towards the defence of such evil practices as colonialism and apartheid. The delegations in question, while protesting that they would not support colonialism and apartheid, were always trying to play down those evils. If they would only be consistent in their positions and harmonize their actions with their words, no one would question their intentions. He pointed out that one of the non-governmental organizations on the list had its headquarters in South Africa. Considering the intolerance of the South African Government, that organization would certainly not be allowed to function if it did not support, at least tacitly, the Government's policies, which were obviously contrary to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

38. Mr. CAHEN (Belgium) said that his delegation's vote on the word "other" in paragraph 17 of the new resolution on consultation should not be interpreted to mean that his Government did not consider apartheid and racial intolerance to be gross violations of human rights, for his Government did so consider them.

39. The PRESIDENT said that, if there was no objection, further consideration of the Secretary-General's report on non-governmental organizations (E/4476 and Corr.1) would be postponed until the Tanzanian delegation's formal proposal was before the Council.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 16

Allegations regarding infringements of trade union rights (E/4459 and Add.1)

40. Mr. WALDRON-RAMSEY (United Republic of Tanzania) proposed that the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts established under resolution 2 (XXIII) of the Commission on Human Rights should be invited to introduce the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group at a subsequent meeting.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 12.35 p.m.