



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Resumed Forty-seventh Session
OFFICIAL RECORDS

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CONTENTS

	Page
Inclusion of two additional items in the agenda	53
Agenda item 7: Review of the programmes and activities of the United Nations system of organizations for the development of tourism	53
Agenda item 16: The sea: comprehensive outline of a long-term and expanded programme of oceanographic research	54
Agenda item 15: Amendment of rules of procedure of the Council and its functional commissions	54

President: Mr. Raymond SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

In the absence of the President, Mr. Maramis (Indonesia), Vice-President, took the Chair.

**Inclusion of two additional items in the agenda
(E/L.1282/Add.2)**

1. The PRESIDENT suggested that the Council should accept the proposal by the Secretary-General for the inclusion of two additional items in the agenda of the resumed forty-seventh session, entitled respectively "15. Amendment of rules of procedure of the Council and its functional commissions" and "16. The sea: comprehensive outline of a long-term and expanded programme of oceanographic research".

It was so decided.

2. The PRESIDENT suggested that the Council should consider agenda items 7 (Review of the programmes and activities of the United Nations system of organizations for the development of tourism), 16, 15 and 11 (Consideration of the provisional agenda for the organizational meetings of the forty-eighth session), in that order.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 7

Review of the programmes and activities of the United Nations system of organizations for the development of tourism (E/4653 and Add.1, Add.2 and Corr.1, Add.3 and 4, E/4750 and Add.1, E/L.1287)

3. The PRESIDENT recalled that in resolution 1449 (XLVII) the Council had decided to defer further consideration of agenda item 17(c) to its resumed forty-seventh session and had requested the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its twenty-

fourth session, through the Council at its resumed forty-seventh session, on the constitutional, organizational and financial implications of the establishment of an inter-governmental tourism organization and on any other effective measures for the development of tourism. In accordance with that request, the Secretary-General had submitted for consideration by the Council a report (E/4750) and a note (E/4750/Add.1) transmitting the text of resolution XXI/5 adopted by the General Assembly of the International Union of Official Travel Organizations (IUOTO) at its twenty-first session, held at Dublin from 28 October to 5 November 1969. The Council also had before it the Secretary-General's report to the Council at its forty-seventh session (E/4653 and Add.1, Add.2 and Corr.1 and Add.3 and 4) and a draft resolution submitted by the United States (E/L.1287).

4. Mr. GALLARDO MORENO (Mexico) said that at the summer session of the Council his delegation had submitted a draft resolution on the question under consideration (E/L.1278/Rev.1) and that at the 1634th meeting it had requested that the Council's report should include a reference to that draft resolution and that its text should be included in the recommendations of the resumed forty-seventh session. He therefore thought that the Council should have had that draft resolution before it at the start of the present session and he was surprised that it had not been included in the documentation provided. As consultations were taking place with a view to producing a draft resolution which would meet with general approval, his delegation thought that some of the ideas expressed in the draft resolution that it had submitted at the forty-seventh session might usefully be taken into account in order to reach general agreement. It therefore suggested that the discussion on that question should be deferred to the afternoon or the following day, to enable the members of the Council to study the Mexican text once again.

5. The PRESIDENT said that the draft resolution submitted at Geneva by the Mexican delegation was being reproduced and would shortly be circulated to the members of the Council.

6. Mr. OLDS (United States of America) regretted that the Mexican draft resolution submitted to the Council at its summer session had not been called to its attention at the resumed session and that the United States delegation therefore had not taken it into account when drafting its own text (E/L.1287). As several delegations were at present working on various draft resolutions on the question, it might be useful, as the Mexican representative suggested, to postpone consideration of the matter until the afternoon or the following day, in order that a text might be produced which would be acceptable to all delegations, including the Mexican delegation, and which would take account of the results of the Dublin Conference of IUOTO.

7. Mr. DUBEY (India) said that the draft resolution submitted by Mexico at the summer session of the Council had been the result of considerable effort by many members of the Council and had constituted an excellent working basis; since then, however, the Dublin Conference had made it possible to reach a compromise with regard to the transformation of IUOTO into an organization of intergovernmental character. The draft resolution submitted by the United States was interesting because it sought to group in a single text the various points upon which the Dublin Conference had reached agreement and the main elements of the draft resolution adopted at that Conference by the General Assembly of IUOTO, and to establish co-operation and operational links between that organization and the United Nations and to define the lines along which they could be established. He thanked the United States delegation for consulting his delegation before submitting the draft resolution. He thought, however, that the draft resolution might be brought closer to the text of the resolution adopted by the General Assembly of IUOTO at Dublin. His delegation had, therefore, in co-operation with the Yugoslav delegation, prepared a new draft resolution (E/L.1288), which would shortly be circulated to the members of the Council. That being so, the best course might be to allow delegations time for consultation, so that they might produce a joint draft resolution combining the draft resolution submitted by the Mexican delegation at the summer session, the United States' draft resolution and the new text proposed by India and Yugoslavia.

8. The PRESIDENT suggested that consideration of the item should be postponed until the following morning, in order to give the delegations concerned time to work out a joint draft resolution on the subject. That procedure would have the additional advantage of giving delegations time to consult their Governments.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 16

The sea: comprehensive outline of a long-term and expanded programme of oceanographic research (E/4759)

9. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had before it a report,¹ the annex to which contained a comprehensive outline of a long-term and expanded programme of oceanographic research, transmitted to the members of the Council by a note of the Secretary-General (E/4759). The Council would recall that at its summer session the Secretary-General had been able to make only a progress report (E/4672), in which he had informed the Council that the comprehensive outline was to be considered by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO at its sixth session, in September 1969. The comprehensive outline, which had now been transmitted to the Council and to the General Assembly, had been approved by IOC at its sixth session and forwarded to the Secretary-General by the Chairman of the Commission.

10. Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the *Journal* had not included that question in the list of items to be discussed at the Council's morning

meeting; his delegation had therefore not had time to study it properly. He suggested that consideration of the subject should be postponed until the afternoon.

11. Mr. BRADLEY (Argentina) supported the USSR representative's proposal.

12. The PRESIDENT suggested that the USSR representative's proposal that consideration of item 16 should be deferred until the afternoon meeting should be adopted.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 15

Amendment of rules of procedure of the Council and its functional commissions (E/4757 and Corr.1, E/L.1282/Add.2)

13. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to approve, paragraph by paragraph, the note by the Secretary-General (E/4757 and Corr.1), concerning the proposed amendments to the rules of procedure of the Council and its functional commissions.

14. Mr. WALDRON-RAMSEY (United Republic of Tanzania) said that the members of the Council should be given more time before they were called upon to come to a decision.

15. Mr. AHMED (Pakistan) pointed out that, as stated in paragraph 3 of document E/L.1282/Add.2, the proposed amendments could not be adopted until the Council had suspended rule 88.

16. The PRESIDENT suggested that the Council should suspend rule 88 in order to be able to adopt the amendments suggested by the Secretary-General in his note.

It was so decided.

17. The PRESIDENT suggested that the meeting should be suspended for a short time to give members of the Council time to consider the document under discussion.

The meeting was suspended at 11.30 a.m. and resumed at 11.50 a.m.

18. Mr. WALDRON-RAMSEY (United Republic of Tanzania) said that he did not think it was advisable formally to amend the relevant rules of the Economic and Social Council's rules of procedure at the current session. It was preferable that they should be suspended on a provisional basis and the proposed amendments tried out for an indefinite period—possibly until December 1971. The Council could make a formal decision when conclusive results were available.

19. Mr. VIAUD (France) said that the value of rules of procedure lay in the fact that they operated over a long period to ensure the orderly conduct of the proceedings of the organ concerned. Any proposed amendment of the rules should therefore be carefully considered and would be all the better for being tried out for some time before it was

¹ A/7750.

adopted. In the case under discussion, however, the Council might adopt some of the proposed amendments—those which necessarily followed from the decisions taken at its forty-seventh session. It might, for instance, adopt the amendment to rule 2 suggested by the Secretary-General, subject to any necessary modifications. Obviously, if the first regular session of the year was to begin in January, instead of in April, that change would have to be recorded in the Council's rules of procedure.

20. He thought that there was some advantage to be gained by opening that session, not at the very beginning of January, but during the second week of that month. That arrangement would give all delegations time to complete the consultations they usually had in their own countries during the Christmas-New Year period and would also facilitate the work of the Governing Council of UNDP, which was to hold its session from 19 to 27 January and would thus be informed of the dates decided upon by the Council.

21. Mr. DECASTIAUX (Belgium) said that he had no objection to the suggestion by the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania.

22. On the subject of the provision in the proposed amendment to rule 2 of the rules of procedure (see E/4757 and Corr.1, para. 4) requiring the second regular session to be adjourned at least six weeks before the opening of the regular session of the General Assembly, he pointed out that, if the second regular session of the Council in 1970 was to end on 5 August, the interval would be only thirty-eight days. It was important that the rule in question should be strictly applied. The resumed second regular session, which was held during the General Assembly's regular session, should consist of one, or at most two, series of meetings, in view of the fact that the meetings of the Assembly and its various Committees placed a substantial burden of work on delegations.

23. Mr. BRADLEY (Argentina) supported the suggestions made by the representatives of the United Republic of Tanzania and of France.

24. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) asked whether there would be a summer session if the rules of procedure were suspended. In his opinion, the logical result of adopting a new programme of work should be the adoption of new rules of procedure, at least on a provisional basis.

25. Mr. WALDRON-RAMSEY (United Republic of Tanzania) said that during the trial period the rules of procedure applied would be the existing rules with the amendments suggested in the Secretary-General's note (E/4757 and Corr.1).

26. Mr. VIAUD (France) suggested that the Council, bearing in mind the suggestions made by the United Republic of Tanzania and United Kingdom representatives, should decide at the current meeting: (a) to adopt, on a provisional basis, the arrangements outlined in the Secretary-General's note; (b) to suspend the relevant rules of the rules of procedure; and (c) to revise the rules of procedure at its first regular session in 1971, i.e. over one year after the proposed amendments were put into effect

provisionally. The summer session could be held at Geneva in July.

27. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) proposed that the Council should also amend the rules of procedure of its functional commissions, as suggested in paragraph 2 of the Secretary-General's note (E/4757 and Corr.1).

28. Mr. BLAU (United States of America) proposed that the wording of the third point of the decision suggested by the representative of France should be "to consider revising its rules of procedure" instead of "to revise its rules of procedure".

29. Mr. ROUAMBA (Upper Volta) associated himself with the views of the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania. He wished, however, to draw the attention of the Council to the fact that that representative's suggestion would necessarily affect the remaining rules of procedure and might therefore complicate the future work of the Council. For example, the amendment of rule 2 would probably affect rule 9, on the working out of the Council's basic programme of activities. He accordingly proposed that the Council should study the question more thoroughly before making a decision.

30. Mr. BLAU (United States of America) said that he understood the concern of the representative of Upper Volta. He asked whether the Secretary of the Council could indicate how the Secretariat had envisaged the effect on the rules as a whole when it had drafted the proposed amendments to the rules of procedure.

31. Mr. KASSUM (Secretary of the Council) said that the Secretariat had certainly taken into account the possible effects of the proposed amendments on the calendar of conferences, on the timing of the preparation of the Council's basic programme of activities and on the timing of certain elections, and had foreseen the need to amend the rules of procedure of the functional commissions accordingly.

32. If the Council approved the calendar of conferences, there was nothing to prevent it from amending its rules of procedure on a provisional basis and for a trial period, as the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania had suggested.

33. The calendar of conferences provided for the Economic and Social Council to hold, from 1970 onwards, organizational meetings from 12 to 14 January. On the subject of the 1970 summer session, he pointed out that the Council had decided at its previous meeting that that session would end, not on 5 August, but on 31 July, so that there would be an interval of six weeks before the opening of the regular session of the General Assembly.

34. Mr. BRADLEY (Argentina) expressed the view that, as a result of the assurances given by the Secretary of the Council and the explanations supplied by the representatives of the United Republic of Tanzania and of France, the Council was in a position to take a decision at the current meeting, particularly since the final decision was not to be made until December 1971.

35. The PRESIDENT asked whether the representative of Upper Volta was maintaining his position.

36. Mr. ROUAMBA (Upper Volta) said that he was still puzzled but that he would not press his point.

37. The PRESIDENT suggested that the Council, as a result of the measures it adopted during its forty-seventh session to improve the organization of its work and consequent upon its approval of the calendar of conferences and meetings for 1970 and 1971, should decide:

(a) To adopt, on a provisional basis, the Secretary-General's proposals for amendment of the relevant rules of procedure of the Council and of other organizational

changes, and to suspend rules 2, 9 and 14 of its rules of procedure;

(b) To consider, in the light of experience with the new programme of Conferences and Meetings in 1970, the revision of its rules of procedure at its first regular session in 1971;

(c) To replace the reference to the Interim Committee on the Programme of Conferences in rule 2 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions, by a reference to the Committee on Conferences established by the General Assembly.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 12.20 p.m.