



Ninth session  
Agenda item 12

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (CHAPTERS II AND III)

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. José Antonio ENCINAS (Peru)

1. The General Assembly, at its 478th plenary meeting on 25 September 1954, allocated to the Second Committee the agenda item "Report of the Economic and Social Council (chapters II and III)".<sup>1/</sup>
2. With respect to its consideration of the item, the Committee, at its 289th meeting, agreed that:
  - (a) Chapter III of the report of the Economic and Social Council (with the exception of part B, related to agenda item 26) could appropriately be discussed simultaneously with item 25, "Economic development of under-developed countries";
  - (b) When item 25 was under discussion, the members of the Committee should feel free to comment on such sections of chapter II of the report of the Council as they felt were relevant to that item; and, finally,
  - (c) Members of the Committee should be free to make such general statements as they might feel necessary when item 12 was taken up.
3. The Committee considered item 12 during six meetings (A/C.2/SR.335 to 340). Twenty delegations took part in the general debate.
4. The Committee received four specific proposals under the item:
  - (a) A draft resolution submitted by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (A/C.2/L.247) on "Measures to reduce unemployment and increase employment";

<sup>1/</sup> See Official Records of the General Assembly, Ninth Session, Supplement No. 3, document A/2686.

(b) A draft resolution submitted by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (A/C.2/L.248 and Ccrr.1 English only) on "Removal of measures of discrimination applying to trade with individual States or groups of States";

(c) A draft resolution submitted by Australia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Ecuador, France, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, Venezuela and Yugoslavia (A/C.2/L.252 and Add.1) on "Removal of obstacles to international trade and means of developing international economic relations";

(d) A draft resolution submitted by Australia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Ecuador, France, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, Venezuela and Yugoslavia (A/C.2/L.253 and Add.1) on "Full employment".

5. Under the draft resolution submitted by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on "Measures to reduce unemployment and increase employment" (A/C.2/L.247) the General Assembly would (a) recommend States Members of the United Nations, in which unemployment existed, to take effective and urgent steps to reduce unemployment and increase employment by developing civilian branches of industry, expanding foreign trade, increasing government expenditure on social services, education, public health and housing, and also to take steps to alleviate the plight of the unemployed, by improving and broadening State systems of insurance, and other steps to raise general living standards; (b) decide to convene a non-governmental advisory conference, and to invite to participate therein the competent specialized inter-governmental organizations, all national and international trade union organizations, and other non-governmental organizations concerned, with a view to securing a complete exchange of information on the real state of affairs as regards unemployment in industrial and agricultural production and on practical steps directed towards expanding economic activity throughout the world, developing international trade and economic co-operation and raising the level of employment; (c) instruct the Secretary-General to fix the time and place for the convening of a non-governmental advisory conference and also to take the necessary organizational, financial and other steps in that connexion; and (d) instruct the Secretary-General to prepare a report based on the findings of the advisory conference and on such other information as he might be able to obtain and to submit it to the General Assembly at its tenth session.

6. The draft resolution submitted by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (A/C.2/L.247) was voted upon at the 339th meeting as follows, a separate vote being taken, at the request of the representative of Poland, on each paragraph.

The first paragraph of the preamble was rejected by 29 votes to 5, with 13 abstentions.

The second paragraph was rejected by 30 votes to 5, with 14 abstentions.

The third paragraph was rejected by 17 votes to 13, with 19 abstentions.

The Operative paragraph 1 was rejected by 19 votes to 7, with 23 abstentions.

Paragraph 2 was rejected by 34 votes to 6, with 9 abstentions.

Paragraph 3 was rejected by 34 votes to 6, with 9 abstentions.

Paragraph 4 was rejected by 34 votes to 6, with 9 abstentions.

The draft resolution as a whole was rejected by 33 votes to 6, with 11 abstentions.

7. Under the draft resolution submitted by Australia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Ecuador, France, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, Venezuela and Yugoslavia on "Full employment" (A/C.2/L.253 and Add.1) the General Assembly would endorse resolution 531 B (XVIII) adopted by the Economic and Social Council, and particularly the invitation to the International Labour Organisation to continue its important work in the field of employment problems.

8. The eleven-Power draft resolution (A/C.2/L.253 and Add.1) was approved by the Committee at its 339th meeting by 43 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

9. The Second Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of resolution I annexed to the present report.

10. Under the draft resolution submitted by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on "Removal of measures of discrimination applying to trade with individual States or groups of States" (A/C.2/L.248 and Corr.1) the General Assembly would call upon the Governments of the States Members of the United Nations to remove existing measures of discrimination applying to trade with individual States or groups of States, and to take steps to expand trade and other economic relations between nations.

11. The draft resolution submitted by the USSR (A/C.2/L.248 and Corr.1 English only) was voted upon at the 340th meeting as follows. At the request of the

representative of Poland, each paragraph of the draft resolution was voted upon separately, and at the request of the representative of Venezuela the operative paragraph was voted upon in two parts as indicated below.

The first paragraph of the preamble was adopted by 31 votes to 2, with 9 abstentions.

The second paragraph was rejected by 27 votes to 5, with 16 abstentions.

The third paragraph was adopted by 22 votes to 4, with 21 abstentions.

The first part of the operative paragraph, reading "Calls upon the Governments of the States Members of the United Nations to remove existing measures of discrimination applying to trade with individual States or groups of States", was rejected by 28 votes to 5, with 15 abstentions.

The remaining part of the operative paragraph, reading "and to take steps to expand trade and other economic relations between nations", was adopted by 28 votes to 3, with 17 abstentions.

The Committee then had before it the parts of the draft resolution which had been adopted reading as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recognizing that broad economic and trade relations between States are highly important for the economic development of countries and for increasing employment among the people and raising their living standards,

"Considering that the normal development of trade between States would help to improve relations between them and to reduce international tension,

"Calls upon the Governments of the States Members of the United Nations to take steps to expand trade and other economic relations between nations."

The Committee rejected the above text, as a whole, by 11 votes to 7, with 30 abstentions.

12. Under the draft resolution submitted by Australia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Ecuador, France, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, Venezuela and Yugoslavia on "Removal of obstacles to international trade and means of developing international economic relations" (A/C.2/L.252 and Add.1) the General Assembly would endorse resolution 531 C (XVIII) adopted unanimously by the Economic and Social Council.

13. At its 338th meeting, the Committee received an amendment (A/C.2/L.256) to this joint draft resolution submitted by Chile which would add, as a final paragraph, the following:

"Decides to include the question of the removal of obstacles to international trade and means of developing international economic relations as a special item on the agenda of its tenth regular session."

14. At the 339th meeting, the representative of Venezuela made a verbal amendment to the eleven-Power draft resolution which would replace the second paragraph of the preamble which read: "Noting that the Council has placed this question on the agenda for its twentieth session" by the following:

"Expresses its satisfaction at the Council's decision to continue to study this question at its twentieth session".

This verbal amendment was accepted by the co-sponsors of the eleven-Power draft resolution and was incorporated in a revised text of the draft resolution (A/C.2/L.252/Rev.1).

15. The representative of Chile then withdrew his amendment (A/C.2/L.256) at the 340th meeting.

16. The eleven-Power revised draft resolution (A/C.2/L.252/Rev.1) was approved by the Committee at its 340th meeting by 45 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

17. The Second Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of resolution II annexed to the present report.

Resolution I

FULL EMPLOYMENT

The General Assembly,

Noting that the Economic and Social Council is keeping under review the problem of promoting full employment,

Endorses resolution 531 B (XVIII) adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 4 August 1954, and particularly the invitation to the International Labour Organisation to continue its important work in the field of employment problems.

Resolution II

REMOVAL OF OBSTACLES TO INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND MEANS OF  
DEVELOPING INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that the Economic and Social Council is giving active consideration to the question of the expansion of international trade and the development of international economic relations,

1. Expresses its satisfaction at the Economic and Social Council's decision to continue to study this question at its twentieth session;
2. Endorses resolution 531 C (XVIII) adopted unanimously by the Council on 4 August 1954.

-----