

**ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL**

**CONSEIL
ECONOMIQUE
ET SOCIAL**

RESTRICTED

E/CONF/POST/PC/W.9
13 December 1945

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FIFTH MEETING OF POSTAL EXPERTS

Held at Lake Success, New York,
on Thursday, 12 December 1945, at 3.30 p.m.

Present:

Chairman: Mr. Lidbury (United Kingdom)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. Jiminez (Chile)

Rapporteur: Mr. Le Mouel (France)

Universal Postal
Union Observers: Mr. Fulke Radice (Vice-Director of the International
Bureau)
Mr. E. Zaldua (Secretary of the International
Bureau)

Secretariat: Mr. Perez-Guerrero (Director of the Joint Division of
Co-ordination and Liaison of the
Economic and Social Department)
Mr. B. Lukac (Director of the Transport and
Communications Division)

DISCUSSION OF THE TENTATIVE DRAFT AGREEMENTS PREPARED BY THE
UNITED KINGDOM AND FRENCH DELEGATIONS AND BY THE SECRETARIAT
(DOCUMENTS E/CONF/POST/PC/2 REVU, AND E/CONF/POST/PC/1).

1. Article II of the French-United Kingdom text; Article III of the
Secretariat text.

(a) Paragraph 1.

Mr. LAGER (SWEDEN) recalled that meetings of the UPU had always been held in private, and although many international organizations, notably the International Chamber of Commerce had sought admission to meetings of the Congress, the Congress had felt that if those organizations needed representation at its meetings, they could approach the respective Governments who would include among their representatives to the UPU persons capable of representing the interests of commerce.

/The UPU

RECEIVED

DEC 14 1946

UNITED NATIONS
ARCHIVES

The UPU thus hoped to safeguard its independence and professional character. If the principle of outside representation were now adopted, an undesirable precedent would be created.

The RAPPORTEUR pointed out that the International Chamber of Commerce had already applied for permission to be represented at the forthcoming Congress in Paris; the request had been refused, however.

While the International Chamber of Commerce is a private body, the agreement under discussion concerns representation between the UPU and the United Nations - two organizations composed of sovereign nations.

He could not agree with the representative of Sweden in view of the fact that the question of representation between the two organizations was the very reason for the Committee's meeting.

DECISION: The Committee adopted paragraph 1.

(b) Paragraph 2.

The CHAIRMAN announced that certain stylistic changes had been made in the French-United Kingdom draft. In the revised French-United Kingdom text the expression: "...in which the Universal Postal Union has indicated that it has an interest," had been replaced by the words: "...in which the Universal Postal Union might be interested" to give a less restricted scope to that sentence.

There was only a slight difference between the Secretariat and the French-United Kingdom texts. While the former used the expression: "...when postal matters are under discussion," the latter was worded: "on matters in which the Universal Postal Union might be interested." The French-United Kingdom text aimed at greater latitude with respect to matters concerning the UPU.

Mr. Samper GOMEZ (COLOMBIA) supported the French-United Kingdom draft as wider in scope.

In reply to an observation by Mr. BODY (AUSTRALIA), the RAPPORTEUR pointed out that slight drafting changes in the new French-United Kingdom

/text had been

text had been made with a view to improving the style; those changes were not substantive.

DECISION: The Committee adopted paragraph 2.

(c) Paragraph 3.

The CHAIRMAN announced that lines four and five of that article had been re-drafted for reasons of clarity.

Mr. BRAMSON (POLAND) suggested that in conformity with line two of that paragraph, the phrase: "in a consultative capacity" might be substituted for "without vote".

Mr. TURNBULL (CANADA) thought that the amendment proposed by the representative of Poland would reduce participation of UPU representatives at United Nations meetings to a purely consultative nature, depriving them of the right to speak except when asked for information.

He could not accept the Polish amendment and further pointed out that, in order to facilitate acceptance of the draft agreement by the Congress, the Committee should take into full account the view of Postal Experts present at the meeting.

In the light of the explanation of the representative of Canada, Mr. BRAMSON (POLAND), and the CHAIRMAN, who had supported the Polish proposal, withdrew the amendment.

DECISION: The Committee adopted paragraph 3.

(d) Paragraph 4.

The CHAIRMAN noted that paragraph 4 was the same in the two texts.

Mr. BODY (AUSTRALIA) pointed to an inconsistency between the wording of paragraph 4, line 2, "when postal matters are under discussion" and the wording adopted in paragraphs 2 and 3, which mentioned items "in which the Universal Postal Union might be interested". He felt that the latter clause was preferable, since it had a broader meaning.

The RAPPORTEUR agreed to the desirability of a modification such as the representative of Australia had proposed.

The CHAIRMAN thought the clause used in paragraphs 2 and 3 might

/be appropriate

be appropriate in the English text.

DECISION: Paragraph 4 of the Franco-British text was unanimously adopted as amended in the French text; the English text would be sent to a Drafting Committee.

(e) Paragraph 5.

The CHAIRMAN stated that paragraphs 5 of the two texts were identical except for a slight difference in drafting.

In reply to a question by Mr. TURNBULL (CANADA), Mr. Perez-GUERRERO (SECRETARIAT) explained that paragraph 5 gave the UPU the right to submit written statements which the Secretariat would distribute to all Members of the appropriate organ of the United Nations.

The CHAIRMAN thought the provision might be useful at some time in the future.

DECISION: Paragraph 5 of the Franco-British text was unanimously adopted.

2. Article III of Franco-British text, Article IV of Secretariat text.

Referring to a question asked by Mr. LAGER (SWEDEN) concerning the nature of possible proposals to be submitted by one of the organizations for inclusion on the agenda of the other, Mr. TURNBULL (CANADA) gave two practical examples. The United Nations might request the UPU to discuss lowering postage rates for relief or educational purposes; the UPU might seek the help of the United Nations in obtaining lower air rates.

Mr. BODY (AUSTRALIA) noted that the Secretariat text mentioned the International Bureau and also the Trusteeship Council, neither of which was mentioned in the Franco-British text.

The CHAIRMAN explained that the International Bureau had been omitted because it had administrative and recording functions only; it was not a policy-making body.

The RAPPORTEUR agreed with the representative of Australia that the Trusteeship Council should be included, and suggested that the words "and the Trusteeship Council" should be added after the word "Committees" in the French text.

/DECISION: Article III

DECISION: Article III of the Franco-British text was unanimously adopted as amended in the French text; the English text would be amended by a Drafting Committee.

3. Article IV of the Franco-British text; Article V of the Secretariat text.

(a) Paragraph 1.

The CHAIRMAN observed that the two texts differed in substance, in that the second part of paragraph 1 of the Secretariat text was omitted in the Franco-British text.

DECISION: Paragraph 1 of the Franco-British text was unanimously adopted.

(b) Paragraph 2.

The words "by the Union or by its members" had been added in the third and fourth lines of the Franco-British text to conform to the Secretariat text.

DECISION: Paragraph 2 of the Franco-British text was unanimously adopted.

(c) Paragraph 3.

DECISION: Paragraph 3 of the Franco-British text was unanimously adopted without discussion.

4. Article V of Franco-British text; Article VI of Secretariat text.

The CHAIRMAN noted that the only difference in substance between the two texts was that paragraph 2(a) of the Franco-British draft provided for an "annual report" rather than the "regular report" mentioned by the Secretariat. The change seemed advisable since it was the custom of the International Bureau to prepare a report once a year and that report should be sufficient.

DECISION: Article V of the Franco-British text was unanimously adopted.

5. Articles VI, VII, VIII of the Franco-British text; Articles VII, VIII, IX, X of the Secretariat text.

At the suggestion of the CHAIRMAN, the above controversial Articles were postponed until after decisions had been taken on the remainder of the Franco-British text.

6. Article IX of the Franco-British text; Article XI of the Secretariat.

In reply to a point raised by Mr. Samper GOMEZ (COLOMBIA), the CHAIRMAN said that in the original Franco-British text it had been stated that the International Bureau should continue to be situated at Berne, but such a statement seemed unnecessary since there had actually been no question of its removal to another location; the revised text therefore made no mention of the seat of the Bureau.

The CHAIRMAN stated that the word "European" in line 2 of Article IX should be deleted in the English text.

Mr. BODY (AUSTRALIA) thought that Article IX might include a clause providing for mutual consultations if it should ever be decided to move the UPU headquarters, or if either organization planned to establish any regional offices.

The RAPPORTEUR could not agree with the representative of Australia, since there was no probability whatsoever that the UPU headquarters would be moved, and since there seemed no reason for the United Nations to consult with the UPU in regard to any regional offices it might establish.

The CHAIRMAN added that it could be assumed that the UPU, which was an economical organization, would not establish any regional offices.

Mr. LUKAC (COMMITTEE SECRETARY) explained that the Secretariat text had been based on the general principle laid down by the Preparatory Commission in London, that, whenever possible, the headquarters and regional offices of the United Nations and the specialized agencies should be located near each other.

Mr. BODY (AUSTRALIA) suggested that "Liaison with Regional Offices of the United Nations" was a more appropriate heading for Article IX.

DECISION: Article IX of the Franco-British text, with the new heading "Liaison with Regional Offices of the United Nations", and with the omission of the word "European", was unanimously adopted.

7. Article X of the Franco-British text; Article XII of the Secretariat text.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out a substantive difference between the two texts. The Franco-British text was based on the fact that the personnel of the UPU were too highly technical to become a part of a general international civil service.

Mr. KAMENEV (UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS) suggested omitting Article X since it might lead to unnecessary complications. He wondered, for example, if there were discrepancies between the salaries paid by the United Nations and the UPU, which organization would revise its salary scale.

Mr. GUERRERO (BRAZIL) stressed the importance of maintaining among the specialized agencies the United Nations ideal of an international civil service, recruited in accordance with the principles of geographical distribution and personal competence.

He also pointed out that it was economical to be able to interchange personnel to service conferences held in various parts of the world.

The RAPPORTEUR thought that the United Nations personnel practices could not apply to a staff as small and as specialized as that of the UPU.

As regards the possibility of interchange, he hoped that the United Nations would lend some conference staff for the forthcoming UPU Congress in Paris.

In reply to the point raised by the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Rapporteur thought that the question of which organization would revise its salary scale would probably never arise, for the UPU would be free to interpret in the most liberal manner the standards set by the United Nations.

He urged the adoption of Article X which, because of its flexibility, provided for whatever possibilities the future might bring.

/The CHAIRMAN pointed

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the question could best be judged in the light of the fact that the total number of officials of the UPU was fourteen.

The representatives of Brazil and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics expressed satisfaction with the explanations given.

In reply to a point raised by Mr. TOMLINSON (UNITED STATES OF AMERICA), Mr. Perez-GUERRERO (SECRETARIAT) said that neither the General Assembly nor the Fifth Committee had taken any specific action concerning the personnel policy of the specialized agencies, but there was an Article similar to the one proposed by the Secretariat for the UPU in all four of the draft agreements with specialized agencies that were to be presented to the General Assembly during the present session.

He suggested that the essence of the question was contained in the Franco-British text, if it was approved on the understanding that it left the door open for further development in that field.

DECISION: Article X of the Franco-British text was unanimously adopted.

The meeting rose at 6:05 p.m.