

United Nations

**ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL**

Nations Unies ^{RESTRICTED}

**CONSEIL
ECONOMIQUE
ET SOCIAL**

E/CONF/POST/P.C/W.18
17 December 1946
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE EIGHTEETH MEETING OF
POSTAL EXPERTS

Held at Lake Success, New York, on Monday, 16 December 1946, at 3:00 p.m.

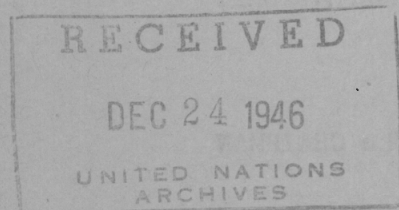
Chairman: Mr. D. J. Lidbury (United Kingdom)
Vice-Chairman: Mr. Jiminez (Chile)
Rapporteur: Mr. Le Mouel (France)
Universal Postal
Union Observers: Mr. Fulke Radice (Deputy-Director of the
International Bureau)
Mr. E. Zaldua (Secretary of the International
Bureau)
Secretariat: Mr. Perez Guerrero (Director of the Division of
Co-ordination and Liaison of the
Economic and Social Department)
Mr. B. Lukac (Director of the Transport and
Communications Division)

1. Substitution for Article 7, 8, 9 and 10 (paragraph 1) of the
Secretariat Draft (E/CONF/POST/P.C/1).

The CHAIRMAN opened the discussion and proposed confining it to the general points of a Canadian draft text (E/CONF/POST/P.C/W.15). He recalled that the French-British draft text also aimed at substituting a single Article for Articles 7, 8, 9 and 10 in the draft prepared by the Secretariat, and he considered that the Canadian draft expressed the same idea in a still more concise form.

Mr. Perez GUERRERO (SECRETARIAT) set forth the reasons which had militated in favour of the inclusion of Articles 7, 8, 9 and 10 in the draft.

/He recalled



The CHAIRMAN proposed referring this matter to the negotiating committee in order not to involve the discussion in particular points.

Mr. Perez-GUERRERO (SECRETARIAT) considered that the substance of paragraph 1 of Article 10 was embodied in the Canadian text while paragraph 2 regarding the authorization to request advisory opinions could be omitted as a result of the discussions in the Sixth Committee. He added that the Canadian text also included the sense of paragraph 9. He proposed postponing this examination until the discussions were more advanced in order not to anticipate the decisions of the Congress and of the Economic and Social Council.

The CHAIRMAN also thought that it would be more proper to postpone the discussion and, expressing the wishes of the Commission, proposed to make no mention of paragraph 2, Article 10, of the Secretariat draft.

2. Tentative Draft of Possible Modifications to be Made in Title I of the Convention.

Mr. Le MOUEL (RAPPORTEUR) explained that the Commission had before it a draft of reforms to the structure of the Bureau.

He referred to document E/CONF/POST/P.C/W.3 for examination.

He was of the opinion that it was not for the Commission to take a decision and that it should confine itself to an examination and that all alterations should come from the Congress itself.

He made the following comments on certain Articles:

Article 1. He considered this Article purposeless considering that the question was settled by paragraph 2 of the draft agreement already adopted.

Articles 2 and 2a. He considered that the words, "brought into relationship" should be.

Article 9. In this connection he pointed out that quite a new idea had emerged: the substitution of the International Bureau for the Government of the Swiss Confederation in diplomatic actions.

/Article 12

like PICAQ and UNESCO, he considered the establishment of a body necessary in order to ensure the continuity of the Union in the interval between two Congresses.

He recalled that PICAQ and UNESCO already had a similar body.

With the agreement of the Committee he proposed to work out a plan which would be completed in Paris and submitted before the Congress met. He asked the Committee's opinion.

Mr. LUKAC (SECRETARIAT) emphasized that it had not been the Secretariat's idea to provide a basis for discussion by its text. He added that he had not wished to give the Bureau excessive powers and in conclusion he agreed with the Rapporteur's idea of having a Council of a permanent character.

Mr. Le MOUËL (FRANCE) (RAPPORTEUR) replying to a question by Mr. FONTAINA (URUGUAY) stated that the Bureau would exist as an executive body in spite of the setting up of this Council.

Mr. TURNBULL (CANADA) wondered if the Member States of the Universal Postal Union would be prepared to delegate their powers to this Council. He thought not. Referring to certain gaps in the present procedure, he proposed postponing the discussion. Whilst recognizing that if the working of the organization showed defects it must be altered, he pointed out, nevertheless that if the Swiss Government ceased to play its part, this would create a gap which would have to be filled by the Council; he doubted however the necessity of putting an end to the share taken by the Swiss Government.

The CHAIRMAN gave an assurance that there was no question of voting on this point which was one to be settled exclusively by the Universal Postal Union itself. He stressed the desire of the Secretary-General to develop a body responsible for maintaining close relations between the Union and the United Nations. He considered that the Congress of the Universal Postal Union could decide that these functions would be carried out by the Bureau or by an administrative Council meeting once or twice a year but without discretionary powers.

/Mr. TURNBULL

The CHAIRMAN noting that the Commission was not in a position to discuss the matter now, expressed the wish that the different governments should signify that they were ready to put the decisions taken into force and should provide the Congress which will meet in Paris with a concrete proposal to this effect.

The meeting rose at 5:00 p.m.
