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Chairman: Mr. Eduard MEZINCESCU (Romania).

In the absence of the Chairman, Mr. Farhâdi (Afghanistan), Vice-Chairman, took the Chair.

AGENDA ITEM 76

Measures designed to promote among youth the ideas of peace, mutual respect and understanding between peoples (A/4442, A/C.3/L.896, A/C.3/L.898) (continued)

1. Mr. RAYMOND (International Labour Organisation) said that, in response to requests by several delegations, he would state the ILO's position concerning the draft resolution on measures designed to promote among youth the ideas of peace, mutual respect and understanding between peoples (A/C.3/L.896). Needless to say, the ILO attached the utmost importance to the objectives set forth in the Romanian draft resolution. Over the past forty years, its concern with the problems of youth had taken a variety of practical forms. It had built up a body of international standards containing principles to govern the training and employment of young workers. Those standards had exerted a remarkable influence on the evolution of national policy all over the world. Since the end of the war, the priority which had been accorded to youth problems had been evidenced by the special attention devoted to them at the International Labour Conference held at Paris in 1945. The resolution adopted on that occasion^{1/} was a veritable Youth Charter; it had set the stage for the intensified and diversified activity which had characterized the post-war period.

2. Moreover, the first item on the agenda of the forty-fourth session of the International Labour Conference, held at Geneva in 1960, had dealt with youth and work. Although the discussions had mainly centred on employment problems, attention had, of course, also been given to such questions as the attitude of youth towards social and political institutions at the national and international level, and particularly its integration within the community. In his report on the subject, submitted to the International Labour Conference at its last session, Mr. Morse, Director-General of the ILO, had emphasized that one of the basic needs of youth was to belong to the community

^{1/}International Labour Conference, Twenty-seventh Session, Paris, 1945, Record of Proceedings, appendix XIII, resolution 8.

and to believe in its purpose and in its future; he had said:

"While this is an underlying need for all human beings, it is a particularly important requisite for young people because of their natural urge to be linked with a cause to which they can contribute their boundless energies and devotion. This places upon us an obligation to re-examine critically the aims and purposes of our national and international society. Are we building and operating a structure which can command the sympathy and respect of youth? Are we employing methods which can gain their trust and ensure their adherence? Have we a purpose which can secure their dedication? The response to these questions must come from each national social conscience. Internationally, however, the ILO has a vast field of competence in which it must provide satisfactory replies to these searching queries. As has been repeatedly emphasized, youth problems are the concern of society as a whole and the youth problems of today are simply a harbinger of the social problems of all society tomorrow. The ILO must do its full share to ensure that youth can have confidence in society and in its future."^{2/}

3. In his statement to the Conference on 21 June 1960, Mr. Morse had reiterated that theme and had said:

"Dedication and struggle are its essence. But dedication to what, struggle for what? In a cause, I would say, for the service of all people. In the struggle of the peoples of Africa, Asia, the Middle East and Latin America to create new societies in which they may live in personal freedom, in dignity and in peace. In a cause which will carry these peoples of the emerging countries beyond the immediate goals of nationalism which are now all but attained, towards a fuller enrichment by their own efforts, through their own personalities, of the lives of all peoples. In a cause which will renew the spirit of dedication among the peoples of Europe and North America and the Soviet Union, giving their work meaning through their participation in a common effort for the service of all humanity."^{3/}

4. Those two quotations showed the importance the ILO attached to the education of youth in the spirit of peace, mutual respect and understanding between peoples. It would therefore be glad to collaborate, to the best of its ability, in any action which the General Assembly might decide to take in that respect.

5. Mr. BAHNEV (Bulgaria) said that Bulgaria's struggle against fascism had demonstrated what a powerful force the youth of a country could be. The Bulgarian

^{2/}International Labour Conference, Forty-fourth Session, Geneva, 1960, Report of the Director-General, Part I: Youth and Work (International Labour Office, Geneva, 1960), p. 109.

^{3/}International Labour Conference, Forty-fourth Session, Geneva, 1960, Provisional Record, No. 37 (XLIV-1960), twenty-sixth sitting, p. 453.

partisan movement had included 80 per cent of the country's young people. Many of them had been brutally killed, and large numbers of students and even school children had been imprisoned. Youth was a force that could and must be used to improve society and to assure the future well-being of the people. His Government had therefore devoted its efforts, since the end of the war, to the education of the young. The percentage of students completing their secondary and higher education was now higher in Bulgaria than in any other country. English journalists, who had visited Bulgaria, had reported that what had impressed them most was the love of young people, who were in fact a privileged class. They had also said that the spirit of the young people in Bulgaria was bound to stimulate the country's progress.

6. In the capitalist countries, on the other hand, young people were dominated by a sense of discouragement and futility. The art and literature of the "nouvelle vague" reflected the deep dissatisfaction of the younger generation and the sights seen in streets and public places were evidence of the moral decadence of some young people, such as the beatniks. Those attitudes were fostered by the cinema and the other information media, which encouraged the young to worship the golden calf and did not teach them love for other peoples. In some countries the young were indoctrinated with the spirit of revenge. While it would be difficult to secure uniformity of education in countries belonging to different systems, it was possible to give the young people a common ideal. The UNESCO representative had supplied some interesting information in his statement at the 1052nd meeting, but had not given a sufficiently detailed picture of what UNESCO was doing to bring together young people from countries with different economic and social systems. The General Assembly should direct its efforts towards a solution of the problem raised by the Romanian delegation.

7. It should not be forgotten that Hitler had distorted the thinking and warped the judgement of German youth before starting the Second World War. In view of the destructive power of modern weapons, it would seem insane to allow anyone an opportunity to follow Hitler's example. The succeeding generations which the peoples of the United Nations had, in the Preamble of the Charter, undertaken to save from the scourge of war were the youth of today. It was essential that young people should be encouraged to maintain friendly relations despite the differences between the economic and social systems of their respective countries, but the General Assembly had not taken any steps in that direction. Although the Assembly had adopted resolution 1394 (XIV) on juvenile delinquency and the Declaration of the Rights of the Child (resolution 1386 (XIV)), and UNICEF was doing practical work on behalf of children, the only texts referring directly to the question under consideration by the Committee were article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and article 14 of the draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.^{4/} Those two texts, however, dealt only with education and the first appeared in a mere declaration that was not binding while the second was part of a draft which was not yet in force. The Romanian draft resolution (A/C.3/L.896) was therefore a very timely proposal. His delegation was in favour of all the practical steps it advocated, in par-

ticular the organization of international meetings and the drawing up of a convention which would be drafted by a committee set up for that purpose.

8. Turning to the two-Power amendments (A/C.3/L.898), he said that they would have the effect, as was perhaps the intention, of preventing the Assembly from adopting an effective draft resolution. If the amendments were adopted, every provision relating to practical measures would be removed from the draft resolution. On the basis of the report by the Director-General of UNESCO (E/3352 and Corr.1 and Add.1) prepared pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 803 (XXX), the sponsors of the amendments were trying to make the draft resolution meaningless. The fourth amendment, which urged the need for "the free and unrestricted exchange of ideas and opinions", weakened the Romanian proposal, which was intended to promote among youth, not just any ideas, but the ideas of peace, mutual respect and understanding between peoples. It might also be asked why the two sponsors were anxious to prevent meetings between young people. The experience of Bulgarian youth showed that such meetings should be multiplied to imbue young people with a spirit of international co-operation.

9. Miss ADDISON (Ghana) commended the Romanian delegation for introducing a draft resolution (A/C.3/L.896) on the highly important item under discussion.

10. It was essential to prepare young people for the tasks which awaited them and to bring them up in a spirit of understanding, tolerance, friendship among peoples and universal peace. Governments, voluntary organizations and, above all, parents had heavy responsibilities and obligations to meet in that regard so that future generations would see a better world.

11. Ghana had a Youth Council, a voluntary, national, non-sectarian and non-political body whose purpose was to co-ordinate and improve organizations concerned with youth welfare and to help young people to understand their responsibilities and shoulder them by learning to work together at the local, national or international level. More than fourteen organizations, with a total membership of 150,000, were affiliated with the Council, whose chairman was a minister of religion. One of the Council's functions was to promote youth exchange programmes both within the country and abroad. It also organized youth forums and training courses for youth group leaders and members.

12. One of the Ghana Youth Council's affiliated organizations, which was making a particularly significant contribution to international and interracial understanding, was the Voluntary Work Camps Association. Founded in 1956, the Association had already organized twenty-eight camps lasting ten days or more and some seventy week-end camps for the purpose of fostering a spirit of understanding among representatives of all classes, without regard to race, creed or religion, and giving young people an opportunity to devote their leisure time to the community. The Association had co-operated with an organization from the United States in undertaking an African student work camps project designed to foster mutual understanding among all African countries. In addition, the Voluntary Work Camps Association of Ghana had organized training courses for trainees from Nigeria, Cameroun, Togo, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Gambia and Dahomey, in 1958, and as a result similar associations had been formed in the first five of those countries.

^{4/}See Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Session, Annexes, agenda item 33, document A/3764 and Add.1, para. 50.

Another training course, covering Africa south of the Sahara, was to be given from July to September 1961. In 1959, seven members of the Association had represented Ghana at youth work camps and seminars in Nigeria, the Sudan, Norway, Switzerland, Poland and Australia. In 1960, two Ghanaian representatives, also members of the Association, had attended the twelfth Conference of Organization of International Voluntary Work Camps at Nis, Yugoslavia, and had later visited several European camps.

13. Turning to the Romanian draft resolution, she noted that it made no mention of what had been done by UNESCO, non-governmental organizations and Member States to achieve the purposes of the resolution. She drew attention in that connexion to the programme sponsored by The New York Herald Tribune, which played host each year to students from all over the world, and to the activities of the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), which aimed, *inter alia*, at promoting understanding among nations, disseminating information about youth organizations, facilitating exchanges of views between young people from all countries, helping to develop youth activities and expand the work of voluntary youth organizations, and establishing and maintaining relations with international organizations, both governmental and non-governmental. The World Assembly of Youth took an active part in the programmes sponsored by UNESCO and it had conducted a survey for that organization dealing with methods of selecting and training youth leaders. The preamble of the Romanian draft resolution should draw attention to the work being done by UNESCO and by governmental and non-governmental organizations and the operative part should include a request to those bodies to continue their efforts and expand their programmes.

14. Her delegation doubted whether the drafting of a convention and the setting up of a committee of experts, as proposed in operative paragraphs 3 and 4 of the draft resolution, were the best and only means of achieving the desired results. All individuals should regard the task of bringing up young people as a moral obligation instead of waiting for the drafting of a convention or the deliberations of a committee before tackling it. Her delegation would suggest that the Economic and Social Council be invited to request UNESCO to study the whole question raised by the draft resolution and submit appropriate recommendations. With regard to operative paragraph 2, her delegation would like regional exchanges to have precedence over international exchanges. She also thought that UNESCO and the ILO should be entrusted with the co-ordination of the suggestions advanced by the various delegations, since the item under consideration fell within their purview.

15. The aim of the draft resolution was not so much to inculcate certain ideas in young people as to encourage them to put those ideas into practice and to induce them to adopt certain standards of thinking and behaviour. She thought the use of the word "ideals" instead of the word "ideas" would be more appropriate for that purpose. Moreover, the setting of ideals would go a long way to enable States—and hence the voluntary organizations within States—to devise positive measures in favour of peace, mutual respect and understanding between peoples. With regard to the third preambular paragraph, her delegation would prefer, instead of the present wording, the more specific wording suggested by the representative of

India (1052nd meeting), which also had the advantage of incorporating one of the amendments submitted by the United Kingdom and the United States (A/C.3/L.898). Besides that, in speaking of the "ideals" to be imparted to young people, it would be more desirable to use the adjective "orientated" when referring to their education. If the first part of operative paragraph 2 was added to as suggested by the representative of India and if the word "free" was inserted before the word "meetings", the two-Power amendment to that paragraph would be covered and the text would be brought into line with the Declaration of the Rights of the Child.

16. Economic and Social Council resolution 803 (XXX) was only concerned with one aspect of the means for promoting among youth the ideas of peace, understanding and mutual respect between peoples. The Council should be asked to request UNESCO and the ILO to study the item under consideration, taking into account the resolution to be adopted and the views expressed by the Committee members at the current session, and to submit a report on the subject.

17. She hoped that the Romanian delegation would amend its draft resolution so that her own delegation could give its full support to the text. Young people would hardly be able to adopt the high standards of behaviour set for them unless adults gave them a good example by word and deed.

18. Mr. ASIROGLU (Turkey) recalled the recent commemoration of the twelfth anniversary of the proclamation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and deplored that after twelve years of effort the States Members of the United Nations were still far from having achieved their common ideal of understanding, tolerance and peace. Speeches and resolutions had not enabled the nations to bring about the reign of peace to which all mankind aspired. One of the main reasons for that failure was undoubtedly the lack of realism, and also of frankness and sincerity, with which problems were approached.

19. While young people today did commit many crimes or offences, it was the adults who were guilty of the crime against which the Romanian draft resolution (A/C.3/L.896) was directed, i.e. the dissemination of militaristic ideas, and the violation of the principles laid down in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the Declaration of the Rights of the Child. However paradoxical it might seem, his delegation wondered whether the Romanian delegation would not have done better to submit a draft resolution aiming at the promotion among adults of the ideas of peace, mutual respect and understanding between peoples. It would in fact be difficult to inculcate such noble principles in young people while the society in which they lived tended to show scant respect for them, and while some countries used their official organs of information to disseminate false or tendentious news, which impaired diplomatic relations and intensified ill-will between peoples. The adults should reform themselves before undertaking the education of young people for peace. The young of all countries would learn to understand and respect each other only if they lived in a calm and peaceful atmosphere.

20. In raising that aspect of the question, he was not seeking to minimize the value of the Romanian draft resolution. He simply wished to draw the Committee's attention to the difficulties which it had to face, so that it might try to overcome them. His delegation

thought that, with some substantial improvements, the Romanian draft resolution might be very useful. If the resolution was to be effective, however, an effort must be made to create an atmosphere of confidence among peoples and to ensure that the meetings contemplated would be free from any ideological or political propaganda. In that connexion, he recalled the cordial meetings devoid of all ulterior political or ideological motives, held in his country in 1935 between Romanian and Turkish students.

21. The Turkish Republic was a country devoted to the ideas of freedom, peace, justice and equality among the nations. The slogan of its founder, Atatürk, "peace in the fatherland, peace in the world" had become the guiding principle of its population and the basis of its education. The idea of peace inculcated in Turkish children was not, however, that of peace at any price, but that of an honourable peace, which alone was compatible with real freedom and independence.

22. At the time of the two international youth congresses which he had had the opportunity to follow closely in Europe, he had noted that meetings of that kind did not all tend to promote peace and that, under cover of philosophical discussion and exchanges of ideas and opinions, the young people who participated were sometimes oriented towards quite definite political ends. The Turks favoured the free exchange of ideas and freedom of opinion, but they could not allow that freedom to be paralysed by the stupefying influence of propaganda.

23. His delegation was not convinced of the need for setting up a committee to draft the principles of a convention designed to promote among youth the ideals of peace, mutual respect and understanding between peoples. The organs of the United Nations and the specialized agencies had, in his view, the requisite knowledge and experience to carry out that task. UNESCO, which was particularly competent in that field, could be requested to devote a study to that question and to determine, on the basis of that study and of the opinion expressed on the subject by the Economic and Social Council, the measures which might suitably be taken. General Assembly resolution 1397 (XIV), Economic and Social Council resolution 803 (XXX), and the text recently adopted (998th meeting) on the teaching of the purposes and principles, the structure and activities of the United Nations and its related agencies (A/C.3/L.850/Rev.1), all entrusted UNESCO with a task of that kind, thus showing that UNESCO was regarded by the United Nations organs as the agency best suited to deal with everything that concerned the dissemination of ideas of peace. His delegation shared the point of view expressed by the representatives of India and the United Kingdom (1052nd meeting) regarding operative paragraphs 3 and 4 of the draft resolution under discussion, and it would vote in favour of the two-Power amendments (A/C.3/L.898).

24. In conclusion, he stressed that neither the Charter of the United Nations, nor the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, nor any other international instrument was capable of restoring peace as long as the peoples did not respect the dignity and worth of the human person.

Mr. Mezincescu (Romania) took the Chair.

25. Begum Aziz AHMED (Pakistan) thanked the Romanian delegation for putting before the Committee

a draft resolution (A/C.3/L.896) which highlighted the importance of bringing up youth in a spirit of peace, mutual respect and understanding.

26. She emphasized how impressionable young people were, and the usefulness of travel and contacts which opened their minds and made them more tolerant. At the same time, it should not be forgotten that young people—even brothers and sisters—differed and that it was necessary to leave room for the idiosyncrasies of human nature.

27. Unfortunately, the less developed countries could not receive as many young people from other countries as they would like to. She deplored that state of affairs, which prevented the young people of the developed countries from acquainting themselves with the way in which most of the peoples of the world lived and, perhaps, from appreciating their own advantages more. The compilation of authentic travel books would be an excellent means of remedying that situation. UNICEF had already published books of that kind, and UNESCO was now revising textbooks so that they would give a more accurate picture of the customs and cultures of various countries. Those two organizations might consider the possibility of keeping such books up to date, in the present fast-changing times.

28. By teaching young people to respect other nations and to understand their aspirations, their difficulties, their hopes and their fears, the United Nations might not be able to save succeeding generations from war but at least it would have tried.

29. Her delegation agreed with the sponsors of the amendments (A/C.3/L.898) to the Romanian draft resolution (A/C.3/L.896) that the word "ideals" was more in keeping with the aim of the draft resolution than the word "ideas". She considered, also, that the third preambular paragraph would be out of place in a resolution devoted to the ideals of peace, mutual respect and understanding. In the last preambular paragraph, the phrase proposed by the United States and the United Kingdom to replace the words "relations and meetings between and exchanges of young people" was broader in scope than the latter, as it would include meetings as well as such items as literature, magazines and so forth. Moreover, informal get-togethers would prove more effective than mass rallies. As the responsibility for the education of children fell primarily on parents and teachers, the wording of operative paragraphs 1 and 2 suggested by the two Powers was more satisfactory than the original text. Lastly, her delegation considered it inappropriate to draw up a convention to promote ideals which fell entirely outside the legal sphere. It therefore felt that it would be advisable to delete operative paragraphs 3, 4 and 6 of the Romanian draft, and to amend paragraph 5 along the lines suggested by the two Powers. The Pakistan delegation would vote for the proposed new paragraph 4, which would make it possible to take the kind of action that really promoted the ideals of peace.

30. Mr. AGOLLI (Albania) said he was glad that the item under discussion had been placed on the Committee's agenda. He would vote in favour of the Romanian draft resolution (A/C.3/L.896). Encouraging the young to serve the cause of peace and understanding between peoples was a task as noble as it was important, and one which, while chiefly the responsibility of educational institutions, was also that of the family and of youth organizations. It was as part of

their regular education that young people should be taught to love all men, whatever their colour, creed or nationality, and to work together with the youth of the whole world to strengthen peace in order to ensure for themselves and all mankind a happy future and to make it possible for all to devote their energy to achieving economic and cultural progress.

31. Strongly attached as it was to that idea of universal co-operation, his Government took a warm interest in the life and aspirations of the younger generation. Although at the end of the nazi and fascist occupation the proportion of illiterates in Albania had been very high, illiteracy had now completely disappeared among those under the age of forty; at present, 300,000 people were taking courses, and universities and other institutions of higher learning had been established whose programmes were steadily being enlarged. In Albania, young people, whatever their field of activity, wished to build a new life and a lasting peace, and worked enthusiastically for the country's economic and cultural development. The results achieved in the cultural sphere bore witness to Albania's general progress. Remembering the destruction and the losses in human lives and property caused by the Second World War—and it would be difficult indeed to forget them—the greatest vigilance must be maintained in order to thwart the efforts of those in certain Western countries who were undermining peace and friendship among nations and sought to imbue young people with the spirit of revenge, trying by that means to provoke a new war which would be worse than the last one and from which youth would be the first to suffer.

32. The Romanian draft resolution, which was motivated by noble considerations, represented a step forward, and rightly emphasized the usefulness of meetings of young people from all the countries of the world, for such meetings tended to promote peaceful coexistence. Albania was doing everything possible to participate in international youth activities, including the sending of delegations of young people to international meetings and festivals. It also considered that regional meetings, such as the meeting held at Bucharest in 1960, which had brought together delegations from the Balkan and Adriatic countries, could be very useful. His delegation was in favour of the preparation of an international convention, for such an instrument would contribute to the dissemination of ideas of peace among youth. The young people of Albania hoped that the General Assembly would adopt the Romanian draft in view of their conviction that the peaceful aspirations of the peoples could be achieved through education.

33. The amendments submitted by the United Kingdom and the United States (A/C.3/L.898) would empty the Romanian draft resolution of its content, since they called for the deletion of operative paragraphs 3, 4 and 6 and a complete change of operative paragraph 2. If they were accepted nothing positive would have been done; the Committee would merely have adopted a vague and general statement. By deciding, on the contrary, to prepare a convention, Member States would take effective action and meet their responsibilities. He did not think the matter should be left to UNESCO: the problem was so important that it would be better for the General Assembly itself to study it. Lastly, it would be inappropriate to delete the word "States", since the essential role in the field under considera-

tion fell on Governments. His delegation reserved the right to speak again if necessary.

34. Mr. KARAPANDZA (Yugoslavia) outlined the chief measures taken in his country by the Government, political and social organizations and youth groups to promote among youth the ideas of peace, mutual respect and understanding between peoples. The establishment of closer ties between the young people of Yugoslavia and those of other countries was one of the goals of the youth organizations. They sought to achieve that goal by various means, such as the exchange of delegates and lecturers, the establishment of study groups and the organization of meetings, conferences and cultural and sports events. In a spirit of universality, Yugoslav youth sought to establish contacts with the young people of all countries, whatever their ideologies or political opinions. Thus, it maintained regular contact with eighty foreign organizations and political movements and co-operated with more than 120 youth organizations concerned with various fields of activity.

35. For many years, Yugoslav youth organizations had been taking concrete action to promote understanding and friendship between the young people of Yugoslavia and those of other countries. In addition to the activities he had just mentioned, he referred to the international summer camps organized in tourist centres, which provided an opportunity for personal contacts, the exchange of ideas and discussions of various social problems. A seminar entitled "The University of Today" was held annually at Dubrovnik, where students and lecturers from all countries studied problems related to education, student social life and international professional and cultural co-operation. Work camps were another excellent way of bringing together young people of different countries. More than 15,000 young men and women from all parts of the world, not only Europe, had so far taken part in such projects in Yugoslavia, while young Yugoslavs had stayed at similar camps abroad.

36. The number of foreign students pursuing regular studies or specialist courses in Yugoslavia was growing every year and the number of scholarships granted by the Yugoslav Government to such students, particularly those from Asia and Africa, had increased considerably. Those students also received free books and language courses. Like Yugoslav students, they were entitled to free education, accommodation in student hostels and social security benefits.

37. All the measures he had cited demonstrated the great interest of the young people, their organizations and the Government of Yugoslavia in the subject now before the Committee. Dissemination among youth of the ideas of peace, mutual respect and understanding between peoples was the best possible contribution to the common aim of preserving peace and promoting human progress.

38. Mr. WILLEN (Sweden) said that the importance of the question under discussion could not be denied, since all peoples had a vital stake in the preservation of peace. It was also true that public opinion should be allowed to play an active part in pressing for the peaceful solution of outstanding international problems, through the United Nations or otherwise, and in discouraging Governments from resorting to force. Lastly, no one would deny that each new generation should learn to work for a stable and peaceful world order founded on freedom and justice. On those general

principles there could only be unanimity among the members of the Third Committee, but when it came to giving practical expression to the common desire for peace and particularly to suggesting definite measures to ensure their realization, many difficulties arose. All Governments without exception declared that they wanted peace and that their policies were dictated by a desire to preserve peace, thus demonstrating how complex was the concept of peace and how difficult it was to find a generally acceptable definition of it which was more than a mere platitude.

39. However, not only a question of semantics was involved. Everyone knew that attempts were sometimes made to invoke the concept of peace in the interests of a single country or group of countries. In drafting a resolution on the matter under discussion, therefore, care should be taken to avoid complicity, or the appearance of complicity, in such attempts. If youth was to play its proper part in the preservation of peace it must, above all, be well informed of the world situation and of the new factors which made countries interdependent; it should also be made aware of the need for closer international co-operation, through the United Nations or otherwise, and of the responsibility of advanced countries to help others to achieve their economic and social aims. Only on the basis of unrestricted and reliable information could young people develop the necessary sense of responsibility towards world problems, and knowledge was undoubtedly a prerequisite of tolerance.

40. Consequently, his delegation did not consider the measures proposed in the Romanian draft resolution (A/C.3/L.896) best suited to achieve the aims he had mentioned. A simple unqualified request to States to promote among young people the idea of peace and to encourage meetings for the propagation of that idea would not make any real contribution to international understanding; it might even add to the confusion regarding the causes of the present difficulties and the means of surmounting them. For the same reasons, his delegation could not support the idea of a convention. It would have preferred the adoption of a resolution urging Governments, organizations and individuals to stimulate the interest of young people in international problems and to promote among them, in accordance with the Charter, the ideals of peace in freedom and justice, mutual respect and understanding between peoples. In view of the statement made by the representative of UNESCO, reference should be made to that agency's activities, particularly within the framework of the survey of international relations and exchanges in the fields of education, science and culture (E/3352 and Corr.1 and Add.1) and Economic and Social Council resolution 803 (XXX). A draft resolution along such lines could have been an effective reminder to all concerned that they must strive to achieve the aims stated in the title of the item under discussion. His delegation, however, preferred not to submit amendments at that late stage.

41. In conclusion, he said that his delegation's vote would be guided by the considerations he had mentioned. His delegation was anxious to ensure the greatest possible unity in the Committee on that important issue.

42. Mr. KASLIWAL (India) wished to dispel any misapprehension which might have arisen following the comments made at the previous meeting by the

representative of Ceylon, who had doubted whether the principles embodied in the Romanian draft could be given effect without a convention. If his own delegation was not in favour of a convention it was purely for reasons of timing: everyone knew that the best way to shelve a problem was to decide to draft a convention about it; there was also a risk that States would adhere to it only on certain conditions. His delegation favoured the adoption of immediate measures likely to be acceptable to all.

43. In support of his argument, the representative of Ceylon had referred to paragraphs 1177 to 1189 of the UNESCO survey (E/3352 and Corr.1 and Add.1). UNESCO, however, had at no time recommended the preparation of a convention. That was amply borne out by paragraph 1181; furthermore, paragraph 1185 of that document stated that "the adoption of a legal instrument should only follow a process, perhaps of considerable duration, through which ideas have been discussed and compared". The study of the question under discussion was still in its initial phase and therefore it did not yet seem appropriate to draw up a legal instrument. His delegation did not wish to see fifteen years pass before effective action was taken in the matter under review.

Mr. Farhâdi (Afghanistan), Vice-Chairman, took the Chair.

44. Mr. SAVINA (Italy) recalled that, in the discussion devoted to consideration of the Economic and Social Council's report (A/4415), his delegation had described (991st meeting) the efforts made by Italy to acquaint young people with international organizations, particularly the United Nations, and with the underlying spirit of those organizations and their principal objective of maintaining peace. It had at that time presented the Committee with practical suggestions and had specifically recommended meetings between teachers and students of different nationalities, in which the participants could exchange views and ideas on international co-operation and the means by which such co-operation could be strengthened. Such exchanges of ideas and opinions should, of course, be completely unhampered and be free from all political and ideological propaganda. Because it was convinced that the younger generation should be imbued with the principles of international understanding and co-operation, Italy, in conformity with the United Nations Charter and article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, had given an important place to those principles in its school and university teaching programmes. Curricula and textbooks had for a number of years been used to inculcate in children the ideas of international understanding and racial equality, and respect for other nations' contributions to progress. The students in secondary schools were required to take a course in civics which included a study of the principles and results of international co-operation. In the faculties of law and political science, a special course was given on the structure, activities and peaceful aims of international organizations. His delegation had no basic objection to operative paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Romanian draft resolution. The recommendations in those paragraphs had already been applied in Italy or had been approved by the Italian Government.

45. Reading out paragraph 6 of the explanatory memorandum presented by the Romanian delegation (A/4442), he emphasized that operative paragraphs 3, 4 and 5

of the draft resolution, in form, differed from it considerably. Whereas the explanatory memorandum simply indicated possible or desirable courses of action, the draft resolution was very specific with regard to the manner in which the problem should be solved, and assigned only a marginal role to the specialized agencies in the implementation of the programme recommended. He was convinced that adoption of the method proposed would be a mistake, since many countries, including Italy, had already taken measures to train young people in a spirit of peace and international co-operation. The problem now was to intensify and co-ordinate the various forms of international action and to facilitate the adoption of the necessary measures in every country of the world. It was a complex problem, requiring thorough examination. He asked whether it might not be appropriate to begin by gathering information on what the various countries had done or proposed to do; whether it might not be well to make a choice between the measures to be taken and then to adopt those which could be carried out swiftly, with due regard for the particular circumstances of each country; and whether it would

not be preferable to examine every aspect of the problem before deciding on what method should be followed. The only bodies which could give an adequate and impartial reply to those questions were UNESCO, which had already demonstrated its qualifications in that field, and the Economic and Social Council. Their views could be given unhurried consideration by the Third Committee at an early date. That was the only way in which rapid and substantial progress could be made in giving effect to international programmes for the education of youth.

46. For the reasons which had been given by the representatives of India and the United Kingdom, the Italian delegation was opposed to the idea of an international convention or a special committee. The question was whether the present or the coming generation of young people was to be the object of attention; only in the latter case would there be any point in an international convention. His delegation would accordingly vote for the amendments submitted by the United Kingdom and the United States (A/C.3/L.898).

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.