

assess from time to time in accordance with procedures established by the General Assembly in similar cases;

(b) To amend paragraph 4<sup>19</sup> of the terms of reference of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East to delete the above-mentioned countries therefrom as and when each of them becomes a full member of the Commission;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake such consultations and further steps as may be required to obtain the agreement of the above non-member States and the General Assembly to appropriate contributions by these States to the United Nations budget.

*781st plenary meeting,  
22 April 1954.*

## B

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Noting* that the General Assembly has determined<sup>20</sup> that Austria, Finland, Ireland, Italy and Portugal are eligible for membership in the United Nations,

1. *Decides* to amend paragraph 7<sup>21</sup> of the terms of reference of the Economic Commission for Europe to include the countries mentioned in the preambular paragraph above as members of the Commission, provided that in each case the States apply for such membership and agree to contribute annually such equitable amounts as the General Assembly shall assess from time to time in accordance with procedures established by the General Assembly in similar cases;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake such consultations and further steps as may be required to obtain the agreement of the above non-members States and the General Assembly to appropriate contributions by these States to the United Nations budget.

*781st plenary meeting,  
22 April 1954.*

## 518 (XVII). Transport and communications

### A

#### UNIFORM SYSTEM OF ROAD SIGNS AND SIGNALS

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Having examined* the communications<sup>22</sup> from the Secretary-General setting forth the results of his consultations made in pursuance of Council resolution 468 D (XV) of 15 April 1953 concerning the preparation of the Protocol on a Uniform System of Road Signs and Signals,

*Noting* that many governments have not yet submitted their observations on the Protocol and that a considerable divergence of views is shown by those observations which have been received,

<sup>19</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>20</sup> See General Assembly resolutions 296 A (IV), 296 C (IV), 296 D (IV), 296 E (IV) and 296 H (IV).

<sup>21</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirteenth Session, Supplement No. 1*, p. 98.

<sup>22</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Seventeenth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 10, documents E/2523 and Add.1.

1. *Requests* the Transport and Communications Commission to place this matter upon the agenda of its next session with a view to the preparation of appropriate recommendations as to any further action which may be deemed desirable;

2. *Further requests* all governments which have not already done so to submit their observations to the Secretary-General as promptly as possible.

*757th plenary meeting,  
31 March 1954.*

## B

#### POLLUTION OF SEA-WATER

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* its resolution 468 B (XV) on pollution of sea-water,

*Taking note* of the report<sup>23</sup> of the Secretary-General which informs the Council that the United Kingdom Government has convened an *ad hoc* diplomatic conference in London for 26 April next on this subject, and that any convention which might be agreed upon at this conference would be brought within the scope of the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization if and when it is set up,

*Noting furthermore* that the Secretary-General has been invited to be represented at this conference,

*Instructs* the Secretary-General:

(a) To postpone further action with respect to the convening of the committee of experts foreseen in resolution 468 B (XV), pending the outcome of the conference;

(b) To report to the Council at its eighteenth session on the results of the conference to enable the Council to decide whether it is any longer necessary to establish a committee of experts for this purpose.

*757th plenary meeting,  
31 March 1954.*

## C

#### SITUATION WITH RESPECT TO RATIFICATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL MARITIME CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* its resolution 468 C (XV) on the situation with respect to ratification of the Convention on the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the report<sup>24</sup> to the United Nations Organization by the fourteen governments which have accepted the Convention on the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization, which was annexed to the report by the Secretary-General on this subject,

*Invites* the Secretary-General to pursue his consultations with the governments of those eligible States which have not so far ratified the Convention with a view:

<sup>23</sup> *Ibid.*, document E/2522.

<sup>24</sup> *Ibid.*, document E/2520, annex II.

(a) To ascertaining from each of them how far they have advanced with ratification measures;

(b) To hastening, in so far as it is possible, the entry into force of the above Convention.

757th plenary meeting,  
31 March 1954.

**519 (XVII). Report of the Interim Co-ordinating Committee for International Commodity Arrangements on the question of a study group on steel**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

Takes note of the report <sup>25</sup> of the Interim Co-ordinating Committee for International Commodity Arrangements on the question of a study group on steel.

791st plenary meeting,  
30 April 1954.

**520 (XVII). Draft convention on the enforcement of international arbitral awards**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

Taking note of the draft convention <sup>26</sup> on the enforcement of international arbitral awards submitted by the International Chamber of Commerce,

1. Establishes an *Ad Hoc* Committee composed of representatives of eight Member States, to be designated by the President of the Council;

2. Invites each of the governments represented on the *Ad Hoc* Committee to designate as its representative a person having special qualifications in that field;

3. Instructs the *Ad Hoc* Committee to study the matter raised by the International Chamber of Commerce in the light of all the relevant considerations and to report its conclusions to the Council, submitting such proposals as it may deem appropriate, including, if it sees fit, a draft convention.

763rd plenary meeting,  
6 April 1954.

**521 (XVII). Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance**

**A**

FINANCIAL PROCEDURES FOR THE EXPANDED PROGRAMME OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

*The Economic and Social Council,*

Having noted the report <sup>27</sup> of the Technical Assistance Committee, relating to the financial procedures for the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance,

1. Notes that the Technical Assistance Committee, in pursuance of the authority contained in Council resolution 400 (XIII), has decided to increase the Special Reserve Fund by adding thereto an additional amount of \$3,000,000 from contributions paid during 1954;

<sup>25</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Seventeenth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 9, document E/2537.

<sup>26</sup> See document E/C.2/373.

<sup>27</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Seventeenth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 11, documents E/2558 and Corr.1.

2. Notes that the Technical Assistance Committee has recommended that the Special Reserve Fund should be reconstituted as a Working Capital and Reserve Fund, that it should be increased to a normal level of 50 per cent of total pledges for the preceding year and that the necessary funds should be retained for this purpose from contributions to be received in 1955 and 1956 towards a target level provisionally fixed at \$12,000,000;

3. Notes that the Technical Assistance Committee has approved the following measures to increase the financial stability of the programme:

(a) Each participating organization shall keep its obligations at all times within the limit of funds earmarked for it by the Technical Assistance Board;

(b) In each financial period, earmarkings shall initially be based on the most conservative estimates of contributions likely to be available during the programme year in order that withdrawal of programme authorizations shall not become necessary because of shortage of funds. Supplementary earmarkings shall be made as and when the receipt of contributions justifies them;

(c) Each participating organization shall limit its forward contractual commitments and residual liquidating liabilities to its *pro rata* share of the Working Capital and Reserve Fund when that Fund is fully established;

(d) Pending the full establishment of the Working Capital and Reserve Fund, each participating organization shall limit its forward contractual commitments and residual liquidating liabilities to its *pro rata* share of \$12,000,000;

4. Notes also that the Technical Assistance Board intends to keep under notice and examine in the light of experience the possibility of introducing a rule that contracts (whether falling due for payment in the current, or in future, financial periods) would not be entered into until such time as sufficient income has been received to cover in full the liabilities arising from such contracts;

5. Recommends to the General Assembly that it give approval to the following arrangements:

(a) The Special Reserve Fund shall be reconstituted as a Working Capital and Reserve Fund, which will serve as a continuing operating reserve and which may be used for the following purposes:

(i) To make advances to participating organizations pending the receipt of contributions from governments, for the purpose of initiating or continuing approved programmes within an organization's approved earmarkings;

(ii) To improve and facilitate currency management, by making currencies available for exchange with organizations' allocated currencies, for the purchase of needed currencies pending collection of particular contributions, and for advances of currencies which would otherwise have to be purchased by organizations with dollars;

(iii) For such other purposes as may be approved by the Technical Assistance Committee from time to time;

(b) The size of the Working Capital and Reserve Fund shall be determined from time to time by the Technical Assistance Committee;