

(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 ²⁵ 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 ²⁶ 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 ²⁷ 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;

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

²⁶ See document E/C.2/373.

²⁷ 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;

(c) Withdrawals from the Working Capital and Reserve Fund shall be replaced before the end of the financial period in which they are made.

761st plenary meeting,
5 April 1954.

B

SYSTEM OF ALLOCATION OF FUNDS UNDER THE EXPANDED PROGRAMME OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the report²⁸ of the Technical Assistance Committee,

Bearing in mind the opinion of the Secretary-General and of the Technical Assistance Committee that the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination should be given the opportunity to consider and comment on the questions relating to the basis for the allocation of funds before a final decision is taken in that respect,

1. Considers that in the further examination of this question the following possible alternatives should be taken into account:

Alternative (a): Automatic allocations would be eliminated altogether and the programmes submitted by the Technical Assistance Board would be approved each year by the Technical Assistance Committee;

Alternative (b): The Technical Assistance Committee would determine each year, on the basis of comprehensive country plans and a careful review of existing and proposed programmes, the percentage of available funds to be allocated for the following year to each of the participating organizations, as well as the percentage to be reserved for allocation by the Technical Assistance Board;

Alternative (c): The present system of automatic allocations would be gradually modified in order to reduce the proportion which, at the date of the present resolution, is distributed among the participating organizations under the system of automatic allocations by 25 per cent each year until completely eliminated;

Alternative (d): The present system of automatic allocations would be retained in some such form as the following:

(i) Twenty-five per cent of the available funds would be in fact at the disposal of the Executive Chairman and of the Technical Assistance Board, for allocation by them at their discretion in accordance with the principles established by the Technical Assistance Committee and more particularly with that of the drawing up of technical assistance programmes at the country level;

(ii) A substantial percentage of up to 50 per cent of the available funds would be put at the disposal of the Executive Chairman and of the Technical Assistance Board, for allocation among the participating organizations in accordance with the principles established by the Technical Assistance Committee and more particularly with that of the drawing up of technical assistance programmes at the country level;

2. Invites the Technical Assistance Committee to resume the consideration of the question of the allocation

²⁸ *Ibid.*

of funds in the light of the debates of the Council on the matter, with a view to formulating proposals which the Council could consider at its eighteenth session.

761st plenary meeting,
5 April 1954.

C

REPORTS OF THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE BOARD TO THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE

The Economic and Social Council,

Having noted the report²⁹ of the Technical Assistance Committee approving, subject to appropriate action by the Council, the modifications³⁰ suggested by the Technical Assistance Board in the system of regular reports of the Board to the Committee,

Decides to amend its resolution 222 A (IX) by deleting sub-paragraph 3 (e) thereof.

761st plenary meeting,
5 April 1954.

522 (XVII). Freedom of information

A

REPORTS AND STUDIES ON FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

The Economic and Social Council,

Taking note with appreciation of the report³¹ on freedom of information submitted by the Rapporteur, Mr. Salvador P. López, who was appointed in his personal capacity at the fourteenth session of the Council for an experimental period of one year;

1. Requests the Secretary-General, in conjunction with the specialized agencies concerned, particularly the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Telecommunication Union, and in consultation with professional associations and information enterprises, to prepare for submission to the Council at its nineteenth session:

(a) A concrete programme of action to promote among news personnel everywhere a wider knowledge of the work of the United Nations, of foreign countries and of international affairs, with a view to promoting friendly relations among nations based on the Purposes and Principles of the Charter;

(b) A world-wide survey of current principles and practices involved in the censorship of outgoing news dispatches;

(c) A study of the legal aspects of the rights and responsibilities of the media of information;

(d) A study of the problem of the protection of sources of information of news personnel, taking into account the preliminary report³² already prepared by the Secretary-General on the subject;

²⁹ *Ibid.*

³⁰ See document E/TAC/33.

³¹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixteenth Session, Supplement No. 12.*

³² See document E/CN.4/Sub.1/146.