

Noting that no reply has been received to these invitations,

*Requests* the Secretary-General to invite the Government of Romania to reconsider its attitude and indicate its willingness to co-operate with the United Nations in its efforts to safeguard trade union rights by submitting its observations on the allegations which have been referred to it.

*788th plenary meeting,  
29 April 1954.*

## B

*The Economic and Social Council,*

Recalling that Council resolution 444 (XIV) was transmitted by the Secretary-General to the Government of Spain, inviting it to submit its observations on allegations of violations of trade union rights brought against it, and that additional allegations were similarly transmitted pursuant to Council resolution 474 C (XV),

Noting that no definitive reply has been received to these invitations,

Noting from document E/2498 that further allegations relating to Spain have been received,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the latter allegations to the attention of the Government of Spain;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite the Government of Spain to reconsider its attitude and indicate its willingness to co-operate with the United Nations in its efforts to safeguard trade union rights by submitting its observations on the allegations which have been referred to it.

*788th plenary meeting,  
29 April 1954.*

### 524 (XVII). Forced labour: reports of the *Ad Hoc Committee on Forced Labour*

*The Economic and Social Council,*

Desiring to promote universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all,

Having considered the report<sup>40</sup> of the *Ad Hoc Committee on Forced Labour* and General Assembly resolution 740 (VIII),

1. *Commends* the *Ad Hoc Committee* for its work;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the action already taken by the Governing Body of the International Labour Office on the recommendations of the *Ad Hoc Committee*, and invites the International Labour Organisation to continue its consideration of this question and to take what further action it deems appropriate towards abolishing forced labour throughout the world;

3. *Condemns* systems of forced labour which are employed as a means of political coercion or punishment for holding or expressing political views, and which are on such a scale as to constitute an important element in the economy of a given country;

4. *Appeals* to all governments to re-examine their laws and administrative practices in the light of present

<sup>40</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixteenth Session, Supplement No. 13.*

conditions and the increasing desire of the peoples of the world to re-affirm faith in fundamental human rights, and in the dignity and worth of the human person;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, and invites the Director-General of the International Labour Office to prepare jointly a report for consideration at the nineteenth session of the Council setting out:

(a) Whatever replies are received from governments in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 740 (VIII);

(b) Any new information on systems of forced labour which might be submitted by Member States, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations in consultative status together with any comments submitted by governments concerned;

6. *Transmits* the present resolution to the General Assembly for consideration at its ninth session.

*787th plenary meeting,  
27 April 1954.*

### 525 (XVII). Slavery

#### A

*The Economic and Social Council,*

Considering that the information supplied in accordance with Council resolutions 238 (IX), 276 (X), 388 (XIII) and 475 (XV) is not in such a form as to give a clear and concise statement as to the extent to which slavery and practices resembling slavery exist in the world today,

Noting that all replies to the questionnaire have not yet been received,

1. *Urges* all governments which have not yet done so to reply, at an early date, accurately and fully to the questionnaire already transmitted to them, and invites the other governments to forward any additional data or information which they may think it necessary or appropriate to submit;

2. *Repeats* its urgent recommendation to all States, both Members and non-members of the United Nations, which have not already done so, to accede as soon as possible to the International Slavery Convention of 1926 in respect of their territories and the Non-Self-Governing and Trust Territories for which they are responsible, in order that the said Convention may be given universal application;

3. *Requests* all States, both Members and non-members of the United Nations, which have not already done so, to accede to the Protocol transferring to the United Nations the functions undertaken by the League of Nations under the International Slavery Convention of 1926;

4. *Decides* to appoint the Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations, His Excellency Mr. Hans Engen, as Rapporteur to prepare a concise summary of the information supplied in accordance with the resolutions referred to above and the present resolution and of any relevant information supplied by the International Labour Organisation, for consideration at the nineteenth session of the Council;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to place the report of the Rapporteur on the agenda of the nineteenth session of the Council;

6. *Invites* the specialized agencies, in the fields with which they are concerned, to study measures to remedy slavery, conditions similar to slavery, and servitude in all its forms, with special reference to the question of measures of international co-operation to achieve this end.

*789th plenary meeting,  
29 April 1954.*

## B

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Noting* the report <sup>41</sup> of the Secretary-General on his consultations concerning the desirability of a supplementary convention on slavery and its possible contents,

*Noting* further that the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland has submitted a draft <sup>42</sup> of a supplementary convention,

*Considering* the observations of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office set out in document E/2540/Add.3,

1. *Decides* to transmit to all governments and to the International Labour Organisation any draft supplementary convention on slavery submitted by governments;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to deal accordingly with the draft contained in document E/2540/Add.4;

3. *Invites* all governments and the International Labour Organisation to submit comments on this draft and on any other draft to the Secretary-General;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report on the replies received in accordance with the preceding paragraph for consideration by the Council at its nineteenth session.

*789th plenary meeting,  
29 April 1954.*

## 526 (XVII). Statelessness

### A

#### DRAFT PROTOCOL RELATING TO THE STATUS OF STATELESS PERSONS

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Noting* that there exist a certain number of persons not covered by any domestic nationality law and designated by the term "stateless persons",

*Considering* that the General Assembly decided by its resolution 429 (V) to convene a conference of plenipotentiaries to complete the drafting of and to sign both the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the Protocol relating to the Status of Stateless Persons,

*Considering* that the aforesaid Conference, which was held at Geneva in July 1951, adopted and opened for signature the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, but decided to take no decision on the draft Protocol and referred the latter for further study to the appropriate United Nations organs,

*Considering* that the General Assembly, in resolution 629 (VII), requested the Secretary-General to

communicate the provisions of the draft Protocol to all the governments invited to the Conference of Plenipotentiaries with a request for their comments, and that in their comments a number of governments advocated the adoption and opening for signature of a revised text,

*Considering* that the Assembly, in resolution 629 (VII), also requested the Council to take, in the light of these comments, whatever action seemed useful in order that a text might be opened for signature after the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees had entered into force, and that the latter Convention entered into force on 22 April 1954,

*Having consulted* the Secretary-General as prescribed in General Assembly resolution 366 (IV) approving the rules for the calling of international conferences of States,

#### 1. *Decides*:

(a) That a second conference of plenipotentiaries should be convened and that the agenda of the conference should include the following items:

(i) The revision of the draft Protocol relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, in the light of the provisions of the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees of 28 July 1951 and of the observations made by the governments concerned;

(ii) Adoption of the revised Protocol and opening of the Protocol for signature by all States Members of the United Nations and by non-member States invited to attend the first Conference of Plenipotentiaries held at Geneva in 1951;

(b) That invitations to attend the second Conference of Plenipotentiaries should be extended to all States invited to attend the first Conference;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make all necessary arrangements for the calling of the second Conference of Plenipotentiaries, in accordance with the terms of General Assembly resolution 366 (IV) and of the present resolution.

*784th plenary meeting,  
26 April 1954.*

### B

#### PROBLEM OF STATELESSNESS

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Having regard* to Council resolutions 116 D (VI), 248 B (IX), 319 B (XI) section III, and 352 (XII),

*Noting* the report <sup>43</sup> by the Secretary-General pursuant to Council resolution 352 (XII) and bearing in mind the report <sup>44</sup> of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifth session,

*Considering* that the causes of statelessness are often different from those which justified recognition of the status of refugees,

*Endorses* the principles underlying the work of the International Law Commission, which has endeavoured in particular to determine the causes of statelessness and the changes to be made in the various national legisla-

<sup>41</sup> See document E/2540.

<sup>42</sup> See document E/2540/Add.4.

<sup>43</sup> See documents E/2230, Add.1 and 2.

<sup>44</sup> See document A/2456.