

1. *Suggests* to UNESCO to consider the possibility of assisting in the establishment in under-developed countries of cultural and educational centres which would be accessible to large communities and would enable a greater number of women to take advantage of such facilities;

2. *Invites* Governments, when making their requests for technical assistance under the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance or under the regular programme of UNESCO, to give due attention to providing increased educational opportunities for women;

3. *Invites* UNESCO to continue its studies concerning educational opportunities for women, particularly in areas of low economy, and to report, as appropriate, concerning steps taken by Governments pursuant to the terms of paragraph 2 above.

*890th plenary meeting,
3 August 1955.*

588 (XX). International control of narcotic drugs

A

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note of the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (tenth session).⁸¹

*890th plenary meeting,
3 August 1955.*

B

INTERNATIONAL CONTROL OF NARCOTICS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TREATIES

I

The Economic and Social Council,

Having regard to the necessity for strict compliance by all States Parties to the international treaties on narcotic drugs with the provisions concerning the control of the international trade in such drugs,

Having been informed by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs⁸² that, according to the annual reports of a number of Governments, copies of export authorizations are not regularly and promptly returned by the importing countries as required by paragraph 5 of article 13 of the 1925 Convention,

Recommends that the Governments of the importing countries take appropriate measures to ensure the regular and prompt return of the copies of export authorizations to the exporting countries.

*890th plenary meeting,
3 August 1955.*

⁸¹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twentieth Session, Supplement No. 8 (E/2768 and Corr.1).*

⁸² *Ibid.*, para. 31.

II

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting the report of the Permanent Central Opium Board on statistics of narcotics for 1953 and the work of the Board in 1954,⁸³

Appreciating the value of the services rendered by the Permanent Central Opium Board and the Drug Supervisory Body in the field of international control of narcotic drugs over a long period of years,

Having regard to the increased volume of work falling upon these expert bodies as a result of the Protocol of 1948 and the Opium Protocol of 1953, and *stressing* the need for the effective and stable operation of these bodies,

1. *Recommends* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that the arrangements for the organization and working of the Board and the Supervisory Body shall provide these organs with the necessary facilities for their work;

2. *Recommends* the General Assembly to provide the necessary funds for this purpose.

*890th plenary meeting,
3 August 1955.*

III

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting that, as stated in the report of the Permanent Central Opium Board,⁸⁴ certain Governments have either submitted no estimates or statistics at all or have submitted incomplete or inaccurate estimates or statistics,

Convinced that the gaps in the estimates or statistics caused thereby seriously hamper the work of the Board,

Calls upon Governments to comply with their obligations under the 1925 and 1931 Conventions to transmit to the Board complete and accurate estimates and statistics, regularly and promptly.

*890th plenary meeting,
3 August 1955.*

IV

The Economic and Social Council,

Having regard to the statement entitled *Estimated World Requirements of Narcotic Drugs in 1955*⁸⁵ issued by the Drug Supervisory Body,

Recognizing the importance of the estimates system established by the 1931 Convention in the system of international drug control and the great advantages which it presents from the point of view of public health and prevention of drug addiction,

1. *Draws the attention* of Governments in particular to the observations of the Drug Supervisory Body made in the said statement and to the recommendations and advice contained therein;

⁸³ E/OB/10 and Add. United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1954.XI.4 and Addendum.

⁸⁴ *Ibid.*

⁸⁵ E/DSB/12. United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1954.XI.5.

2. *Recommends* Governments to make their estimates of narcotic drugs as accurate as possible, and to accompany them with explanations of the methods employed to calculate the quantities involved.

*890th plenary meeting,
3 August 1955.*

C

THE PROBLEM OF CANNABIS

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting with appreciation the study, prepared in pursuance of its resolution 548 F II (XVIII) by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in consultation with the United Nations Secretariat, on the possibility of developing strains of the plant *Cannabis sativa L.* devoid of harmful resin or of replacing it by other crops serving similar industrial purposes,⁸⁶

Noting that work on developing such strains is already being carried out in the German Federal Republic and the United States of America and *recalling* its invitation to Governments concerned to conduct experiments in this field,

Considering that the technical questions discussed in the study have not yet been fully examined by all Governments, and that further data are desirable on the extent to which the illicit traffic in cannabis is related to crops grown for industrial purposes,

1. *Thanks* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for its valuable assistance;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the study for their comments to Governments which cultivate the cannabis plant for industrial purposes (fibre or seeds);

3. *Requests* the Governments of countries where the cannabis plant is grown for industrial purposes, and which have not already done so, to furnish information on the extent to which illicit traffic in cannabis and its products is related to this crop;

4. *Expresses* its interest in the work that is being carried out to produce a strain of the cannabis plant without harmful resin;

5. *Urges* the Governments of countries in which such research is being conducted to lend it such support as they may consider practicable;

6. *Calls the attention* of other Governments concerned to the desirability of participating in this work;

7. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization, in co-operation with the United Nations Secretariat, to act as a co-ordinating agency for this research; to furnish, within existing financial resources, such assistance in connexion with it as Governments may request, and to transmit a report on the progress made to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, if possible for its eleventh session.

*890th plenary meeting,
3 August 1955.*

⁸⁶ E/CN.7/297.

D

THE PROBLEM OF SYNTHETIC DRUGS

I

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling that in its resolution 548 H (XVIII) the Council called upon all States which were not Parties to the Protocol of 19 November 1948 to become Parties in accordance with article 5 thereof,

Recalling further that in the same resolution it called the attention of all Governments to the necessity for strict control over the possession, manufacture, import and export of, trade in, and use of synthetic narcotics, and made further recommendations concerning the use and control of narcotic drugs,

Requests the Secretary-General to invite the Governments concerned to report on the steps taken in pursuance of this resolution.

II

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered draft resolution III B in annex A of the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (tenth session)⁸⁷ in which the Commission proposes that the Council should recommend Governments to prohibit the production and use of such synthetic drugs as they do not consider indispensable to public health,

Decides to take no action on this draft resolution pending consideration by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the study now being prepared by the World Health Organization of the relative addictive properties and therapeutic advantages of synthetic narcotics and natural narcotics.

*890th plenary meeting,
3 August 1955.*

E

ABUSE OF DRUGS (DRUG ADDICTION)

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 548 I (XVIII) and the recommendations contained therein,

Noting that in their annual reports certain countries have provided statistics of addiction that are of great value,

Recognizing that such statistics and the information regarding the extent and character of drug addiction which they involve are necessary for effective counter-measures against addiction,

Noting that the work undertaken by the Social Commission in the field of prevention of crime is parallel in a number of respects to the work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to collect information and pursue his studies on aspects of

⁸⁷ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twentieth Session, Supplement No. 8 (E/2768 and Corr.1).*

drug addiction in consultation with the World Health Organization, the Social Commission and other bodies concerned;

2. *Notes* the view expressed by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs that in the treatment of drug addiction methods of ambulatory treatment (including the so-called clinic method) are not advisable;

3. *Expresses* its appreciation of the assistance given by the World Health Organization and *requests* that Organization to prepare:

(a) An up-to-date study on appropriate methods for treating drug addicts;

(b) Information on methods and precautions which could assist the medical profession in prescribing narcotic drugs;

4. *Recommends* that Governments concerned take appropriate measures:

(a) To establish, if they have not already done so, the necessary arrangements for collecting information on the extent and character of drug addiction in their countries;

(b) To submit such statistics on the lines of the form of annual reports as revised by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;

(c) To warn the members of the medical and related professions, when appropriate, of the special dangers to public health that might be caused by any new narcotic drug placed on the market, and to invite them to study the desirability and possibility of prohibiting the production and use of such synthetic narcotic drugs as they do not consider indispensable to public health.

*890th plenary meeting,
3 August 1955.*

F

CONTROL AND LIMITATION OF DOCUMENTATION

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 557 A (XVIII) on the organization and operation of the Council and its commissions,

Having been informed that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its tenth session agreed with the proposal⁸⁸ to withdraw the request to the Secretary-General for the preparation of a digest of laws relating to the control of narcotic drugs, having regard to the communication to Parties to the Conventions of legislative texts under article 21 of the Convention of 1931 and the preparation by the Secretary-General of an analytical summary and cumulative index thereof,

Rescinds the decision in its resolution 49 (IV) regarding the preparation of a digest of laws.

*890th plenary meeting,
3 August 1955.*

⁸⁸ E/2598, para. 26.

G

INVITATIONS TO SPAIN TO BECOME A PARTY TO THE PROTOCOLS OF 1946 AND 1948 ON NARCOTIC DRUGS

The Economic and Social Council

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to transmit to the Government of Spain a copy of the 1946 Protocol on Narcotic Drugs;⁸⁹

2. *Invites* the Government of Spain to adhere to the Protocol of 1948 on Narcotic Drugs⁹⁰ in accordance with paragraph 1 of article 5 of the said Protocol.

*890th plenary meeting,
3 August 1955.*

589 (XX). Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The Economic and Social Council,

Having taken note of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees with the annexed report of the United Nations Refugee Fund (UNREF) Executive Committee,⁹¹ and the progress which has been made in the implementation of resolution 832 (IX) of the General Assembly,

Noting with satisfaction the special schemes which have been undertaken, particularly by certain European countries, for the resettlement of refugees within the mandate of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in order to relieve the burden of the countries which have given them asylum,

Noting that although substantial contributions have been made to the United Nations Refugee Fund by Governments and as a result of public appeals, the total contributions which have been made so far by Governments fall short of the target approved for 1955,

1. *Expresses the hope* that, in order to supplement the increased efforts which are being made under the UNREF programme to promote the economic integration, in their present countries of residence, of refugees within the mandate of the High Commissioner, particularly those living in camps, other countries will continue to include a reasonable number of such refugees in any schemes of immigration which they may undertake;

2. *Urges* States Members and non-members of the United Nations to contribute to the United Nations Refugee Fund so that the approved targets for this Fund may be reached within the established time limits.

*889th plenary meeting,
29 July 1955.*

⁸⁹ United Nations publication. Sales No.: 1947.XI.1.

⁹⁰ E/NT/7. United Nations publication. Sales No.: 1949.XI.6.

⁹¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Tenth Session, Supplement No. 11 (A/2902 and Add.1)*, transmitted to the Council under documents E/2746 and Add.1.