

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;