

munication Union or through other arrangements to bring into effect reduced international press telegram rates, as expeditiously as possible.

*1066th plenary meeting,
24 April 1959.*

**720 (XXVII). Freedom of information:
draft Declaration on Freedom of Information**

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling that the purposes of the United Nations include, *inter alia*, the development of friendly relations among nations, and the promotion and encouragement of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all,

Recognizing that the promotion of freedom of information as a fundamental human right is essential to the fulfilment of these purposes,

Mindful of the significance which the Universal Declaration of Human Rights has acquired among the peoples of the United Nations,

Considering that a United Nations Declaration on Freedom of Information could be a further step towards the realization of the purposes set forth above,

Recalling that the General Assembly has decided, in its resolution 1313 C (XIII) of 12 December 1958, to proceed at its fourteenth session to a discussion of the text of the draft Convention on Freedom of Information,²¹ and without prejudice to the Assembly action in this respect,

Having received the text of a draft Declaration on Freedom of Information,

Decides to place the question of a draft Declaration on Freedom of Information on the agenda for its twenty-eighth session.

*1066th plenary meeting,
24 April 1959.*

²¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventh Session, Annexes, agenda item 29, document A/AC.42/7, annex.*

Other questions

713 (XXVII). Establishment by the Secretary-General of the United Nations of a list of national parks and equivalent reserves

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting that national parks and equivalent reserves have been established in most countries which are Members of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies, and that they contribute to the inspiration, culture and welfare of mankind,

Believing that these national parks are valuable for economic and scientific reasons and also as areas for the future preservation of fauna and flora and geologic structures in their natural state,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish, in co-operation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and other interested specialized agencies, a list of national parks and equivalent reserves, with a brief description of each, for consideration by the Council at its twenty-ninth session, together with his recommendations for maintaining and developing the list on a current basis and for its distribution;

2. *Invites* States Members of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies to transmit to the Secretary-General a description of the areas they desire to have internationally registered as national parks or equivalent reserves;

3. *Furthermore invites* the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources and other interested non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council to assist the Secretary-General, upon his request, in the preparation of the proposed list.

*1063rd plenary meeting,
22 April 1959.*

**714 (XXVII). International co-operation on cartography:
question of convening a third United Nations regional cartographic conference for Asia and the Far East**

The Economic and Social Council,

Commending the valuable work achieved by the Second United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Far East,