

**RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL
DURING ITS FIFTY-SECOND SESSION**

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

1654 (LII). Application of Bhutan for membership in the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting the communication from the Permanent Representative of Bhutan to the United Nations dated 26 November 1971,¹ with respect to the admission of Bhutan to full membership in the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Amends paragraphs 2 and 3 of the terms of reference of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East by the insertion of "Bhutan" after "Afghanistan" in paragraph 2 and after "Australia" in paragraph 3.

*1810th plenary meeting
6 January 1972*

1656 (LII). Capital punishment

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1574 (L) of 20 May 1971 and General Assembly resolutions 2393 (XXIII) of 26 November 1968 and 2857 (XXVI) of 20 December 1971,

Having considered the additional information² provided by some Member States on the legal procedures and safeguards applied in capital cases and on their attitude to possible further restriction of the use of the death penalty or its total abolition,

Requests the Secretary-General to invite those Member States which have not yet provided the information requested in General Assembly resolutions 2393 (XXIII) and 2857 (XXVI) to do so as soon as possible so that he can submit to the Council at its fifty-fourth session the available information on the subject.

*1816th plenary meeting
1 June 1972*

1657 (LII). Abuse of drugs (drug addiction): the problem of *khat*

The Economic and Social Council,

Having received the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its twenty-fourth session,³

¹ See E/L.1465/Add.1.

² See E/5108.

³ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 2 (E/5082).*

Noting the discussion reflected therein with regard to the abuse of *khat* in some countries in the Middle East and East Africa.

Noting that *khat* is not covered by the schedules annexed to international conventions on narcotic drugs or by the Convention on Psychotropic Substances,

1. *Recommends* that the World Health Organization advance the studies it has already made with regard to the analysis of the active substances in the *khat* leaves, their pharmacological action, their effect on users from the socio-medical aspects, and patterns of use;

2. *Invites* the World Health Organization to communicate the results of its studies to the Council, through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as early as possible.

*1816th plenary meeting
1 June 1972*

1658 (LII). Preparations for the coming into force of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances: signatures, ratifications and accessions

The Economic and Social Council,

Having received the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its twenty-fourth session,⁴

Noting the preliminary decisions taken by the Commission in the light of a note by the Secretary-General as to preparatory measures for the coming into force of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances,

Recalling its resolution 1576 (L) of 20 May 1971, in which the Council, *inter alia*, invited States to give urgent consideration to becoming parties to that Convention,

Noting with satisfaction that 36 States had signed the Convention, and that six countries had ratified or acceded to it, and that several other Governments were taking steps with a view to ratifying the treaty,

Recognizing the importance of having the Convention on Psychotropic Substances enter into force with the minimum delay in the light of article 26 thereof,

Urges Governments which have not already done so to initiate the necessary procedures for ratifying or acceding to the treaty.

*1816th plenary meeting
1 June 1972*

⁴ *Ibid.*