



UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

OFFICIAL RECORDS

TWENTIETH SESSION

5 JULY – 5 AUGUST 1955

RESOLUTIONS

SUPPLEMENT No. 1

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NOTE

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E/2795
15 August 1955

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adopted by the ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

during its twentieth session from 5 July to 5 August 1955

579 (XX). World economic situation

A

EXPANSION OF WORLD TRADE

The Economic and Social Council,

Welcoming the efforts now under way to contribute to the relaxation of international tension by finding means for the solution of certain problems including the problem of the progressive elimination of barriers to international trade,

Bearing in mind the benefits to be derived by both the more developed and less developed countries from a continuing expansion of world trade,

Taking into account that the continuing expansion of world trade depends on co-operation among countries,

Considering that the further development of economic relations is of great importance for developing the economy of States, increasing employment and production and raising the living standard of the people and that it will promote understanding and mutually beneficial collaboration among nations,

Having considered the study entitled *The Quest for Freer Trade*¹ and the Introduction to the *World Economic Report 1953-1954*,² prepared in response to its resolution 531 C (XVIII),

Noting that limitations of various kinds to the development of international trade still exist,

Noting the progress already made through the efforts of national Governments, business enterprise and existing international institutions, in reducing or removing various obstacles to international trade and promoting its expansion on a multilateral basis,

Considering that intensification of these efforts would undoubtedly lead to a further reduction of such obstacles as still exist and to a further development of trade,

Noting that the regional economic commissions are already doing valuable work in this connexion, especially through their trade promotion efforts,

Recognizing that certain countries depend, in their export trade, on one or a few commodities,

Recognizing that the trade and economic policies of one country may have significant effects on the economies of other countries,

Recognizing that an increased international flow of capital may contribute to the more rapid development of the under-developed countries and thereby to the further expansion of world trade,

Considering that prior to the solution of the problem referred to in the first paragraph above, there are various measures which Governments can usefully undertake directed towards the expansion of international trade,

1. *Requests* Governments to continue their efforts to promote the expansion of world trade, and in particular:

(a) To continue their support of established international institutions which are working successfully for the expansion of world trade;

(b) To reduce or remove international trade restrictions or discriminations with respect to goods and services, maintained for balance-of-payments reasons, as soon as their balance of payments and reserves position permit, having due regard to the special problems arising from the development needs of under-developed countries;

(c) To conduct their international trade relations and trade policies with due regard to their possible harmful effects on the economies of other countries, especially countries which are dependent in their trade on exports of relatively few commodities;

(d) To follow internal economic, monetary and fiscal policies which promote a high level of production, employment and investment, and thereby contribute to the expansion of world trade;

(e) To take such other steps as may seem appropriate to assist the growth of world trade, such as the promotion within their territories of a wider knowledge of the benefits to be derived from standardization of commodity grades and commercial arbitration, expansion of their trade promotion services, and consideration of the encouragement of participation in international trade fairs;

(f) To bear in mind the possibility of technical assistance in fields related to trade;

2. *Expresses* confidence that the regional economic commissions will continue to do valuable work in connexion with world trade within their terms of reference, and *recommends* that Governments continue to avail themselves of the services offered in the field of trade by the United Nations and its three regional economic commissions as well as by the specialized agencies concerned;

¹ E/2737. United Nations publication. Sales No.: 1955.II.C.5.

² E/2729. United Nations publication. Sales No.: 1955.II.C.1.

3. *Expresses* its appreciation to the Secretary-General for the useful information contained in the study entitled *The Quest for Freer Trade*,³

4. *Decides* to resume consideration of the problem of the expansion of world trade at its twenty-second session.

*891st plenary meeting,
4 August 1955.*

B

INTER-REGIONAL TRADE CONSULTATIONS

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 535 B (XVIII) on inter-regional co-operation,

Having considered the *World Economic Report 1953-1954*⁴ and the report of the Secretary-General on inter-regional trade co-operation,⁵

Taking note of resolution 4 (X) of the Economic Commission for Europe,⁶ of resolution 14 (XI) of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East⁷ and of resolution 77 (AC.26) of the Committee of the Whole of the Economic Commission for Latin America,⁸

Considering that inter-regional trade consultations might be useful in strengthening inter-regional trade relations and could contribute to the expansion of world trade,

1. *Authorizes* the regional economic commissions, at the request of interested Governments participating in their work, to decide in each case whether inter-regional trade consultations of the type described in the report of the Secretary-General⁹ should be held in order to facilitate the expansion of international trade;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, if it be decided by at least two of the regional economic commissions that such consultations should be held, to undertake the necessary preparatory work and to convene such consultations among interested Governments participating in the work of the regional economic commissions and interested States Members of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies;

3. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to keep the Council informed of developments with respect to this matter, and, if it seems necessary in accordance with Council resolution 557 B I (XVIII), to submit recommendations regarding the requisite administrative and financial provisions;

4. *Requests* the regional economic commissions, by every means at their disposal and within their respective terms of reference, to continue their efforts to facilitate concerted action to maintain and strengthen the economic

³ E/2737. United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1955.II.C.5.

⁴ E/2729. United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1955.II.C.1.

⁵ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twentieth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 2, document E/2674.

⁶ *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 3* (E/2706), Part IV.

⁷ *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 5* (E/2712), para. 248.

⁸ E/2756, para. 142.

⁹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twentieth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 2, document E/2674.

relations of the countries in their respective regions, both among themselves and with other countries of the world.

*891st plenary meeting,
4 August 1955.*

580 (XX). Annual reports of the regional economic commissions

A

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note of the annual report of the Economic Commission for Europe¹⁰ for the period between 26 March 1954 and 30 March 1955 and of the views expressed during the discussion at the tenth session of the Commission.

*878th plenary meeting,
15 July 1955.*

B

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE FAR EAST

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note of the annual report of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East¹¹ for the period between 19 February 1954 and 7 April 1955, of the recommendations contained in the account of the proceedings at the eleventh session of the Commission and of the programme of work and priorities contained therein.

*878th plenary meeting,
15 July 1955.*

C

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA

The Economic and Social Council

1. *Takes note* of the annual report of the Economic Commission for Latin America;¹²

2. *Considers* that the work programme of the Commission as established by the Committee of the Whole at its meeting held in Santiago from 9 to 10 May 1955 is of primary importance for the economic development of Latin America;

3. *Endorses* the order of priorities allocated by the Committee of the Whole to the individual work projects.

*878th plenary meeting,
15 July 1955.*

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 3* (E/2706).

¹¹ *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 5* (E/2712).

¹² E/2756.

581 (XX). Invitation to Spain to attend sessions of the Economic Commission for Latin America

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering that the presence of Spain in the Economic Commission for Latin America would further the purposes of that Commission,

Bearing in mind the attitude adopted by the Council in a similar case, as recorded in resolution 515 B (XVII),

Requests the Secretary-General to authorize the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America to invite Spain to attend sessions of the Commission on a basis similar to that provided in paragraph 6 of the terms of reference of the Commission¹³ for States Members of the United Nations not members of the Commission.

891st plenary meeting,
4 August 1955.

582 (XX). Report of the Commission on International Commodity Trade

The Economic and Social Council

1. Takes note of the first report of the Commission on International Commodity Trade¹⁴ and of the Secretary-General's statement of financial implications;¹⁵

2. Approves the rules of procedure and programme of work submitted by the Commission.

891st plenary meeting,
4 August 1955.

583 (XX). Financing of economic development

A

SPECIAL UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming the importance of the economic development of the under-developed countries as an essential condition for promoting such international relationships as are propitious for the maintenance of peace and world prosperity,

Considering the real need for additional means for providing the under-developed countries with the economic-social infra-structure which is basic for the substantial expansion of their production,

Recalling previous resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council on the establishment in the near future of a Special United Nations Fund for Economic Development,¹⁶

¹³ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirteenth Session, Supplement No. I, Appendix II, page 102.

¹⁴ Ibid., Twentieth Session, Supplement No. 7 (E/2745).

¹⁵ Ibid., Annexes, agenda item 5, document E/2745/Add.1.

¹⁶ General Assembly resolutions 520 (VI), 622 (VII), 724 (VIII) and 822 (IX) and Council resolutions 416 (XIV), 482 (XVI) and 532 (XVIII).

Recalling especially the unanimously adopted resolution 724 (VIII) of the General Assembly containing the solemn declaration of the Governments of the States Members of the United Nations to stand ready to ask their peoples to devote a portion of the savings achieved through sufficient progress in internationally supervised world-wide disarmament to an international fund, within the framework of the United Nations, and expressing the hope that such savings will provide additional means for financing the economic development of under-developed countries and will further the aims and objectives of a special United Nations fund,

Noting that, consequent upon recent developments in international co-operation, the Sub-Committee of the United Nations Disarmament Commission will be called upon to work towards the development of an acceptable system of disarmament, the achievement of which would, among other results, release vast material resources to be devoted to the peaceful economic development of nations, for raising their well-being as well as for the assistance to under-developed countries,

Having examined the report prepared by Mr. Raymond Scheyven with the assistance of a group of experts¹⁷ in pursuance of resolution 822 (IX) of the General Assembly,

1. Expresses its great appreciation of the work performed by Mr. Scheyven and the group of experts associated with him;

2. Recommends that the General Assembly:

(a) Invite Governments of States Members of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies in the economic and social field to give careful consideration to the report of Mr. Scheyven and the Committee of Experts and to transmit to the Secretary-General, not later than 31 March 1956, their views on the experts' recommendations with respect to the establishment, operation and management of the proposed special fund;

(b) Establish an *ad hoc* committee to analyse the comments of Governments and to submit such interim report as it may be in a position to make to the twenty-second session of the Economic and Social Council, and its final report to the twenty-third session of the Council, it being understood that the *ad hoc* committee, in making its reports, would not commit any Member Government.

892nd plenary meeting,
5 August 1955.

B

ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL FINANCE
CORPORATION

The Economic and Social Council,

Having received, through the Secretary-General, the draft articles of agreement of the proposed International Finance Corporation prepared by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development¹⁸ in compliance

¹⁷ Official Records of the General Assembly, Tenth Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/2906).

¹⁸ International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Articles of Agreement of the International Finance Corporation and Explanatory Memorandum, as approved for submission to Governments by the Executive Directors, transmitted to the Council under document E/2770.

with General Assembly resolution 823 (IX), together with a report from the President of the Bank on the progress made toward the establishment of the Corporation,¹⁹

Noting that the Articles of Agreement provide that the Corporation shall be established and begin operations when the Agreement has been signed on behalf of not less than thirty Governments whose subscriptions total not less than \$75,000,000,

Noting from the report presented by the Bank on the results of its work that a substantial number of Governments have taken specific steps toward acceptance of membership in the Corporation,

1. *Expresses* its appreciation of the manner in which the International Bank has carried out the task requested of it by the General Assembly;

2. *Looks forward* to the establishment of the Corporation as soon as practicable.

*892nd plenary meeting,
5 August 1955.*

584 (XX). Technical assistance

A

REGULAR UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the regular United Nations programme of technical assistance.²⁰

*883rd plenary meeting,
23 July 1955.*

B

EXPANDED PROGRAMME OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

I.

REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE BOARD TO THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note with appreciation of the seventh report submitted by the Technical Assistance Board²¹ to the Technical Assistance Committee.

*883rd plenary meeting,
23 July 1955.*

II.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON QUESTIONS RAISED BY THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering that the General Assembly, in its resolution 831 D (IX), requested the Council to furnish to the General Assembly at its tenth session a report on the progress made in the consideration of the questions raised

¹⁹ E/2770.

²⁰ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twentieth Session, Annexes, agenda item 7, document E/2736.*

²¹ *Ibid., Supplement No. 4 (E/2714) and document E/2714/Add.1.*

in the first report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to the General Assembly at its ninth session,²² together with the comments of the Advisory Committee on the report of the Council,

Having examined the report of the Advisory Committee together with paragraphs 9 to 15 of the report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination,²³

Submits to the General Assembly the report annexed hereto.

*883rd plenary meeting,
23 July 1955.*

Annex

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN RESPONSE TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 831 D (IX) ON THE FIRST REPORT OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS NINTH SESSION.

1. The Economic and Social Council is grateful to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for its review, made at the request of the General Assembly, of the administrative procedure and expenditure of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance, and for the comments and suggestions set out in parts I and II of its first report²⁴ to the General Assembly at its ninth session.

2. With regard to the matters reviewed in part I of the report of the Advisory Committee, the Council approves the views and recommendations of its Technical Assistance Committee, which are stated below:

(a) While recognizing that in addition to the resident representatives of the Technical Assistance Board who, in connexion with the shift of emphasis to country programming have been assigned a special responsibility under Council resolution 542 B (XVIII), there may be a need for agency regional representatives and country mission chiefs, the Technical Assistance Committee has requested the Technical Assistance Board and the participating organizations to keep under review their arrangements for field representation with a view to appropriate inter-agency co-ordination in the field, and to eliminating any unnecessary posts and overlapping functions and to report to TAC on this matter. The TAC reiterated its views that all participating organizations should make the fullest possible use of the resident representatives.

(b) The TAB secretariat and the participating organizations have been urged, in promoting the objectives of the Expanded Programme, to make the fullest use of the existing administrative and other services of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, in order that as much as possible of the Special Account may be available for operational purposes.

(c) The Executive Chairman has reported that the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions has reviewed the present classification of costs in the light of the recommendation of the Advisory Committee that the present distinction between "administrative" and "indirect operational costs" be removed, and produced a unanimous report, which has been endorsed by TAB and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination. It is proposed that the new classification of costs, which will bring the accounting practices of the Expanded Programme into line with those of all the other operating agencies in the United Nations, should go into operation on 1 January 1956.

(d) The Executive Chairman has reported that intensive efforts have again been made this year by the participating

²² A/2661.

²³ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twentieth Session, Annexes, agenda item 4, document E/2728, paras. 9 to 15.*

²⁴ A/2661.

organizations and the TAB secretariat to reduce the level of those costs which are now classified as indirect operational and administrative costs to the lowest level consistent with the efficient operation of the Programme. The TAC noted with satisfaction that the Executive Chairman expected that, in 1955, those costs would not exceed the limits suggested by the Advisory Committee—namely, 12 to 14 per cent of total programme costs in the case of the participating organizations, and approximately 5 per cent of the total cost of the Expanded Programme in the case of the TAB secretariat and field staff—in spite of the heavy additional responsibilities resulting from the new country programme procedures.

(e) The TAC has urged the participating organizations to do everything possible to increase the effectiveness of the integration of expenditure under their regular programmes and the Expanded Programme, and invited the comments of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination on the annual report of TAB, with particular reference to the interrelationship between the Expanded Programme and comparable activities under the regular budgets.

(f) While it is too early to make a final judgement, TAC heard with approval the following statement by the Executive Chairman on the new local costs payments scheme: "Experience in the field so far indicates that the centralization of local cost payments is developing satisfactorily and is relieving Governments of much detailed work. Agencies which have not yet fully come into the plan as regards payments to their experts are increasingly making use of TAB field office facilities in this respect and it is hoped that this tendency will continue wherever savings can be shown or improved administrative support for the experts would result." The TAC will review the operation of the scheme at a later date.

(g) The TAC noted that considerable progress had been made in securing uniformity of administrative and financial terminology and procedures. The new classification of costs would bring the administrative costs definition into line with that of other United Nations programmes. A substantial measure of uniformity prevailed in financial practices. One or two outstanding differences still existed (such as the definition of period of validation of obligations) but efforts were being continued to remove those differences, consistently with the special requirements of the Expanded Programme.

(h) It was expected that the Working Capital and Reserve Fund would reach a total of \$9 million this year, and \$12 million early in 1956. When the total of \$12 million was reached it would be desirable to review the purposes for which the Fund was established.

(i) The TAC considered that, in view of the new country programme planning and approval procedure, it was unrealistic to expect TAB to carry out its responsibilities in two sessions only, as suggested by the Advisory Committee, and endorsed the view expressed by the Executive Chairman that three meetings would be the normal number, except in an emergency.

(j) The TAC considered that while the inter-agency responsibility for the supervision of the Expanded Programme should be exercised primarily through TAB and its own working committees, that should not exclude the use of subsidiary organs of ACC, such as the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions and the Consultative Committee on Public Information, where appropriate. The role of ACC is referred to in paragraph 3 below.

(k) With respect to evaluation of the Expanded Programme, TAC had not requested TAB to undertake any extensive or costly processes. Six country studies and a review of the fellowship programme had been prepared by the TAB secretariat and the participating organizations, but no additional budgetary provision had been made for that purpose. In view of the primary responsibility of recipient Governments for determining the effectiveness of the programmes, a general questionnaire is also to be addressed to countries to which resident representatives have been accredited.

(l) On the question of administrative co-ordination with other agencies, TAC noted the comments made in the seventh report of TAB to TAC, which states: "The General Assembly has adopted two resolutions, 411 (V) and 672 (VII), which encourage the use of joint administrative services in the field. There are one or two promising developments which may mature in 1955. A more concentrated effort will, however, be required if substantial progress is to be achieved, especially with regard to the smaller offices. In the meantime it must be reported that progress was disappointing during 1954, when no significant improvement could be noted. . . ." ²⁶

3. The general matters referred to in part II of the report of the Advisory Committee ²⁶ were considered by TAC, together with paragraphs 9 to 15 of the report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination. ²⁷ The views of TAC with regard to these matters are expressed in the resolution which it adopted on 11 July 1955. ²⁸

4. The TAC will consider at its next session the possibility of studying during next year the establishment of a more effective budgetary control.

III.

FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR 1956

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the report of the Technical Assistance Committee on the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance, ²⁹ together with the seventh report of the Technical Assistance Board, ³⁰

Noting the arrangements approved by the General Assembly in resolution 831 B (IX) for review and approval of the programme and allocation of funds for 1956 and subsequent years,

Reaffirming its faith in the Expanded Programme as an effective instrument for promoting the economic development of the less developed countries and strengthening the foundations of a peaceful world,

1. *Urges* States participating in the Expanded Programme to continue to give their support to the Programme, financially and otherwise, on an expanding basis;

2. *Requests* that, in order to facilitate the review and approval of the Programme for 1956 by the Technical Assistance Committee by 30 November 1955, as laid down in Council resolution 542 B (XVIII), the Negotiating Committee for Extra-Budgetary Funds, appointed under General Assembly resolution 861 (IX), undertake negotiations with Governments regarding their pledges to the Special Account for 1956 as soon as possible after the close of the twentieth session of the Council, and that the sixth Technical Assistance Conference be held as early as possible during the tenth session of the General Assembly.

*883rd plenary meeting,
23 July 1955.*

²⁶ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twentieth Session, Supplement No. 4 (E/2714), part I, para. 63.*

²⁷ A/2661, paras. 41 to 54.

²⁸ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twentieth Session, Annexes, agenda item 4, document E/2728, paras. 9 to 15.*

²⁹ *Ibid.*, agenda item 7, document E/2779, para. 27.

³⁰ *Ibid.*, parts I, III, IV, V and VI.

³¹ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 4 (E/2714) and document E/2714/Add.1.

585 (XX). World social situation

A

REPORT OF THE SOCIAL COMMISSION (TENTH SESSION)

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note of the report of the Social Commission (tenth session).³¹

883rd plenary meeting,
23 July 1955.

B

INTERNATIONAL DEFINITION AND MEASUREMENT OF STANDARDS AND LEVELS OF LIVING

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the recommendations of the Social Commission³² and the preliminary recommendations of the Statistical Commission³³ on the *Report on International Definition and Measurement of Standards and Levels of Living*,³⁴ as well as the opinions expressed in these Commissions regarding the report,

Noting that the Statistical Commission is to examine the report further at its next session,

1. Expresses appreciation of the report as having made a significant contribution to research and to the utilization of research materials in the social field, and notes the views expressed by the Secretary-General with regard thereto;³⁵

2. Considers the measurable component approach summarized in paragraph 199 of the report to be a useful basis for future action with the ultimate aim of enabling international comparisons to be made;

3. Regards the immediate need as one of choosing components which are capable of measurable analysis and whose significance has won international recognition, and of initiating or developing, above all in under-developed countries, statistical systems which will take account of such components and enable accurate measurements of changes in levels of living over years to be made on a comparable basis;

4. Draws the attention of States Members of the United Nations to the methods recommended for this purpose by the Committee of Experts in carrying out studies of levels of living and planning social and economic development programmes, giving special attention to agricultural and industrial workers;

5. Requests the Secretary-General:

(a) To promote, in association with the specialized agencies concerned, the carrying out of family living surveys and to provide technical assistance, on request, to enable Governments to conduct such surveys;

³¹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twentieth Session, Supplement No. 9 (E/2758).*

³² *Ibid.*, para. 32.

³³ *Ibid.*, Eighteenth Session, Supplement No. 5 (E/2569), para. 83.

³⁴ E/CN.3/179-E/CN.5/299. United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1954.IV.5.

³⁵ E/CN.5/302, paras. 1 to 9.

(b) To continue his close co-operation with the International Labour Organisation in connexion with the proposed working group of experts³⁶ on the objectives, scope and methodology of family living studies;

(c) To pursue, in association with the International Labour Organisation, the examination of the concepts, definitions and techniques required in the measurement of under-employment and irregular employment;

6. Draws the attention of the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies concerned and governmental and non-governmental organizations to the need of further work on development of components and of additional indicators for measurement of non-material and other social and technical aspects of levels of living;

7. Requests the Secretary-General:

(a) To continue to provide over-all planning and co-ordination in carrying forward work on levels of living through arrangements which will ensure the maximum participation of interested specialized agencies;

(b) To present at future sessions of the Social Commission, the Statistical Commission and the Council a progress report on work done with a view to the development of measurement of levels of living, as well as further measures which need to be taken;

(c) To utilize the reports on the world social situation and the United Nations statistical reports and related studies to disseminate information on levels of living and changes therein.

883rd plenary meeting,
23 July 1955.

C

PRINCIPLES OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Economic and Social Council,
Recalling its resolution 496 (XVI),

Considering that Governments have a vital role to play in achieving economic and social progress and that such progress can be accelerated, especially in areas which are less developed economically, if the latent abilities and energies of the people are utilized in self-help activities for the improvement of their communities,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on "Principles of community development"³⁷ and the views and recommendations of the Social Commission³⁸ and the specialized agencies³⁹ thereon,

1. Recommends for the consideration of States Members of the United Nations and for implementation as far as practicable by all concerned, the report and the principles tentatively outlined therein;

2. Invites Member States to furnish their observations on these principles to enable the Secretary-General to consider how far they need to be supplemented or modified in the light of the observations received, with a

³⁶ *Ibid.*, para. 3.

³⁷ E/CN.5/303.

³⁸ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twentieth Session, Supplement No. 9 (E/2758)*, para. 49.

³⁹ E/CN.5/303/Add.1 and E/CN.5/SR.230.

view to further consideration of the matter at the next session of the Social Commission;

3. *Calls the attention* of Member States to the technical assistance available through the United Nations, the specialized agencies, governmental and non-governmental organizations;

4. *Urges* Member States to continue to make available information on their experience in community development to the United Nations and the specialized agencies and to provide suitable forms of assistance to other countries;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) In co-operation with the specialized agencies and, as appropriate, with the regional economic commissions, to continue to assist Governments, especially of the under-developed countries, in developing and carrying out projects in this field through technical assistance and study activities;

(b) In association with the specialized agencies, to encourage and assist in regional co-operation in this field, including, as appropriate, the organization and development of regional exchange centres for technical information, training courses, seminars and study tours;

(c) To give special attention, in association with the specialized agencies concerned:

(i) To the role of the government and the role of the population in planning and implementing programmes of community development;

(ii) To the assistance which different forms of co-operative action can give to community development;

(iii) To the development of new methods and techniques relating to improvement in living conditions in local communities;

(iv) To identifying and defining the role which the various professional and technical services or disciplines play in balanced community development;

(v) To the study of methods of evaluation;

(vi) To the study to be undertaken by the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East on the analysis of the actual and potential contribution to capital formation and to economic development generally of community development and other similar measures of co-operation, and to promote similar studies in other regions;

6. *Requests* the Technical Assistance Board to give sympathetic consideration to projects of regional co-operation in the field of community development.

*883rd plenary meeting,
23 July 1955.*

D

TRAINING OF WELFARE PERSONNEL

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on *Training of Welfare Personnel* ⁴⁰ and the

recommendations of the Social Commission on this subject,⁴¹

Having regard to the urgent need in many countries of a rapid increase in trained personnel chosen for their individual sympathies and qualifications and their ability to understand the outlook and requirements of the persons with whom they are to work,

Noting the increased interest of Member States concerned to ensure better methods of selection and training programmes for social workers and the efforts now being made for this purpose,

1. *Confirms* the necessity of stressing the value not only of the training and use of professional social workers but also of training and using local multi-purpose and auxiliary workers in certain cases;

2. *Recommends* to Member States that the appropriate governmental and non-governmental agencies consider the feasibility of undertaking:

(a) A review of the extent to which the principles and recommendations of the Social Commission relating to social work education and in-service training have been implemented in their countries;

(b) A study of the personnel requirements in their country, the skills needed for the various types of social work, and the training programmes and training materials required for professional and auxiliary social workers;

(c) A further extension and improvement of training facilities and training programmes at different educational levels with particular attention to problems and techniques of community development, as well as to problems of adequate financing of training facilities and programmes;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To continue consultation with the specialized agencies concerned in the examination of common problems encountered in training auxiliary and community workers;

(b) To continue to give priority to assisting Governments in their training programmes in the fields of social welfare, including the collection, preparation, translation and exchange of suitable training materials for both professional and auxiliary workers;

(c) To provide material, with special reference to regional requirements, to assist Governments and all concerned in the development of training programmes at all levels;

(d) To promote regional seminars and conferences for the development of the content and techniques of training of social workers at all levels;

(e) To focus attention on selected problems of social work training in the preparation of the next survey on social welfare training.

*883rd plenary meeting,
23 July 1955.*

⁴⁰ E/CN.5/304, United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1955: IV.9.

⁴¹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twentieth Session, Supplement No. 9 (E/2758), para. 62.*

E

FINANCING OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMMES

The Economic and Social Council,

Taking into account General Assembly resolution 537 (VI) and Council resolutions 434 I (XIV) and 496 (XVI) as well as the resolution on financing of housing and community development adopted by the Social Commission at its eighth session,⁴²

Recalling that the General Assembly, in its resolution 537 (VI), requested the Council to give give urgent attention, *inter alia*, to assistance to Governments in developing practical methods of financing housing programmes from domestic or external sources,

Having noted the growing interest of Governments in the problems of financing of housing and community improvement programmes and in the adoption in this connexion of national policies and special measures, including the establishment of housing agencies and financial institutions,

Considering further that certain methods of financing successfully used in the housing and community improvement field, including self-help and mutual help and co-operatives, could prove applicable in the financing of other social development programmes,

1. *Reaffirms* its belief in the significant role that programmes of housing can play in economic and social development and also in opening avenues of employment in different countries;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To study and assemble, in collaboration with appropriate agencies, information on the feasibility of financing housing programmes from external sources, for example by means of mortgage, and to include such information in the report prepared in compliance with General Assembly resolution 824 (IX) on the international flow of private capital;

(b) To convene, at the request of interested Governments, as part of technical assistance activities and in co-operation with regional economic commissions where they exist, the specialized agencies, and the inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, regional meetings of experts in order:

(i) To consider the problems and practical methods of financing housing and community improvement programmes, especially for persons in low-income groups;

(ii) To prepare material describing (1) existing possibilities and appropriate sources for the financing of housing and community improvement programmes, as part of economic and social development in general, and (2) special methods designed to bridge the gap between the cost of, and the ability of low-income families to pay for, adequate housing;

(c) To review, in co-operation with regional economic commissions where they exist, developments in the field of financing of housing and community improvement;

⁴² *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fourteenth Session, Supplement No. 9 (E/2247), para. 113.*

(d) To report to the Social Commission and to the Council the results of the action taken under paragraphs (a) to (c) above;

3. *Urges* the Technical Assistance Board to give sympathetic consideration to assistance in organizing the regional meetings of experts as well as to requests by Governments for technical assistance in the field of housing and community improvement.

*883rd plenary meeting,
23 July 1955.*

F

MAINTENANCE OF FAMILY LEVELS OF LIVING

The Economic and Social Council,

Having regard to the urgency in many countries of considering policies and practical methods of administering broad measures to maintain and improve family levels of living,

Having considered the Secretary-General's proposals in the progress report and work programme for 1955-1957⁴³ and the recommendations of the Social Commission relevant to the formulation of recommendations for a co-ordinated policy regarding family levels of living, particularly in the application of broad programmes of social security, social assistance and related social services for family and child welfare,⁴⁴

1. *Invites* the International Labour Organisation and other specialized agencies concerned to co-operate with the United Nations in a joint study of these problems;

2. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General:

(a) To continue the study of these matters jointly with the Director-General of the International Labour Office and with the other specialized agencies concerned;

(b) To convene, in joint sponsorship with the International Labour Office and in co-operation with the other specialized agencies concerned, a working group composed of experts highly qualified in those fields and, at the same time, representative of countries at varying stages of economic development and with varying social structure, to assist in the examination of the technical problems involved;

3. *Invites* the Social Commission, the International Labour Organisation and the other specialized agencies concerned to examine the report of the working group;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, after the Social Commission has considered the report of the working group and the observations of the interested specialized agencies, to submit to the Council, at its twenty-fourth session, the report of the working group, together with a report including the views expressed thereon by the Social Commission and the specialized agencies concerned, and his own observations.

*883rd plenary meeting,
23 July 1955.*

⁴³ E/CN.5/308, paras. 223 and 224.

⁴⁴ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twentieth Session, Supplement No. 9 (E/2758), para. 129.*

G

ADVISORY SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 418 (V) on advisory social welfare services, and Council resolution 222 (IX) on the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance,

Having noted the views and recommendations of the Social Commission on the programme of advisory social welfare services,⁴⁵

Noting that the present allocation of resources in the United Nations budget for advisory social welfare services does not, in many cases, permit the Secretary-General to meet valid requests by Governments in the fields covered by the terms of resolution 418 (V),

1. *Reiterates* that, with a view to raising the level of living of populations generally, measures of a social nature should accompany those more directly aimed at economic development, and that programmes of social development should include measures aimed at creating social conditions favourable to economic development and at preventing disruptive social effects of accelerated economic growth;

2. *Approves* the emphasis laid by the Secretary-General, in his proposals for the organization and the work of the Secretariat in the economic and social fields,⁴⁶ on increased direct assistance to Governments in the social welfare field and in the social aspects of economic development;

3. *Recommends* that the General Assembly provide for a significant increase, within the present level of the United Nations budget, in allocations for the programme of advisory social welfare services for 1956 and following years.

883rd plenary meeting,
23 July 1955.

H

WORLD SOCIAL SITUATION

The Economic and Social Council,

I

Taking into account the fact that under Article 55 of the Charter the United Nations is bound to promote higher standards of living, full employment, and economic and social progress and development,

Bearing in mind in this connexion that the *International Survey of Programmes of Social Development*,⁴⁷ whilst showing the progress made in developing measures to improve social conditions, none the less demonstrates that much remains to be done to improve the lot of wide sections of the world's population,

⁴⁵ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twentieth Session, Supplement No. 9 (E/2758), para. 109.*

⁴⁶ See E/CN.5/308.

⁴⁷ E/CN.5/301/Rev.1. United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1955.IV.8.

Recognizing the universal desire for an agreement on internationally supervised world-wide disarmament,

Considering that the reduction of expenditure on armaments would permit an increase in the resources available for the improvement of social conditions and would at the same time establish a climate favourable for the expansion of international co-operation in the social and economic fields,

1. *Expresses* confidence that Governments will continue to spare no efforts to improve the social and economic conditions in their own countries and elsewhere, particularly in the under-developed countries, and will further increase those efforts when additional resources are freed by an agreement on internationally supervised world-wide disarmament;

2. *Hopes* for the early achievement of these objectives in the interests of the rapid improvement of social and economic conditions throughout the world;

II

Recalling its resolution 434 A (XIV) requesting a supplementary report dealing with a survey of national and international measures taken to improve the social conditions reflected in the *Preliminary Report on the World Social Situation*,⁴⁸

Having considered the *International Survey of Programmes of Social Development*⁴⁹ and the views expressed thereon in the Social Commission,⁴⁹

Having commended the Secretary-General and the Directors-General of the specialized agencies who collaborated in its preparation,

Believing that the *Survey* has important practical value for governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned with social problems and with programmes for improving social conditions,

1. *Recommends* that Governments take such measures as they deem appropriate to bring the *Survey* to the attention of interested governmental and non-governmental agencies in their countries;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to place the chief emphasis in the next *Survey* on changes that have taken place since the first *Survey* and to include material on:

(a) International measures taken to improve social conditions;

(b) Further use of community development as a technique for improving the levels of living, particularly in under-developed areas, community development being interpreted as a process creating conditions of economic and social progress for the whole community with its active participation and the fullest possible reliance upon the community's initiative;

III

Recalling that the Secretary-General, by Council resolution 434 A (XIV), was requested to prepare a further report on the world social situation,

⁴⁸ E/CN.5/267/Rev.1. United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1952.IV.11.

⁴⁹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twentieth Session, Supplement No. 9 (E/2758), paras. 79 to 93.*

Requests the Secretary-General:

(a) To place chief emphasis in the next report on changes that have taken place throughout the world since the preliminary report⁵⁰ and to give special attention to the problems of peoples undergoing rapid transition especially through urbanization;

(b) To issue the report by December 1956 for consideration by the Social Commission at its eleventh session, and by the Council at its twenty-fourth session;

(c) To prepare for the use of the Council, at its twenty-second session, a report on the extent to which the priorities and programmes set forth in Council resolution 496 (XVI) on the programme of concerted practical action in the social field have been taken into account and implemented by the United Nations and the specialized agencies.

883rd plenary meeting,
23 July 1955.

586 (XX). Report of the Commission on Human Rights (eleventh session)

A

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note of the report of the Commission on Human Rights (eleventh session).⁵¹

889th plenary meeting,
29 July 1955.

B

STUDY OF DISCRIMINATION IN THE MATTER OF EMIGRATION AND TRAVEL

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling that, in the work programme established by the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities at its fifth session and approved by the Commission on Human Rights and the Council, it was provided that among the measures to combat discrimination which the Sub-Commission would study would be those in the field of immigration and travel,⁵²

Recalling that at its sixth session the Sub-Commission decided that the study should cover not only immigration and travel but also emigration,⁵³

Recalling that at its tenth session the Commission drew the attention of the Sub-Commission to the observations made on a proposal (subsequently withdrawn) under which, *inter alia*, the words "immigration and travel" in draft resolution D of the Sub-Commission would have been replaced by the words "the right to return to

⁵⁰ E/CN.5/267/Rev.1. United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1952.IV.11.

⁵¹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twentieth Session, Supplement No. 6 (E/2731 and Corr.1).*

⁵² E/CN.4/670, para. 48, resolution A.

⁵³ E/CN.4/703, para. 143, resolution D.

one's country as provided in article 13, paragraph 2, of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,"⁵⁴

Recalling further that in its resolution 545 D (XVIII), the Council requested the Sub-Commission "to take as the objective of its study in this field paragraph 2 of article 13 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights",

Having considered the report of the Commission on Human Rights (eleventh session) and the draft resolution it proposed on this subject,⁵⁵

Reaffirms its decision set forth in resolution 545 D (XVIII), which, by requesting the Sub-Commission to limit its study to "the right of everyone to 'leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country'", implicitly excluded immigration from the scope of this study.

889th plenary meeting,
29 July 1955.

C

STUDIES IN THE FIELD OF DISCRIMINATION TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE SUB-COMMISSION ON PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION AND PROTECTION OF MINORITIES

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered chapter IV of the report of the Commission on Human Rights on its eleventh session,⁵⁶ which relates to the report of the seventh session of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities,⁵⁷

Noting that at its seventh session the Sub-Commission completed the discussion of the preliminary reports on the procedure to be followed in carrying out studies of discrimination in 1955 in the matter of:

(a) Political rights mentioned in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,⁵⁸

(b) Religious rights and practices,⁵⁹

(c) Emigration, immigration and travel,⁶⁰

Considering that both the Council and the Commission had taken no action to revise the plan of the Sub-Commission that a new study in one of the above-mentioned fields should be undertaken in 1955, whether or not the study of discrimination in education had been completed,

1. Expresses its regret that the necessary steps were not taken to make such a study possible in 1955;

2. Commends the Sub-Commission for its efforts and endorses the programme of work which it has adopted, subject to the revision of the study mentioned under sub-paragraph (c) above to read: "The right of everyone to leave any country, including his own, and to return

⁵⁴ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eighteenth Session, Supplement No. 7 (E/2573), paras. 486 to 495.*

⁵⁵ *Ibid., Twentieth Session, Supplement No. 6 (E/2731 and Corr.1), Annex I, draft resolution A.*

⁵⁶ *Ibid.*, chapter IV.A.

⁵⁷ E/CN.4/711.

⁵⁸ E/CN.4/Sub.2/165.

⁵⁹ E/CN.4/Sub.2/162.

⁶⁰ E/CN.4/Sub.2/167.

to his country, as provided in article 13, paragraph 2, of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights”;

3. *Authorizes* the Sub-Commission to undertake one further study in the field of discrimination in 1956 and another, if possible, in 1957;

4. *Expresses* the hope that the specialized agencies and the non-governmental organizations concerned will continue to give the Sub-Commission all the co-operation and assistance it may require, and that the Commission on the Status of Women will continue to co-operate with the Sub-Commission;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in view of the importance of the work of the Sub-Commission and its needs, to take adequate measures to provide the Sub-Commission with the financial and administrative assistance necessary to enable it to pursue its studies without delay.

889th plenary meeting,
29 July 1955.

D

RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING INTERNATIONAL RESPECT FOR THE RIGHT OF PEOPLES AND NATIONS TO SELF-DETERMINATION

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered General Assembly resolution 837 (IX) in which the Assembly requested the Commission on Human Rights to complete its recommendations concerning international respect for the right of peoples and nations to self-determination,

Noting that the Commission, at its eleventh session, reaffirmed⁶¹ the recommendations contained in draft resolutions F I and II adopted by the Commission at its tenth session,⁶²

1. *Transmits* to the General Assembly, pursuant to its resolution 837 (IX), the following draft resolutions proposed by the Commission, for consideration, together with the records of the debate at the twentieth session of the Council:⁶³

I

The General Assembly,

Noting that the right of peoples and nations to self-determination as affirmed in the two draft covenants completed by the Commission on Human Rights⁶⁴ includes ‘permanent sovereignty over their natural wealth and resources’,

Believing it necessary to have full information at its disposal regarding the actual extent and character of this sovereignty,

“1. *Decides* to establish a commission consisting of . . . to conduct a full survey of the status of this

⁶¹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twentieth Session, Supplement No. 6 (E/2731 and Corr.1), para. 122.*

⁶² *Ibid., Eighteenth Session, Supplement No. 7 (E/2573), para. 335.*

⁶³ E/AC.7/SR.319, 324 to 328 and *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twentieth Session, 889th and 890th meetings.*

⁶⁴ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eighteenth Session, Supplement No. 7 (E/2573), Annex I.*

basic constituent of the right to self-determination, with recommendations, where necessary, for its strengthening; and that, in the conduct of the full survey of the status of the permanent sovereignty of peoples and nations over their natural wealth and resources, due regard shall be paid to the rights and duties of States under international law and to the importance of encouraging international co-operation in the economic development of under-developed countries;

“2. *Invites* the regional economic commissions and the specialized agencies to co-operate with the Commission in its task;

“3. *Requests* the Commission to report to the Economic and Social Council at its twenty-second session;

“4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Commission with the necessary staff and facilities.”

II

The General Assembly,

Recalling that it is among the purposes and principles of the United Nations to develop friendly relations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples,

Recalling further that under Article 14 of the United Nations Charter, the General Assembly may recommend measures for the peaceful adjustment of any situation, regardless of origin, which it deems likely to impair the general welfare or friendly relations among nations,

Considering that inadequate realization of the right to self-determination not only undermines the basis of these friendly relations as defined in the Charter, but also creates conditions which may prevent further realization of the right itself,

Believing that such a situation is contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations and that its peaceful rectification is therefore a matter of immediate concern,

“1. *Decides* to establish a commission consisting of the representatives of . . . with the following terms of reference:

“(a) The Commission shall examine any situation resulting from alleged denial or inadequate realization of the right to self-determination which falls within the scope of Article 14 of the Charter and to which the Commission’s attention is drawn by any ten States Members of the United Nations;

“(b) The Commission shall provide its good offices for the peaceful rectification of any situation it is required to examine;

“(c) If within six months no adjustment of the situation can be effected to the satisfaction of the parties concerned, the Commission shall report the facts, with appropriate recommendations, to the General Assembly;

“2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Commission with the necessary staff and facilities.”

2. *Transmits*, furthermore, to the General Assembly for its consideration the following draft resolution:

" The General Assembly,

" Recalling that under Article 1 of the Charter it is among the purposes and principles of the United Nations 'to develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples',

" Recalling further that under Article 55 of the Charter the United Nations is to promote social and economic progress, international cultural and educational co-operation, and universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, with a view to the creation of conditions of stability and well-being which are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples,

" Considering that there is a wide difference of views regarding the meaning and applicability of the principles of equal rights and of self-determination of peoples as mentioned in Article 1 of the Charter, which differences it would be desirable to remove in the interest of friendly relations between States,

" Believing that, for the most effective action in this field by States Members of the United Nations, it is essential that there be the widest possible measure of understanding and agreement as to the meaning and applicability of the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, and as to its relationship to other Charter principles,

" 1. Decides to establish an Ad Hoc Commission on Self-Determination, consisting of five persons to be appointed by the Secretary-General, to conduct a thorough study of the concept of self-determination;

" 2. Considers that the terms of reference of this Commission should include examination of:

" (a) The concept of peoples and nations;

" (b) The essential attributes and applicability of the principle of equal rights and of self-determination, including the rights and duties of States under international law;

" (c) The relationship between the principle of self-determination and other Charter principles;

" (d) The economic, social and cultural conditions under which the application of the principle is facilitated;

" 3. Invites appropriate United Nations bodies and the specialized agencies to co-operate with the Ad Hoc Commission in its task;

" 4. Requests the Ad Hoc Commission to transmit its report to the Economic and Social Council at its twenty-third session and to the General Assembly at its twelfth regular session, together with the comments of the Council on the economic, social and cultural aspects of the report;

" 5. Requests the Secretary-General to provide the Commission with the necessary staff and facilities."

*889th plenary meeting,
29 July 1955.*

E

ADVISORY SERVICES IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

The Economic and Social Council,

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

" The General Assembly,

" Considering that by Articles 55 and 56 of the United Nations Charter the States Members of the United Nations have pledged themselves to promote universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

" Recognizing that technical assistance, by the international interchange of technical knowledge through international co-operation among countries, represents one of the means by which it is possible to promote the human rights objectives of the United Nations as set forth in the Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

" Taking note of resolution 729 (VIII) of the General Assembly authorizing the Secretary-General to render, at the request of Member States, services which do not fall within the scope of existing technical assistance programmes, in order to assist those States in promoting and safeguarding the rights of women,

" Taking note of resolution 730 (VIII) of the General Assembly authorizing the Secretary-General to render, at the request of any Member State, technical advice and other services which do not fall within the scope of existing technical assistance programmes, in order to assist the Government of that State within its territory in the eradication of discrimination or in the protection of minorities, or both,

" Taking note of resolution 839 (IX) of the General Assembly authorizing the Secretary-General to render, at the request of Member States, services which do not fall within the scope and objectives of existing technical assistance programmes, in order to assist those States in promoting freedom of information, and resolution 574 A (XIX) of the Economic and Social Council requesting the Secretary-General to take steps to put into operation a programme to promote freedom of information by providing such services as experts, fellowships and seminars,

" Taking account of the arrangements previously established by the General Assembly concerning the regular technical assistance programme and the advisory services of the United Nations in its resolutions 200 (III), 246 (III), 305 (IV), 418 (V), 518 (VI) and 723 (VIII),

" Considering that the specialized agencies, within their competence and by virtue of their regular programmes of technical assistance, are already rendering important services to their members with a view to ensuring the effective observance of human rights:

" 1. Decides to consolidate the technical assistance programmes already approved by the General Assembly (relating to the promotion and safeguarding of the rights of women, the eradication of discrimination and protection of minorities, and the promotion of freedom of

information) with the broad programme of assistance in the field of human rights proposed in this resolution, the entire programme to be known as ' Advisory services in the field of human rights ' ;

" 2. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General:

" (a) Subject to the directions of the Economic and Social Council, to make provision at the request of Governments, and with the co-operation of the specialized agencies where appropriate and without duplication of their existing activities, for the following forms of assistance with respect to the field of human rights:

- (i) Advisory services of experts;
- (ii) Fellowships and scholarships;
- (iii) Seminars;

" (b) To take the programme authorized by this resolution into account in preparing the budgetary estimates of the United Nations;

" 3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake the performance of the assistance provided for in paragraph 2 (a) above, in agreement with the Governments concerned, on the basis of requests received from Governments and in accordance with the following policies:

" (a) The kind of service to be rendered to each country under paragraph 2 (a) (i) shall be determined by the Government concerned;

" (b) The selection of the persons under paragraph 2 (a) (ii) shall be made by the Secretary-General on the basis of proposals received from Governments, which shall indicate their preferences with regard to host countries, and those persons shall be acceptable to the host countries;

" (c) The amount of assistance and the conditions under which it is to be rendered shall be decided by the Secretary-General with due regard to the greater needs of the under-developed areas and in conformity with the principle that each requesting Government shall be expected to assume responsibility, as far as possible, for all or a considerable part of the expenses connected with the assistance furnished to it, either by making a contribution in cash, or in the form of services for the purpose of carrying out the programme;

" (d) The assistance shall be applicable to any subject in the field of human rights, in addition to the subjects covered by the existing resolutions of the General Assembly, provided however that the subject shall be one for which adequate advisory assistance is not available through a specialized agency and which does not fall within the scope of existing technical assistance programmes;

" 4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report regularly to the Economic and Social Council, to the Commission on Human Rights and, as appropriate, to the Commission on the Status of Women, on the measures which he takes in compliance with the terms of this resolution;

" 5. *Recommends* that the specialized agencies continue to develop their technical assistance activities with a view to aiding member States to further the effective observance of human rights;

" 6. *Invites* the specialized agencies to communicate to the Economic and Social Council, for transmission to

the Commission on Human Rights, any observations which they may find appropriate on the above assistance and on any new measures of assistance which they may deem necessary with a view to assisting member States in furthering the effective observance of human rights;

" 7. *Expresses* the hope that international and national non-governmental organizations, universities, philanthropic foundations and other private groups will supplement this United Nations programme with similar programmes designed to further research and studies, the exchange of information and assistance in the field of human rights."

*889th plenary meeting,
29 July 1955.*

587 (XX). Status of women

A

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note of the report of the Commission on the Status of Women (ninth session).⁶⁵

*890th plenary meeting,
3 August 1955.*

B

POLITICAL RIGHTS OF WOMEN

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting the report of the Secretary-General on political rights of women, which this year appears as a complete document,⁶⁶

Believing that this annual report is of great value as a source of information on the constitutional provisions and laws in effect and also on the historical development of woman suffrage,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in this report all the States which are Members of the United Nations and/or the specialized agencies and/or are Parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice;

2. *Invites* the Secretary-General to include in an annex to this report pertinent information available to him on States non-members of the aforementioned organizations or not parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice;

3. *Requests* also that in presenting information on the Convention on the Political Rights of Women in table IX, the Secretary-General include information on reservations and objections to reservations to this Convention.

*890th plenary meeting,
3 August 1955.*

⁶⁵ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twentieth Session, Supplement No. 2 (E/2727).*

⁶⁶ A/2692 and Corr.1.

C

EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting article 23, paragraph 2, of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which, referring to all men and women workers, states that "everyone, without any discrimination, has the right to equal pay for equal work",

Observing that adoption by Governments of the principle of equal pay requires practical implementation to give this principle full meaning and effect,

Noting that methods appropriate for implementing the equal pay principle are described in the International Labour Convention (No. 100) and the Recommendation (No. 90) concerning Equal Remuneration for Men and Women Workers for Work of Equal Value,

1. *Urges* the Governments of all States, whether or not they are Members of the United Nations, to take legislative or other measures for the application of the principle of equal pay for equal work for men and women;

2. *Recommends* that Governments, in making plans for technical assistance, include in such plans projects for utilization of technical advisory services designed to develop appropriate methods, where such methods do not now exist, for giving practical effect to the principle of equal pay, and that high priority be given to such projects;

3. *Encourages* the non-governmental organizations to continue their efforts to create an informed public opinion in favour of the principle of equal pay.

*890th plenary meeting,
3 August 1955.*

D

STATUS OF WOMEN IN PRIVATE LAW

I

LEGAL STATUS OF MARRIED WOMEN

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting the reports on the status of women in family law and on property rights prepared by the Secretary-General⁶⁷ on the basis of information supplied by Governments as well as from other authoritative sources,

Believing that these reports should be brought up to date annually and submitted to the Commission on the Status of Women,

Believing also that the valuable information collected by the Secretary-General should be made available to the public in the form of a printed publication containing a comparative analysis of the various aspects of the problem of the legal status of married women,

Requests the Secretary-General to bring up to date, in annual reports for submission to the Commission, information on legislation and practice relating to the

⁶⁷ E/CN.6/185/Add.14, E/CN.6/208/Add.2, E/CN.6/229/Rev.1, E/CN.6/230/Rev.1 and Corr.1, E/CN.6/255, E/CN.6/260, E/CN.6/260/Add.1 and Corr.1, E/CN.6/260/Add.2.

status of women in family law and to property rights' and to prepare and arrange for the publication at an early date of material on the legal status of married women.

*890th plenary meeting,
3 August 1955.*

II

PARENTAL RIGHTS AND DUTIES

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting that in the legal system of some countries parental authority belongs exclusively to the father; that in many others it is exercised primarily by the father, whose decision prevails in case of disagreement between the parents; that in some countries, upon the death or removal from authority of the father, parental authority does not pass to the mother as a matter of right or is withdrawn from her in the event of her remarriage; that in some countries, on the dissolution of the marriage, the father receives the custody of the children as a matter of right regardless of the apportionment of blame between the spouses,

Noting that in some countries this situation prompts women to refuse the regularization of their union in order to safeguard their claims and those of their families to children born of the union,

Believing that the sharing by the parents of rights and duties with respect to their children is of benefit not only to the status of women but also to that of the children and to the family as an institution,

Believing also that such limitation of the authority of the mother is incompatible with the principle of equality of the spouses during marriage and at its dissolution as well as with the right of both parents to choose the kind of education to be given to their children, as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Recommends that States Members of the United Nations take all necessary measures to ensure equality as between parents in the exercise of rights and duties with respect to their children.

*890th plenary meeting,
3 August 1955.*

III

DOMICILE OF MARRIED WOMEN

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting that in the legal systems of many countries the domicile of the wife follows that of her husband; that in these countries the wife, upon marriage, loses her original domicile and acquires the domicile of her husband which she retains until the dissolution of the marriage, even if residing separately,

Believing that such legal systems are incompatible with the principle of equality of spouses during marriage proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and *noting* that their application results in particular hardships for married women in countries where domicile determines the jurisdiction of courts in matrimonial matters and where the law of the place of domicile governs the personal status of the individual,

Recommends that Governments take all necessary measures to ensure the right of a married woman to an independent domicile.

*890th plenary meeting,
3 August 1955.*

E

DRAFT CONVENTION ON THE NATIONALITY OF MARRIED WOMEN

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting the recommendation made by the Commission on the Status of Women at its ninth session that a convention on the nationality of married women be opened for signature and ratification or accession by States,⁶⁸

Considering that the time is appropriate to conclude, under the auspices of the United Nations, an international convention on the nationality of married women, designed to eliminate conflicts in law arising out of provisions regarding the loss or acquisition of nationality by women as a result of marriage, of its dissolution or of the change of nationality by the husband during marriage,

1. *Recommends* to the General Assembly that an international convention on the nationality of married women be adopted;

2. *Submits* to the General Assembly for consideration the following preamble and substantive articles:

DRAFT CONVENTION ON THE NATIONALITY OF MARRIED WOMEN⁶⁹

The Contracting States,

Recognizing that conflicts in law and in practice with reference to nationality arise as a result of provisions concerning the loss or acquisition of nationality by women as a result of marriage, of its dissolution or of the change of nationality by the husband during marriage,

Recognizing that in article 15 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights the General Assembly of the United Nations has proclaimed that "everyone has the right to a nationality" and that "no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his nationality nor denied the right to change his nationality",

Desiring to co-operate with the United Nations in promoting universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to sex,

Hereby agree as hereinafter provided:

Article 1

The Contracting States agree that neither the celebration nor the dissolution of a marriage between one of its

⁶⁸ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twentieth Session, Supplement No. 2 (E/2727), para. 97.*

⁶⁹ The Commission on the Status of Women adopted the preamble and articles 1 to 3 of the draft convention (*Ibid.*, paras. 92 to 95) and decided to refer articles 4 to 11, together with the amendments thereto, to the Economic and Social Council (para. 90).

nationals and an alien, nor the change of nationality by the husband during marriage, shall automatically affect the nationality of the wife.

Article 2

The Contracting States agree that neither the voluntary acquisition of the nationality of another State nor the renunciation of its nationality by one of its nationals shall prevent the retention of its nationality by the wife of such national.

Article 3

1. The Contracting States agree that the alien wife of one of its nationals may, at her request, acquire the nationality of her husband through specially privileged naturalization procedures, subject however to such limitations as may be imposed in the interests of national security and public policy.

2. The Contracting States agree that this Convention shall not be construed as affecting any legislation or judicial practice by which the alien wife of one of its nationals may, at her request, acquire her husband's nationality as a matter of right.

Annex

A

FINAL ARTICLES CONTAINED IN THE DRAFT RESOLUTION SUBMITTED
BY CUBA⁷⁰ AND AMENDMENTS THERETO

Article 4

This Convention shall be open for signature by any State Member of the United Nations and by any State not a member of the United Nations which is or may in the future be a member of one or more of the specialized agencies of the United Nations, or which is or becomes a Party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice.

2. This Convention shall be ratified and the instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Article 5

1. This Convention shall be open for accession to all States referred to in paragraph 1 of article 4.

2. Accession shall be effected by the deposit of an instrument of accession with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Article 6

1. This Convention shall come into force on the ninetieth day following the date of deposit of the sixth instrument of ratification or accession.

2. For each State ratifying or acceding to the Convention after the deposit of the sixth instrument of ratification or accession, the Convention shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after deposit by such State of its instrument of ratification or accession.

Article 7

1. At the time of signature, ratification or accession, any State may make reservations to any article of this Convention other than article (s) . . .

2. Any State making a reservation in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article may at any time withdraw the reservation by communication to this effect addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

⁷⁰ E/CN.6/L.153 and Corr. 1.

Article 8

1. Any State may denounce this Convention by written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Denunciation shall take effect one year after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General.

2. This Convention shall cease to be in force as from the date when the denunciation which reduces the number of Parties to less than six becomes effective.

Article 9

Any dispute which may arise between any two or more Contracting States concerning the interpretation or application of this Convention, which is not settled by negotiation, shall, at the request of any one of the Parties to the dispute, be referred to the International Court of Justice for decision, unless they agree to another mode of settlement.

Article 10

The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall notify all States Members of the United Nations and the non-member States contemplated in paragraph 1 of article 4 of this Convention of the following:

- (a) Signature and instruments of ratification received in accordance with article 4;
- (b) Instruments of accession received in accordance with article 5;
- (c) The date upon which this Convention enters into force in accordance with article 6;
- (d) Communications and notifications received in accordance with article 7;
- (e) Notifications of denunciation received in accordance with paragraph 1 of article 8;
- (f) Abrogation in accordance with paragraph 2 of article 8.

Article 11

1. This Convention, of which the Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts shall be equally authentic, shall be deposited in the archives of the United Nations.

2. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall transmit a certified copy to all States Members of the United Nations and to the non-member States contemplated in paragraph 1 of article 4.

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: amendment ⁷¹ to the draft resolution submitted by Cuba

After article 6 insert new article ⁷²: "The present Convention shall apply in relation to the national status which is possessed by reason of connexion with the metropolitan territory of a Contracting State or with any territory which is treated as one with the metropolitan territory for the purpose of nationality. Any Contracting State may at the time of its ratification or accession or thereafter declare by notification addressed to the Secretary-General that the Convention shall apply in relation to any other national status which is possessed by reason of connexion with any other territory, named in the declaration, for the international relations of which that State is responsible."

United States of America: amendment ⁷³ to the draft resolution submitted by Cuba

Delete article 7 and replace by: "In the event that any State submits a reservation to any of the articles of this Convention

⁷¹ E/CN.6/L.164.

⁷² This text replaces the article submitted to the Commission on the Status of Women, at its eighth session, by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and reproduced in the Annex to Council resolution 547 C (XVIII).

⁷³ E/CN.6/L.165.

at the time of signature, ratification or accession, the Secretary-General shall communicate the text of the reservation to all States which are or may become Parties to this Convention. Any State which objects to the reservation may, within a period of ninety days from the date of the said communication (or upon the date of its becoming a Party to the Convention), notify the Secretary-General that it does not accept it. In such case, the Convention shall not enter into force as between such State and the State making the reservation."

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics: amendments ⁷⁴ to the draft resolution submitted by Cuba

1. In article 7, paragraph 1, of the draft convention delete the words: "other than article(s) . . .".

2. In article 9, replace the words "at the request of any one" by the words "with the consent".

Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic: amendments ⁷⁵ to the draft resolution submitted by Cuba

1. Amend as follows article 4, paragraph 1, of the draft convention on the nationality of married women: "1. This Convention shall be open for signature by any State Member of the United Nations and also by any other State."

2. Amend accordingly, as follows, the last paragraph of the draft resolution ⁷⁶ which relates to the Parties to the convention: "Recommends to the General Assembly that an international convention on the nationality of married women, containing the following preamble and articles, be opened for signature and ratification or accession by States Members of the United Nations and by non-member States."

Australia: amendments ⁷⁷ to the draft resolution submitted by Cuba

1. Amend article 4, paragraph 1, of the draft convention on the nationality of married women as follows: "1. This Convention shall be open for signature and ratification on behalf of any State Member of the United Nations and also on behalf of any other State which is or hereafter becomes a member of any specialized agency of the United Nations, or which is or hereafter becomes a Party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice, or any other State to which an invitation has been addressed by the General Assembly of the United Nations."

2. Amend accordingly the last paragraph of the draft resolution ⁷⁶ which concerns Parties to the convention as follows: "Recommends to the General Assembly that an international convention on the nationality of married women containing the following preamble and articles be opened for signature and ratification or accession by States Members of the United Nations and by non-member States which are or may in the future become members of one or more of the specialized agencies, or which are or may become Parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice, or any other State to which an invitation may be addressed by the General Assembly."

⁷⁴ E/CN.6/L.169.

⁷⁵ E/CN.6/L.170.

⁷⁶ See E/CN.6/L.153 and Corr.1. The last paragraph of the draft resolution submitted by Cuba read as follows: "Recommends to the General Assembly that an international convention on the nationality of married women, containing the following preamble and articles, be opened for signature and ratification or accession by States Members of the United Nations and by non-member States which are or may in the future be members of one or more of the specialized agencies of the United Nations, or which are or become Parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice: ""

⁷⁷ E/CN.6/L.173.

B

AMENDMENT SUBMITTED BY AUSTRALIA TO ARTICLE 3 OF THE DRAFT CONVENTION ON THE NATIONALITY OF MARRIED WOMEN ⁷⁸

Delete paragraph 1 of article 3 of the draft convention on the nationality of married women and substitute therefor the following paragraph: "1. The Contracting States agree that, whenever the alien wife of one of its nationals requests the grant of the nationality of her husband, specially privileged naturalization procedures shall apply."

F

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN

I

OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN IN HANDICRAFT AND COTTAGE INDUSTRIES

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting the economic dependence of women upon handicraft and cottage industries in countries with a seasonal agricultural economy,

Noting with appreciation the valuable information contained in the report prepared by the International Labour Office on the development of opportunities for women in handicraft and cottage industries ⁷⁹

1. *Recommends* that Governments of States Members of the United Nations make extensive use of this report when plans for the development of handicraft and cottage industries are contemplated or when such projects are included in their plans for technical assistance;

2. *Invites* the International Labour Organisation to continue its studies in this field and to keep the Commission on the Status of Women informed of the progress achieved;

3. *Transmits* this resolution to the Trusteeship Council and the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories for their appropriate consideration.

*890th plenary meeting,
3 August 1955.*

II

VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND GUIDANCE FOR WOMEN

The Economic and Social Council,

Realizing that economic independence for women is necessary to better their status,

Recognizing generally that traditions and local customs are often a barrier to achieving these aims,

Believing that the participation of women in economic life is often hampered by:

(a) The lack of vocational guidance and training facilities for women, including apprenticeship,

(b) The lack of employment service and employment counselling facilities to help women meet the labour market demands in accordance with their capacities and aptitudes,

⁷⁸ E/AC.7/L.267.

⁷⁹ E/CN.6/267.

1. *Invites* Governments to include, in their requests for technical assistance, projects aimed at the establishment of services, including vocational guidance and training and employment services, to help women secure increased opportunities in the labour market;

2. *Urges* non-governmental organizations to work for the eradication of all possible obstacles in the way of the economic emancipation of women.

*890th plenary meeting,
3 August 1955.*

III

ECONOMIC RIGHTS OF WOMEN

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering that the principle of equal rights for men and women has not yet received universal recognition and that equal rights with men have not yet been granted to women in many countries,

Recognizing the importance of granting women equal rights with men in all branches of economic life,

Recommends that all States Members and non-members of the United Nations should:

1. Adopt legislative and other measures which will help to remove economic discrimination against women, including measures to provide women with suitable economic opportunities by granting them equal rights with men to employment, pay, education, rest and material security in case of old age, illness or loss of capacity to work;

2. Encourage such action as will secure for women, in the economic field, equal rights with men in all countries, including the Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories.

*890th plenary meeting,
3 August 1955.*

G

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN

The Economic and Social Council,

Having noted with satisfaction the progress report prepared by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the access of women to education ⁸⁰, as well as its efforts to spread fundamental education and general culture,

Recalling resolution 547 K (XVIII) concerning the access of women to education, in which the Economic and Social Council recommended that Governments should take legislative and other measures to improve the position of women in the field of education,

Noting with concern the low percentage of women receiving secondary education, particularly in areas of low economy,

Considering that, side by side with the measures to be taken by Governments, wider use should be made of the resources available to UNESCO in this field,

⁸⁰ E/CN.6/266.

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.

590 (XX). General review of the development and co-ordination of the economic, social and human rights programmes and activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies as a whole

A

The Economic and Social Council,

I

Recalling its co-ordinating functions under Articles 58 and 63 of the United Nations Charter,

Having examined the statement by the Secretary-General entitled "General Review of the Development and Co-ordination of the Economic, Social and Human Rights Programmes and Activities of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies as a Whole"⁹² and the annual reports of the specialized agencies,⁹³

Having further examined the seventeenth and eighteenth reports of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination,⁹⁴

Considering that close co-ordination in the work of the United Nations and the specialized agencies is indispensable in order to achieve the maximum benefit from their limited resources,

1. Takes note of the above-mentioned reports;⁹⁵

⁹² Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twentieth Session, Annexes, agenda item 4, document E/2769.

⁹³ International Labour Organisation, *Ninth Report of the International Labour Organisation to the United Nations*, Geneva, 1955 (E/2733); Food and Agriculture Organization, *Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to the Twentieth Session of the Economic and Social Council* (E/2753), *Report of the Twentieth Session of the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization*, Rome, November 1954 (E/2753/Add.1) and *The State of Food and Agriculture 1954*, Rome, September 1954 (E/2753/Add.2); United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Report to the United Nations 1954-55* (E/2735); World Health Organization, *The Work of WHO 1954, Annual Report of the Director-General to the World Health Assembly and to the United Nations*: Official Records of the World Health Organization No. 59, Geneva, March 1955 (E/2724) and *Supplementary Report: Notes on the Report of the World Health Organization for 1954*, June 1955 (E/2724/Add.1); International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, *Ninth Annual Report to the Board of Governors 1953-1954*, Washington, D.C. (E/2668) and *Supplement to the Ninth Annual Report* (E/2668/Add.1); International Monetary Fund, *Annual Report of the Executive Directors for the Fiscal Year ended April 30, 1954*, Washington, D.C. (E/2661) and *Summary of Activities May 1, 1954 to December 31, 1954* (E/2661/Add.1); International Civil Aviation Organization, *Report of the Council to the Assembly on the Activities of the Organization in 1954*, Montreal, June 1955 (E/2749), *Council's Budget Estimates, 1956, and Information Annex*, Montreal, May-June 1955 (E/2749/Add.1) and *Supplementary Report to the Assembly on the Activities of the Organization, 1 January - 31 May 1955* (E/2749/Add.2); Universal Postal Union, *Report on the Work of the Union 1954*, Berne (E/2692); International Telecommunication Union, *Report on the Activities of the International Telecommunication Union for 1954* (E/2748); World Meteorological Organization, *Annual Report of the World Meteorological Organization 1954*, Geneva, 1955 (E/2722).

⁹⁴ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twentieth Session, Annexes, agenda item 4, documents E/2659 and Corr.1, E/2728 and Corr.1.

⁹⁵ Specific action was taken by the Council on the reports of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (E/2668, E/2668/Add.1) and of the International Monetary Fund (E/2661, E/2661/Add.1) at the nineteenth session. See resolutions 561 (XIX) and 562 (XIX).

2. Notes with appreciation the efforts of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, under the chairmanship of the Secretary-General, to foster greater co-ordination of the programmes and operations of the United Nations and the specialized agencies;

3. Reaffirms:

(a) The need for continuing concentration of effort on the part of the United Nations and the specialized agencies in order to ensure the most effective use of available resources and, accordingly, the curtailment of less important activities;

(b) As an over-all objective the economic and social development of under-developed areas;

4. Stresses, in the interest of co-ordination and co-operative action, the importance of early and close consultation among the United Nations and the specialized agencies in the advance planning of programmes of interest to more than one of these bodies, and invites the co-operation of the specialized agencies to this end;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to consider, with the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, the various questions raised and suggestions made in the course of the Council's discussions⁹⁶ and to prepare, for the twenty-second session of the Council, a report with particular reference to any methods used and any consultations held relating to the advance planning of programmes and projects;

6. Considers that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies should review from time to time their publications and studies and the use made of them, in order to determine the extent to which they are of specific and continuing value;

7. Invites the Secretary-General, the subsidiary bodies of the Council, and the specialized agencies to bear in mind that certain activities might better be undertaken by such bodies as universities, national, private or public institutions, or non-governmental organizations;

8. Expresses the belief that in the interest of better preparation and adequate representation, efforts should be made by the United Nations and the specialized agencies to reduce further the number, the frequency, and, if possible, the length of conferences and meetings;

9. Transmits this resolution, together with the records of the discussion in the Council,⁹⁶ to the specialized agencies for their consideration and appropriate action;

10. Draws the attention of the subsidiary bodies of the Council to the terms of this resolution;

II.

Considering that co-ordination at the national level in relation to international organizations operating in the economic and social fields is of paramount importance to the co-ordination of the efforts of these organizations,

Recalling resolution 125 (II) of the General Assembly which *inter alia* "Calls upon Members to take measures

⁹⁶ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twentieth Session, 878th to 882nd and 893rd meetings and E/AC.24/SR.134 to 138.

to ensure on the national level a co-ordinated policy of their delegations to the United Nations and to the different specialized agencies in order that full co-operation may be achieved between the Organization and the specialized agencies . . . ”,

Draws the attention of all Governments to the desirability of taking further steps to ensure such co-ordination.

893rd plenary meeting,
5 August 1955.

B

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the statement by the Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs on the financial implications of actions of the Council ⁹⁷,

1. *Takes note* with appreciation of this statement;
2. *Expresses* the hope that the Secretary-General will continue to give careful study to this question and will bring his conclusions to the attention of the Council, whenever he considers it necessary;
3. *Endorses* the Secretary-General's proposal ⁹⁸ that action be suspended on project No. 24 of the programme of work of the Social Commission; ⁹⁹

4. *Endorses* the Secretary-General's proposal ¹⁰⁰ to make available in the United Nations Headquarters Library bibliographical material on works and studies relating to human rights, and *requests* the Secretary-General to suspend action on the preparation of a biblio-

⁹⁷ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twentieth Session, Annexes, agenda item 14, document E/2791.*

⁹⁸ See *ibid.*, para. 8.

⁹⁹ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 9 (E/2758), Annex II.

¹⁰⁰ *Ibid.*, Annexes, agenda item 14, document E/2791, para. 12.

graphical index to the *Yearbook on Human Rights* pending consultation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization regarding the availability of bibliographical material on that subject and to report to the Council at its twenty-second session on the outcome of those consultations.

893rd plenary meeting,
5 August 1955.

591 (XX). Term of office of members of functional commissions meeting biennially

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering that, under its previous resolutions establishing the functional commissions, the term of office of members of these commissions was fixed at three years,

Considering that, in accordance with Council resolution 557 C IV (XVIII), sessions of the Population Commission, the Statistical Commission, the Social Commission and the Transport and Communications Commission are normally convened biennially,

Considering that in order to ensure generally a more effective participation of members in the work of these commissions and to establish as much uniformity as possible with respect to the number of sessions which members of these commissions will normally attend, it is desirable to lengthen their term of office to a period of four years,

Decides that, beginning with the members elected in 1955, the term of office of the members of the Population Commission, the Statistical Commission, the Social Commission and the Transport and Communications Commission shall be four years.

893rd plenary meeting,
5 August 1955.

Other decisions taken by the Council at its twentieth session

Confirmation of members of functional commissions of the Council

At its 869th meeting, on 8 July 1955, the Council decided to defer until its resumed twentieth session the confirmation of members of functional commissions of the Council nominated by their Governments since the close of the nineteenth session.

Question of the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the Council

At its 890th meeting, on 3 August 1955, the Council decided to consider at its resumed twentieth session the question whether and by what means the tenth anniversary of the Economic and Social Council should be celebrated.

International machinery for trade co-operation

At its 891st meeting, on 4 August 1955, the Council decided to postpone until its resumed twentieth session consideration of the draft resolution entitled "International Machinery for Trade Co-operation" contained

in the report of the Economic Committee on item 2 of the agenda ¹⁰¹ as well as of the amendments proposed thereto. ¹⁰²

Question of admission of new members to the Economic Commission for Europe

At its 891st meeting, on 4 August 1955, the Council decided to postpone until its resumed twentieth session the question of the admission of new members to the Economic Commission for Europe.

Arrangements regarding the report of the Council to the General Assembly

At its 893rd meeting, on 5 August 1955, the Council agreed to the arrangements for the preparation of its report to the General Assembly described by the Secretary-General in document E/L.668.

¹⁰¹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twentieth Session, Annexes, agenda item 2, document E/2787/Rev.1.*

¹⁰² *Ibid.*, document E/L.685.

Calendar of conferences for 1956

At its 890th meeting, on 3 August 1955, the Council approved the following calendar of conferences for 1956:

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL PROGRAMME (to be held at the Headquarters of the United Nations unless otherwise stated)		CONFERENCES OF SPECIALIZED AGENCIES ¹⁰³
(January - February)	(TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL)	
3 January - (20 January) ¹⁰⁴	<i>Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities</i>	
January - February (2 weeks)	<i>Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (India)</i> ¹⁰⁵	
27 February - (29 February)	Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations	
5 March - (30 March)	<i>Commission on Human Rights</i>	
5 March - (16 March)	Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund	
13 March - (28 March)	<i>Commission on the Status of Women</i> (Geneva, Switzerland)	
3 April - (19 April)	<i>Economic Commission for Europe</i> (Geneva, Switzerland)	
April		* WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION (Geneva, Switzerland)
16 April - (4 May)	<i>Statistical Commission</i>	
17 April - (4 May)	ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (twenty-first regular session)	
23 April - (19 May)	<i>Commission on Narcotic Drugs</i> (Geneva, Switzerland) ¹⁰⁶	
April - May		* INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION (Geneva, Switzerland)
May	<i>Commission on International Commodity Trade</i>	
May	<i>Economic Commission for Latin America</i> (Committee of the Whole) (Santiago de Chile)	* UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION (Berne, Switzerland)
May		WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (Geneva, Switzerland)
6 June - (30 June)		INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION (Geneva, Switzerland)
June		INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION (Montreal, Canada)
June		* FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS (Rome, Italy)
(June - July)	(TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL)	
3 July - (4 August)	ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (twenty-second regular session) (Geneva, Switzerland)	

¹⁰³ The major annual conferences of the specialized agencies, the dates of which are established by the appropriate organs of the agencies themselves, are also shown. Where the biennial or quinquennial conferences of the agencies concerned do not fall in 1956, the probable dates of the sessions of their governing bodies are indicated by an asterisk (*). The Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations is to be held in 1957.

¹⁰⁴ The dates shown in parentheses are target terminal dates based on the best estimates that can be made of the requirements. They do not preclude either the earlier termination of the conference concerned, where the work permits, or necessary extensions of the length of the session.

¹⁰⁵ The precise dates of the session will be fixed later in the light of the discussions between the Government of India and the Secretary-General.

¹⁰⁶ The Committee on the Illicit Traffic is scheduled to meet on 18 April at Geneva (Switzerland).

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL PROGRAMME (*concluded*)

CONFERENCES OF SPECIALIZED AGENCIES (*concluded*)

(to be held at the Headquarters of the United Nations unless otherwise stated)

July	Technical Assistance Committee	
4 September – (14 September)	Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund	
September		INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT (Washington, D.C., USA)
September		INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND (Washington, D.C., USA)
18 September	(GENERAL ASSEMBLY) (eleventh regular session)	
October	<i>Commission on International Commodity Trade</i> ¹⁰⁷	* FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS (Rome, Italy)
November		UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION (New Delhi, India)
(End of November-December)	Technical Assistance Committee	
During or shortly after the eleventh regular session of the General Assembly	ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (twenty-second session resumed)	

¹⁰⁷ The place of the session, possibly away from Headquarters, to be decided later.

APPENDIX

AGENDA FOR THE TWENTIETH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL

The provisional agenda for the twentieth session, established in accordance with rules 10 and 11 of the rules of procedure, was as follows:

1. Adoption of the sessional agenda.
2. World economic situation.
3. World social situation.
4. General review of the development and co-ordination of the economic, social and human rights programmes and activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies as a whole.
5. International commodity problems.
6. Financing of economic development.
7. Technical assistance.
8. Report of the Commission on Human Rights.
9. Report of the Commission on the Status of Women.
10. International control of narcotic drugs.
11. Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.
12. Non-governmental organizations.
13. Calendar of conferences for 1956.
14. Financial implications of actions of the Council.
15. Arrangements regarding the report of the Council to the General Assembly.

16. Question of the terms of reference of the Economic, Employment and Development Commission.¹⁰⁸
17. Election of members of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations.¹⁰⁸
18. Work of the Council in 1956.¹⁰⁸
19. Disposal of items arising out of the tenth regular session of the General Assembly.¹⁰⁸

* * *

At its 864th meeting, on 5 July 1955, the Council adopted the above agenda. With regard to item 5, it decided to postpone, until the twenty-first session, consideration of the status and functions of the Interim Co-ordinating Committee for International Commodity Arrangements and of the status and functions of the Commission on International Commodity Trade.

At its 864th meeting, on 5 July 1955, the Council agreed to consider at a future meeting the inclusion in the agenda of the twentieth session of the question: "Invitations to Spain to become a party to the Protocols of 1946 and 1948 on Narcotic Drugs". At its 880th meeting, on 19 July 1955, the Council decided to consider this question under item 10.

¹⁰⁸ To be considered at the resumed twentieth session to take place during or shortly after the tenth regular session of the General Assembly.