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President: Mr. Hernán SANTA CRUZ (Chile).

Present Representatives of the following countries:
 Belgium, Canada, Chile, China, Czechoslovakia, France, India, Iran, Mexico, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Sweden, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay.

Representative of the following specialized agency:
 International Labour Organisation.

Election of one-third of the members of the functional commissions of the Council (E/2130, E/2131)

1. The PRESIDENT said that the Council's first task must be to elect one-third of the members of the functional commissions of the Council. The Secretariat had prepared two documents (E/AC.34/19 and E/2130) showing the distribution of membership of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary organs prior and subsequently to the adoption by the Council of resolution 414 (XIII) on the organization and operation of the Council and its commissions. It was interesting to note that as a result of the re-organization, the number of Member States represented on the various organs of the Council would only be reduced by one. Thus, under the new system and assuming that the membership would be identical, forty-four instead of forty-five Member States would be represented. He believed that the Council would thus meet the wishes of the General Assembly which, when discussing the proposed re-organization of the Council at its fifth session, had, in its resolution 409 (V) expressed the desire that the Council give particular attention to the retention of as wide as possible a representation of Member States on the various organs of the Council.

2. The Council should now proceed to the election of members.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Hessel (France), Mr. Birecki (Poland), Mr. de Kerchove d'Exaerde (Belgium), and Mr. Kobuschko (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) acted as tellers.

(a) TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

3. The PRESIDENT stated that there were five vacancies for membership of the Transport and Communications Commission. The countries whose term of office did not expire in 1951 were: Brazil, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Chile, China, Egypt, France, Norway, Pakistan, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.¹

<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
India	17
Netherlands	16
Poland	16
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	16
Paraguay	14
Iran	2
Mexico	2
Venezuela	2
Argentina	1
Iraq	1
Sweden	1
Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic	1
Uruguay	1

¹ <i>Number of members voting:</i>	18
<i>Invalid votes:</i>	0
<i>Valid votes:</i>	18
<i>Required majority:</i>	10

India, the Netherlands, Poland, the United Kingdom and Paraguay, having obtained the required majority, were elected members of the Transport and Communications Commission for a period of three years.

(b) FISCAL COMMISSION

4. The PRESIDENT stated that there were five vacancies for membership of the Fiscal Commission. The countries whose term of office did not expire at the end of 1951 were: Canada, China, Cuba, France, India, Poland, the Union of South Africa, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom and Venezuela.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.²

Number of votes obtained:

Pakistan	18
United States of America	17
Colombia	13
Czechoslovakia	13
Sweden	12
Belgium	5
Turkey	5
New Zealand	4
Chile	1
Egypt	1
Mexico	1

Pakistan, the United States of America, Colombia, Czechoslovakia and Sweden, having obtained the required majority, were elected members of the Fiscal Commission for a period of three years.

(c) STATISTICAL COMMISSION

5. The PRESIDENT stated that there were five vacancies for membership of the Statistical Commission. The countries whose term of office did not expire in 1951 were: Argentina, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Egypt, France, India, Panama, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the United Kingdom.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.³

Number of votes obtained:

Netherlands	18
United States of America	18
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	17
China	15
Australia	14
Philippines	4
Thailand	1

Three votes were cast for the People's Republic of China.

The Netherlands, the United States of America, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, China and Australia, having obtained the required majority, were

² Number of members voting :	18
Invalid votes :	0
Valid votes :	18
Required majority :	10

³ Number of members voting :	18
Invalid votes :	0
Valid votes :	18
Required majority :	10

elected members of the Statistical Commission for a period of three years.

6. The PRESIDENT did not consider that all eighteen votes were valid, since three of them had been cast for a country which was not a Member of the United Nations.

7. Mr. YU (China) wished to place on record his view that the People's Republic of China did not exist, China being represented by the delegation of which he himself was a member. The three votes in question were therefore invalid.

8. Mr. KATZ-SUCHY (Poland), speaking on the point of order raised by the President, could not agree that the votes were invalid. There was a Member of the United Nations normally referred to as "China", the full name of which was "The People's Republic of China". Similarly, there were Members of the United Nations currently referred to as "Venezuela" and "Mexico", but the full names of which were "The United States of Venezuela" and "The United States of Mexico". The fact that the legal representatives of the People's Republic of China were not present to take part in the Council's deliberations had nothing to do with the case.

(d) SOCIAL COMMISSION

9. The PRESIDENT stated that there were six vacancies for membership of the Social Commission. The countries whose term of office did not expire in 1951 were: Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, China, Ecuador, Israel, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and Yugoslavia.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.⁴

Number of votes obtained:

France	18
India	18
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	17
United States of America	17
Philippines	12
Greece	9
Union of South Africa	9
Turkey	2
Brazil	1
Egypt	1
Iran	1
Mexico	1
Poland	1

France, India, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United States of America and the Philippines, having obtained the required majority, were elected members of the Social Commission for a period of three years.

10. Since only five members had been elected, none of the other nominations having obtained the required majority, the PRESIDENT said that the Council would

⁴ Number of members voting :	18
Invalid votes :	0
Valid votes :	18
Required majority :	10

take a second ballot to decide which of the two States who had obtained the next highest number of votes should be elected.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.⁵

Number of votes obtained:

Greece	10
Union of South Africa	8

Greece, having obtained the required majority, was elected a member of the Social Commission for a period of three years.

(e) COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

11. The PRESIDENT stated that there were five vacancies for membership of the Commission on the Status of Women. The countries whose term of office did not expire at the end of 1951 were: Cuba, Dominican Republic, France, Lebanon, Mexico, the Netherlands, Poland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America. There were three further vacancies, since by its resolution 385 (XIII) adopted at the 556th meeting the Council had decided to increase the membership of the Commission from fifteen to eighteen. When at the eleventh session, the membership of the Statistical Commission and the Economic, Employment and Development Commission had been increased (408th and 409th meetings) the Council had adopted the following procedure:

first, the election by secret ballot of members to replace those whose terms of office had expired. Those members would serve for the three-year period:

secondly, the election, in a further ballot, of three additional members. Lots would then be drawn to decide which of those three members' terms of office should be for one, two or three years.

12. Mr. CABADA (Peru) suggested, as a simpler alternative, that the eight members should be elected in a single ballot, and that lots should then be drawn to decide which one should have a term of office of one year and which should have a term of office of two years.

It was so agreed.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.⁶

Number of votes obtained:

Iran	18
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	17
Chile	16
New Zealand	16
Pakistan	16
China	15
Brazil	14
Burma	14

⁵ Number of members voting :	18
Invalid votes :	0
Valid votes :	18
Required majority :	10

⁶ Number of members voting :	18
Invalid votes :	0
Valid votes :	18
Required majority :	10

Haiti	3
India	3
Australia	1
Denmark	1
Ecuador	1
Lebanon	1
Mexico	1
Thailand	1

Iran, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Chile, New Zealand, Pakistan, China, Brazil and Burma, having obtained the required majority, were elected members of the Commission on the Status of Women.

13. The PRESIDENT invited Mr. Calderón Puig (Mexico) to draw lots to decide which member should hold office for one year, and which for two years.

The result was as follows:

New Zealand: two years; Brazil: one year.

(f) COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

14. The PRESIDENT stated that there were six vacancies for membership of the Commission on Human Rights. The countries whose term of office did not expire at the end of 1951 were: Australia, Chile, Egypt, France, Greece, India, Pakistan, Sweden, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United States of America and Yugoslavia.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.⁷

Number of votes obtained:

Uruguay	18
Lebanon	16
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	16
China	15
Belgium	13
Nicaragua	10
Poland	10
Guatemala	5
Mexico	1
Indonesia	1
Iran	1
New Zealand	1
El Salvador	1

15. Nicaragua and Poland having obtained an equal number of votes, the PRESIDENT directed that the Council take a second vote to decide which of those two countries should be elected.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.⁸

Number of votes obtained:

Poland	11
Nicaragua	7

⁷ Number of members voting :	18
Invalid votes :	0
Valid votes :	18
Required majority :	10

⁸ Number of members voting :	18
Invalid votes :	0
Valid votes :	18
Required majority :	10

Uruguay, Lebanon, the United Kingdom, China, Belgium and Poland, having obtained the required majority, were elected members of the Commission on Human Rights for a period of three years.

(g) POPULATION COMMISSION

16. The PRESIDENT stated that there were four vacancies for membership of the Population Commission. The total number of vacancies had, however, been raised to seven by resolution 389 (XIII) adopted on 18 September 1951 to increase the number of members on the Population Commission from twelve to fifteen.

It was agreed that the Council should follow the same procedure in voting as it had applied for the Commission on the Status of Women.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.⁹

Number of votes obtained:

Mexico	18
United States of America	18
Indonesia	17
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	17
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	17
Australia	16
China	14
Burma	1
Colombia	1
New Zealand	1
Philippines	1
Uruguay	1

Mexico, the United States of America, Indonesia, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom, Australia and China, having obtained the required majority, were elected members of the Population Commission.

17. The PRESIDENT invited Mr. Hadi Husain (Pakistan) to draw lots to decide which member should hold office for one year, and which for two years.

The result was as follows:

Australia: two years; China: one year.

Refugees and stateless persons: designation of members of the United Nations High Commissioner's Advisory Committee on Refugees (E/2113)

18. The PRESIDENT recalled that by its resolution 393 (XIII) adopted at the 544th meeting, the Council had decided to establish an advisory committee to be known as the United Nations High Commissioner's Advisory Committee on Refugees. It now remained for the Council to designate fifteen States, Members and non-members of the United Nations, to serve on that committee.

⁹ Number of members voting:	18
Invalid votes:	0
Valid votes:	18
Required majority:	10

A vote was taken by secret ballot.¹⁰

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Hessel (France) and Mr. Birecki (Poland) acted as tellers.

Number of votes obtained:

Australia	13
Austria	13
Belgium	13
Brazil	13
Denmark	13
France	13
Switzerland	13
Turkey	13
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	13
United States of America	13
Venezuela	13
Federal Republic of Germany	12
Israel	12
Italy	12
The Holy See	10
Egypt	2
Eire	1
Lebanon	1

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Denmark, France, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Venezuela, the Federal Republic of Germany, Israel, Italy and the Holy See, having obtained the required majority, were designated members of the United Nations High Commissioner's Advisory Committee on Refugees.

Designation of members of the Executive Board of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (General Assembly resolution 417 (V))

19. The PRESIDENT stated that, in accordance with paragraph 6 (a) of General Assembly resolution 417 (V), the Council was required to designate two new members of the Executive Board of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) to replace the Dominican Republic and Thailand, whose term of office expired in December 1951.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.¹¹

Number of votes obtained:

Thailand	17
Peru	13
Denmark	5
Uruguay	1

Thailand and Peru, having obtained the required majority, were designated members of the Executive Board of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund for a period of three years.

¹⁰ Number of members voting:	18
Blank votes:	5
Valid votes:	13
Required majority:	7
¹¹ Number of members voting:	18
Invalid votes:	0
Valid votes:	18
Required majority:	10

The meeting was suspended at 11.15 a.m. and was resumed at 11.30 a.m.

Calendar of conferences for 1952 (E/1995/Add.3, E/2125, E/2132 and Corr.1, E/2132/Add.1 and 2)

20. The PRESIDENT noted that the calendar of conferences for 1952 alone remained for consideration by the Council since the Interim Committee on Programme of Conferences had decided at its 26th meeting (E/C.4/SR.26) to adopt the Secretary-General's recommendation (E/2125) that the next session of the Sub-Commission on Freedom of Information and of the Press should be held in 1952.

21. He drew attention to the note by the Secretary-General (E/2132 and Corr.1) submitted in accordance with Council resolution 174 (VII) and including recommendations concerning sessions of the Council and of the Council's subsidiary bodies. He also called attention to the statement of financial implications (E/2132/Add.1) as well as to the Secretariat's note on the number of meetings of the Council held during the last five years (E/2132/Add.2).

22. The Council must take a decision on the draft resolution submitted by the French delegation (E/L.300) proposing that the second regular session of the Council in 1952 should be held in Geneva. The Secretary-General had submitted a statement (E/L.300/Add.1) on the financial implications of that proposal.

23. He called upon the representative of the Secretary-General to make a statement on the financial implications connected with the calendar of conferences for 1952 in the light of the over-all budgetary situation of the United Nations.

24. Mr. POWERS (Secretariat) said that the Secretary-General's estimates for 1952 totalled over 46,500,000 dollars, which represented a figure of 1,250,000 dollars below the appropriation for the current year.

25. There had been several very considerable decreases in the estimates. For instance, the estimated requirements for the General Assembly and its committees had shown a reduction of nearly two million dollars, the estimated requirements for field missions a reduction of 1,250,000 dollars and the estimated requirements for meetings of the Economic and Social Council itself and its commissions a reduction of 300,000 dollars. Moreover, the expiration of the rental allowance for Headquarters staff in December 1951 allowed a further reduction of over 400,000 dollars.

26. The savings thus effected, totalling nearly four million dollars, had been substantially offset by proposed increases in expenditure for other purposes. There had been an increase in the estimate for the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees of 473,000 dollars, mainly in connexion with expenditure for branch offices. There was a further increase of a little over 300,000 dollars in respect of the budget for regional economic commissions. The most significant increase, however, had been for Headquarters maintenance costs at the permanent site. The increase in the budget for common services—i.e., the maintenance cost of the new premises

and the furnishing of the necessary supplies on which the work of the Organization depended—had been estimated by the Secretary-General at 1,315,000 dollars above the 1951 level and, in future years, the expenditure for that particular purpose was expected to increase still further.

27. The effect of those additional costs on the budget, and consequently on the contributions of all Members, was so significant that, in the opinion of the Secretary-General, it was essential that, from an administrative and financial point of view, the existing facilities be used to the fullest possible extent. The staff and facilities available at Headquarters were adequate, at their present level, for servicing all Headquarters activities. Those facilities would of course be infinitely superior to the previous arrangements at Lake Success. They had been designed with a view to integrating all available services both in the secretariat building itself and in the new conference area in the best possible way, with the sole aim of increasing the effectiveness of all organs of the United Nations.

28. The year 1951 had been one of considerable dislocation of staff. Not only had that had a cumulative effect on the output of the Secretariat, but it had entailed significant additional expenditure. It was the Secretary-General's policy to stabilize expenditure on staff expenses to the fullest possible extent.

29. When organs based at Headquarters held large conferences overseas, not only was additional cost incurred, but, during the period of those conferences, existing Headquarters facilities were not fully utilized, although the maintenance costs involved continued as a charge to the budget. In the circumstances, the Secretary-General considered that any proposal involving additional expenditure over and above the sum of 46,500,000 dollars in 1952 should be examined with the greatest care.

30. The Secretary-General was for those reasons informing all Members of the United Nations in his budget proposals for 1952 that it was his earnest hope that the General Assembly, the Councils and the commissions would hold their 1952 sessions at Headquarters and that he had prepared his budget estimates for 1952 on that basis.

31. Mr. BORIS (France) said that, for reasons which he considered to be of a much higher order than purely financial ones, his delegation did not agree that the sessions of the Council ought to be held exclusively at Headquarters or at the European Office in Geneva. It had hastened to accept the invitation extended by Chile, and the success of the session at Santiago had shown how right it had been to do so. To know the problems which arose in different parts of the world, to know and understand men and to be understood oneself, were the pre-requisites for international co-operation. It was undoubtedly important that the members of the Council should familiarize themselves with North America and the people of the United States, but it was equally important that the latter should be brought into contact with the rest of the world. Moreover the atmosphere in which the Council's sessions took place was of considerable importance.

32. It was true that the Council's discussions received less publicity in Europe than was given them by the United States Press when the Council met in New York. But the United States Press often accorded excessive publicity to sensational political disputes and failed to give sufficient prominence to the unobtrusive yet fruitful work that was done at most of the Council's sessions. The lack of Press publicity in Europe, moreover, was largely due to the shortage of newsprint and, during the current session, the Council had had the opportunity of dealing with that issue, which was of vital consequence to the very future of culture.

33. The financial argument against sessions being held away from Headquarters required close scrutiny. From the point of view of the budgets of the Member States, though travelling expenses were no doubt greater for certain States when the Council met at Geneva, for others they were smaller; as for living expenses, the cost of living was undoubtedly lower at Geneva than in New York.

34. Regarding the financial implications for the United Nations budget, comparisons must be limited to things that were comparable. Chiefly because distances were smaller in Geneva, the Council could work about two hours a day longer in that city than it was able to do in New York; and it was common knowledge that the weather made July and August the most unsuitable part of the year for working in New York.

35. There were other arguments in favour of the fifteenth session being held at Geneva. It would be largely devoted to co-ordination with the specialized agencies, most of which had their headquarters in Europe. Nor would it be sensible to forgo the valuable benefits of the improved equipment of the European Office.

36. International thought could not take shape in one place only. To give New York a kind of monopoly would be for the Economic and Social Council to limit, unnecessarily, and without effecting any substantial economy, the lessons it should learn for its own sake and the influence it should exercise for the good of mankind.

37. Mr. LUBIN (United States of America) said that the issue before the Council was one of great importance and deserved most careful consideration. The Council should take into account not only the cost involved and the effect on the Secretariat's working efficiency, but should bear in mind a more important consideration, namely, the effect which the adoption of the draft resolution submitted by the French delegation would have on world public opinion.

38. In recent years, his delegation had abstained from voting on whether the second regular session of the Council should be held in Geneva or New York since it had not wished to create the erroneous impression that, as host to the United Nations in New York, it wished preference to be given to that city.

39. His delegation had voted with the majority of the Council in favour of holding the twelfth session at Santiago. It had been prompted to do so by the conviction that it was desirable for the Council to meet from time to time in regions other than North America or Europe. As a matter of principle, the United States Government

believed that sessions should also be held in the Middle East or in the Far East as they were of value to the Council and to the world in general. They enabled members of the Council to appraise realistically the problems of those regions, which looked to the Council for assistance in their economic and social development, brought the United Nations closer to the peoples of those regions and helped to promote a fuller understanding of the benefits to be derived from international co-operation. From those points of view, the success of the twelfth session in Santiago had fully justified the decision taken and the additional cost involved.

40. His delegation would vote in favour of holding the second regular session of the Council in 1952 in New York since, in its opinion, there were overriding reasons for holding both the regular sessions at Headquarters that year.

41. In the first place, the fact that the Council had held several of its sessions away from Headquarters was beginning to have grave adverse effects on the work of the United Nations in the economic and social fields. The fact that the Council had not had a full session in New York since February 1950 had resulted in an enforced absence of several months from Headquarters of members of delegations and, more important still, of key members of the Secretariat. Moreover, a further period of absence would occur since the forthcoming session of the General Assembly was being held in Europe. Should the Council decide to hold its second regular session in 1952 in Geneva, members of the Council and the Secretariat connected with the Council would be obliged to leave Headquarters again after a short stay. An impossible situation would thus arise. The effectiveness of the Council's work depended largely on the documentation provided by the Secretariat. Complaints had been made with regard to the inadequacy of such documentation and to the delay in its transmission to governments. If, however, the Secretariat were prevented from carrying out its basic work by remaining away from Headquarters, it was unreasonable to expect any other state of affairs.

42. Furthermore, he must call attention to the fact that certain governments no longer found it expedient to maintain their economic and social staffs at Headquarters. His delegation consequently believed that the need for re-creating conditions propitious to fruitful work by the Secretariat and by governmental delegations made it imperative for both regular sessions of the Council in 1952 to be held at Headquarters.

43. Secondly, the records showed that many delegations in recent years had only voted in favour of holding the Council's summer session in Geneva, pending the establishment of the new Headquarters in Manhattan. Those Headquarters would be completed by the summer of 1952 and, as far as the climate was concerned, much money had been devoted to providing complete air-conditioning. Was it simply to be thrown away or was it to serve the Council and the other organs of the United Nations? Moreover, the argument that New York was less pleasant than Geneva was not a sound basis for discussion and the peoples of the world would not understand or appreciate it; still less would the soldiers

of the United Nations forces who were risking their lives in Korea to defend the ideals of the United Nations. There was a growing volume of criticism against the Economic and Social Council, based on the feeling that the Council seemed to be more interested in providing itself with luxurious conditions of work than in alleviating the misery which prevailed in the world.

44. The third argument against the French proposal was a financial one. During the previous eighteen months, the Council had spent over 500,000 dollars more on its meetings than was absolutely necessary, simply because those meetings had been held away from Headquarters. Some of that additional expenditure was warranted, as for instance, that involved in holding the twelfth session in Santiago. The fact remained, however, that the French representative was proposing to spend another 150,000 dollars in 1952 in addition to the 2 million dollars that would be required to cover the cost of the General Assembly in Paris. Furthermore, it was proposed to spend that additional sum at a time when governments throughout the world were complaining of the high cost of the United Nations, and when it was becoming increasingly difficult to obtain from national legislatures approval for the necessary contributions.

45. The forthcoming session of the General Assembly would undoubtedly be greatly concerned with questions of economy and a choice would have to be made between making additional funds available either for important work such as that of the regional commissions and the United Nations High Commissioner's Office for Refugees or for another summer session of the Council in Geneva. The Council could surely not prefer to spend 150,000 dollars on a journey to Geneva rather than on the work which it was called upon to accomplish.

46. Fourthly, should the Council decide to meet in Geneva in the summer of 1952, it would be impossible to carry out another idea which had been mentioned in the course of the thirteenth session—namely, that the Council, having held sessions in North America, Latin America and Europe, should hold one session, possibly in 1953, in the Middle East or the Far East. As a result of its experience at Santiago, the United States Government would gladly give any such proposal very careful consideration. But the United States delegation could not vote for such a proposal for 1953 unless it was first possible to re-establish New York as the headquarters of United Nations work in the economic and social field; to do so would take at least a year. The Council's choice was therefore not merely between Geneva and New York but also between Geneva and one of the under-developed parts of the world which had never yet had the opportunity of seeing the Council at work.

47. The Council had held four sessions in Geneva, but he wondered whether that had made any great difference to the economic and social development of Europe or to an appreciation in Europe of the Council's work. His delegation had been struck by the fact that Press and radio coverage from Geneva had been less adequate than that from New York or Santiago.

48. For those reasons he appealed to the Council to vote in favour of New York rather than Geneva; to vote,

in fact, in favour of the stability of the Council's work and so indicate its earnest desire to fulfil its aims rather than seek personal comfort. In making that appeal, however, he wished it to be clearly understood that he was not suggesting that the Council should always meet in New York, but rather that his Government was convinced that there were very cogent reasons for holding both sessions of the Council in New York in 1952.

49. Mr. CALDERÓN PUIG (Mexico) said that his delegation shared the views expressed by several members of the Council on the need to make known the purposes and principles of the United Nations throughout the world and to publicize the Council's activities in countries where the people had no very clear idea of the interest and significance of international problems.

50. Geneva was certainly an attractive city; facilities at the Palais des Nations were adequate for all requirements and working conditions were excellent there. But that was not the main point. Swiss public opinion had for long been aware of the need for international co-operation, and it was consequently not essential for one of the principal organs of the United Nations to meet annually at Geneva in order to stress that need. At the present time it was more important to convince United States opinion of the need. It was true that the United States was a great nation, but its people did not always understand the value and the exigencies of international co-operation.

51. There was also another point to be considered. States Members maintained at United Nations Headquarters permanent delegations which included experts in the economic and social fields. When Council sessions were held away from Headquarters, governments were obliged to draw the necessary staff and experts from those delegations, thus impairing their efficiency. In the present year, the Council had held its summer session at Geneva, and the General Assembly was about to hold its sixth session in Paris. Some thought should now be given to the United States. The Council could not continually transform itself into a mobile unit, since sessions held away from Headquarters always gave the Secretariat difficulties to overcome and problems to solve.

52. Lastly, there was the question of economy. As several members of the Council had pointed out, that should not be the deciding factor, but it must be taken into account.

53. He considered that for all those reasons the Council should hold its two regular sessions in 1952 at Headquarters. Such a decision was not incompatible with the need to disseminate the purposes and principles of the United Nations throughout the world, since Headquarters possessed comprehensive publicity and information facilities.

54. The Mexican delegation would therefore vote against the French draft resolution.

55. Mr. MOROSOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) recalled that similar discussions had been held many times in previous years and that the Council had usually decided by a large majority in favour of Geneva, not only for practical reasons but also on grounds of principle.

Most delegations had felt that sessions held in Geneva would have better results than those held in New York and the experience of the past years had confirmed that view.

56. The arguments against the French proposal were in his opinion not only weak but unjustified, and he was not surprised that the United States representative had had to strike an emotional note by referring to the intervention of troops in Korea. He (Mr. Lubin) had also implied that the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees had been granted insufficient funds and that to hold the 1952 session in Geneva would deprive him still more of financial resources. But the work of the High Commissioner had nothing in common with the aims of the Economic and Social Council. It had also been stated that the Press services in Geneva were less effective than those in New York, but he felt that members of the Council should not be deluded about the way in which those services functioned in New York.

57. Bearing all those considerations in mind, he felt that the best solution would be to hold the fifteenth session of the Council in Geneva, and his delegation would therefore support the French proposal.

58. Mr. CORLEY SMITH (United Kingdom) recalling that previous speakers, particularly the representatives of France and the United States of America, had raised questions of principle, considered that there was much of interest in their views on the long-term programme of the Council's meetings. That, however, was not the problem with which the Council was concerned now.

59. The French representative had referred to the disadvantages of working in New York and of the daily journey from New York to Lake Success. The new Headquarters, however, had been built within the city itself. The maintenance costs of the new building were very high and would constantly increase; if the Council continued to move from place to place, it would merely involve the United Nations in additional heavy financial charges which could be easily avoided.

60. By the spring of 1952 two years would have elapsed without a session of the Council being held in New York. In that interval, the new Headquarters had been built, but the Secretariat's Departments for Economic and Social Affairs had not been able to settle in. If it was true to say that the efficiency of the economic and social departments of the United Kingdom delegation had suffered from the Council's continuous travelling, the Secretariat's departments had suffered even more. If the Secretariat returned to New York in March 1952 after the General Assembly, knowing that it would have to leave again in June, it could hardly be expected to do the preparatory work on which the efficiency of the Council depended. The least the Council could do was to give it a period of twelve months in which to settle into its new surroundings and regain its former efficiency.

61. Mr. KATZ-SUCHY (Poland) considered that those representatives who had argued in favour of New York on the grounds that the maintenance expenses there were high had argued against their own proposal. While it was true that there were maintenance costs in New

York, there were also such costs in Geneva, and whether the Council met in Geneva or in New York, the same figure would appear in the budget of the United Nations. He could not agree that the Council's travels had caused the Secretariat's efficiency to decrease and, indeed if the results of the sessions held in New York were compared with those held in Geneva, the balance was all in favour of the latter.

62. While the arguments of the United Kingdom representative might have been pertinent in the early days of the Council's history when facilities in Geneva had been inadequate, the experience of delegations at the sessions previously held in Geneva as well as at Santiago clearly showed the advantages of meeting outside New York. For instance the documents service was better in other places than in New York.

63. Another argument in favour of holding the second 1952 session in Geneva was that to hold all sessions in New York imposed an unfair financial burden on a certain number of delegations which had continually to bear travelling costs. He would therefore vote in favour of the French proposal.

64. Mr. LUBIN (United States of America) wished to make it clear that, when he had stated that Press and radio coverage from Geneva had been less adequate than they were in New York, he had in no way wished to criticize the efficiency and co-operation of the United Nations information services, but had been alluding solely to information services independent of the United Nations.

65. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the French draft resolution (E/L.300).

The draft resolution was rejected, 7 votes being cast for and 7 against, with 4 abstentions.

66. The PRESIDENT requested the Council to vote on the calendar of conferences for 1952 (E/2132 and Add.1).

67. Mr. CORLEY SMITH (United Kingdom) asked that a separate vote be taken on the proposal to hold the 1952 session of the Commission on the Status of Women in Geneva since that would involve an additional expenditure of 15,500 dollars.

The proposal that the 1952 session of the Commission on the Status of Women be held in Geneva was adopted by 12 votes to 3, with 3 abstentions.

68. M. MOROSOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) recalled that his delegation had taken the view that decisions regarding the place and date of sessions of the regional economic commissions should be taken by the commissions themselves and that it had also objected to the holding of three sessions of the Council in 1952. For those reasons, he would be unable to vote in favour of the calendar of conferences.

The calendar of conferences for 1952 was adopted by 15 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

Annual report of the Economic Commission for Latin America (E/2021) (concluded)

69. The PRESIDENT recalled that it had been decided at the 533rd meeting to defer consideration of draft resolution C in the annual report (E/2021) of the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA) until the calendar of conferences for 1952 had been decided upon. At the same meeting, it had also been agreed to defer consideration of the Chilean draft resolution (E/L.301)

proposing that Portuguese should be a working language at the session of ECLA to be held at Rio de Janeiro. By adopting the calendar of conferences for 1952, the Council had decided that ECLA should not hold a regular session in 1952, but that a committee of the whole should meet at Santiago de Chile. That being so, the two above-mentioned draft resolutions became inoperative and would therefore not be put to the vote.

The meeting rose at 1.5 p.m.