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SOCIAL COUNCIL**

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ET SOCIAL**

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TECHNICAL PREPARATORY COMMISSION
FOR THE INTERNATIONAL HEALTH CONFERENCE

TWENTIEETH MEETING

Held on Thursday, 4 April 1946, at 10.30 a.m. at the
Palais d'Orsay, Paris

Chairman - Dr. René Sand

The CHAIRMAN read a telegram from M. Henri LAUGIER, Assistant Secretary-General in charge of the Department of Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, expressing his regret at his inability to attend the debates of the Committee and offering his best wishes for its success.

Agenda of the Conference

The Committee then studied the text of the proposals of the Sub-Committee appointed to consider the provisional agenda and the material arrangements for the Conference.

Dr. de Paula SOUZA, Chairman of the Sub-Committee, said that the list of questions to be placed on the agenda of the Conference was not yet complete.

Subject to this reservation, the draft agenda (Document E/H/PC/W/15) was adopted.

Resolutions

The CHAIRMAN opened the discussion on Document E/H/PC/W/12/Add.2 prepared by the Sub-Committee on Resolutions, presided over by Dr. KACERZAK.

Resolutions (1), (2) and (3) were adopted without observation.

Resolution (4) was deleted on the understanding that its contents would be submitted in the form of a recommendation.

In connection with paragraphs (5) and (6) of the document under consideration, a discussion took place on the desirability of recommending that the Economic and Social Council should set up a temporary or interim commission. This commission would take charge of the present activities of the Health Organization of the League of Nations and deal with all urgent problems outside the scope of the existing international

organization.

The Committee also discussed further tasks to be assigned to such an interim commission by the June Conference. Certain members were in favour of setting up such a commission in view of the present programme of work, while others were opposed to it. Dr. MANI considered that the June Conference should set up a preparatory or interim commission with the powers enumerated in paragraph (6) of Document E/H/PC/W/12/Add. 2; hence the attention of the Economic and Social Council should be drawn to the desirability of setting up temporary machinery to perform the duties referred to in paragraph (5) (a) and (b) of the same document. Ultimately a single body would take over all these duties.

Dr. EVANG proposed that the first sentence of paragraph (5) should be retained, and that the remainder of this paragraph, as well as paragraph (6), should be deleted.

After observations by Drs. MANI and MANIENKOF, the Committee decided to ask the Drafting Committee to amend paragraphs (5) and (6) in the light of the discussion which had just taken place.

As regards Resolution (7), Dr. MANIENKOF explained that no tribute was paid to the work of the Office International d'Hygiène Publique because, unlike the Health Organization, the Paris institution would continue its task for some time to come.

Dr. CAVAILLON proposed the addition of the following words at the end of paragraph (7): "and after the States Members of the Office International d'Hygiène Publique have joined the World Health Organization. He stated that if the new organization was set up in Paris, the French Government would be glad to place at its disposal the Hotel de la Vaupalière, a fine old mansion in the Avenue Maignon, which the Experts could visit if they so desired.

Dr. MANI asked whether the addition proposed by Dr. CAVAILLON meant that he considered that the Office International d'Hygiène Publique should not be absorbed until all the States Members had joined the new organization.

Dr. CAVAILLON replied that all that he asked was that the important

activities of the Office should be carried on in the general interests of public health. He was also thinking of certain States which would not immediately become Members of the new organization.

Dr. MANI thought that this addition was unnecessary as the text of paragraph (7) was sufficiently explicit to cover all legal eventualities; and Dr. PARRAN pointed out that if Dr. Cavaillon's proposal was adopted, the legal problem would become more complicated. He hoped that at the forthcoming session of the Permanent Committee of the Office that Committee would provide information which would lead to the solution of the problem. He was accordingly in favour of retaining the original text.

Dr. CAVAILLON mentioned that there were certain States not Members of the United Nations, such as Spain and Portugal who were close neighbours of France and who could not be left out of account in the campaign against epidemics. He would therefore like the Drafting Committee to propose some practicable solution, and thought that in any case the importance of the problem should be brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council. Subject to these observations, he withdrew his amendment.

Dr. CHISHOLM pointed out that any country could join the new organization even if it was not a Member of the United Nations, but Dr. CAVAILLON replied that allowance should be made for the possibility of such States not wishing to join.

Dr. PIERRET said that he was in favour of a single World Health Organization. The aim of Dr. Cavaillon's proposal was to provide a universal field of action in the sphere of epidemiological intelligence; the international quarantine and epidemiological services must be irreproachable. This was the aim which the Office International d'Hygiène Publique had always had before it.

Dr. PARRAN proposed to insert after the words "as soon as possible" in the penultimate line of this paragraph the words "without serious interruption of the normal operation of the epidemiological service", and this proposal was adopted.

Dr. CHISHOLM asked whether some reference to the Pan American

Sanitary Bureau should not be made in paragraph (7); it was pointed out that in that case U.N.R.R.A. should also be mentioned; and it was decided to insert a footnote saying that as regards these two organs a solution should be sought similar to that adopted for the League of Nations.

In paragraph (8), the words "for the first time" after the words "showed the world" were omitted, and the remainder of the text was adopted.

As to Resolution (9), it was decided to convey the Committee's thanks to the Corps Diplomatique, to the Prefect of the Seine-et-Oise, to the Municipality of Suresnes and to the Pasteur Institute.

In connection with paragraph (10), the Committee decided to express its thanks and congratulations to Professor Parisot, Dr. Moll, Dr. Goodman and Dr. Gaud.

Paragraph (11) was adopted without observation.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.
