

ECONOMIC AND EMPLOYMENT COMMISSION

SUB-COMMISSION ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Second Session

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE THIRTY-THIRD MEETING

Held at Lake Success, New York,
on Friday, 18 June 1948 at 11 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. V.K.R.V. RAO

Vice-Chairman
and Rapporteur: Mr. Manuel BRAVO Jimenez

Members: Mr. Roberto CAMPOS
Mr. Joseph HANC
Dr. D. K. LIEU
Mr. A.P. MOROZOV
Mr. Beardsley RUML

Representatives of Specialized Agencies:

Mr. R. METALL	International Labour Organization
Mr. A. CORRESAO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
Mr. BELSHAW	Food and Agriculture Organization
Mr. E. LOPEZ-HERRARTE	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
Mr. J.J. ANJARIA	International Monetary Fund
Mr. H. GOSSCHALK	Interim Commission of the International Trade Organization

Consultant from Non-governmental Organization:

Mr. P.D. GARVAN American Federation of Labor

Secretariat:

Mr. D. WEINTRAUB	For the Assistant Secretary-General
Mr. W. BENSON	Director, Division of Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories
Mr. A. DELBERNEUX	Deputy Director, Social Activities Div
Mr. B.G. GHATE	Secretary of the Sub-Commission

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JUN 28 1948

ITEM 4 OF THE AGENDA. INTERNATIONAL AIDS FOR THE MOBILIZATION OF THE NATIONAL RESOURCES OF UNDER-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FOR THEIR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (continuation of discussion)

The CHAIRMAN declared the meeting open and called on Mr. Benson, Director of the Division of Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories, to make a brief statement regarding the machinery existing in the Trusteeship Division for the purpose of promoting economic development in the Trust Territories and Non-Self-Governing Territories, the technical assistance provided by that Division, and the results of such assistance.

Mr. BENSON (Secretariat) pointed out that the Trust Territories, with a total population of about 15,000,000 were administered by the various countries under the terms of the Trusteeship Agreements entered into between those countries and the United Nations, and the Trusteeship Council had the duty of supervising conditions in those Territories. The sixty Non-Self-Governing Territories, with a population of approximately 200,000,000 were covered by the provisions of Chapter XI of the Charter, and were not the responsibility of the Trusteeship Council. The Member States administering them had undertaken to provide information on economic, social and educational conditions.

The Trusteeship Council operated by means of a very detailed questionnaire, by an examination of annual reports, and by periodic visits to the Trust Territories. It was possible in the case of a Trust Territory for the Trusteeship Council, in agreement with the administering authority, to undertake a special investigation and for that purpose to request the assistance of the Economic and Social Council or any of the specialized agencies. In the case of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, however, the United Nations had only to consider the economic, social and other information transmitted annually to it by the Members responsible for the administration of those territories. The Special Committee of the

/General

General Assembly, which would consider those reports, was authorized to make substantive recommendations on the basis of the information received with the reservation that such recommendations must be of a general character and not specifically directed to any particular territory.

He emphasized that the machinery of the Trusteeship Council was very new, and the Council was only now, at its present session, considering the first group of reports on Trust Territories. The Special Committee of the General Assembly to consider reports from Non-Self-Governing Territories had not yet met, but would probably meet early in September before the third session of the General Assembly, and would later report to that session.

With the exception of the request received from the United Kingdom Government in summer 1947, asking for a survey of economic conditions in the former Italian colonies, no request for assistance had been received from the administering authorities of Trust Territories. For diplomatic reasons it had been decided that the enquiry of the former Italian colonies should be postponed.

He pointed out that there were four specialists on health, education, agriculture and economic development in the Trusteeship Division. When any special problem arose it was their duty to seek the assistance of other departments of the United Nations Secretariat concerned and also that of the specialized agencies. The specialists therefore acted as liaison officers.

Replying to the CHAIRMAN, Mr. BENSON (Secretariat) said that the special committee set up by the General Assembly to enquire into the question of Non-Self-Governing Territories had been appointed for one year only.

/Mr. RUMI

Mr. RUMI asked for a list of the Trust Territories and Non-Self-Governing Territories with their respective populations.

Replying to Mr. MOROZOV, Mr. BENSON (Secretariat) said that information regarding Trust Territories was available for the year 1946. It was hoped that data regarding 1947 would be received from Governments by 30 June 1948, but so far nothing had been received.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that all documents on the subject of economic development should be made available to members of the Sub-Commission. Certain of the documents regarding Trust Territories had not been received, nor had any copies of the FAO report on its mission to Poland been circulated to members of the Sub-Commission.

Mr. WEINTRAUB (Secretariat) said that the Secretariat was doing its best to supply all such documents. One copy of the report on Tanganyika had been received only two weeks previously, and as soon as additional copies were available they would be sent to the members of the Sub-Commission. The FAO report had only been released on 14 June. The summary of that report which had been received previously had been marked "not for general distribution", and therefore had not been circulated.

Mr. BENSON (Secretariat) pointed out that, although the rules of procedure of the Trusteeship Council laid down that the administering authorities should supply 400 copies of each report, they did not do so, and the number of copies actually received did not allow of adequate distribution. In the case of the Non-Self-Governing Territories most of the reports were typewritten and submitted in duplicate only. He could not say whether the Trusteeship Council would welcome the distribution of copies of such reports to other Commissions before they had been considered by the Council.

/Replying

Replying to the CHAIRMAN, Mr. BELSHAW (Food and Agriculture Organization) said that he understood that the summary had been prepared in order to give the Polish Government advance notice of the main recommendations made, and that beyond that it had only been circulated internally.

Mr. HANC said the summary had been known to Member States some while ago.

Mr. MOROZOV emphasized the fact that the question of the economic development of Trust Territories and Non-Self-Governing Territories particularly concerned the Economic and Social Council and its Commissions, and Sub-Commissions, and that therefore all documents relating to economic development should be supplied to the Sub-Commission on Economic Development during sessions as well as between sessions.

Mr. BENSON (Secretariat), replying to Mr. CAMPOS, said that the questionnaire sent out by the Trusteeship Council was a provisional one, but Governments had been asked to draft their reports on the basis of that questionnaire. Reports already received included one on Ruanda-Urundi under Belgian administration, Tanganyika under British administration, New Guinea under Australian administration and the Cameroons under British administration. The Trusteeship Council would be asked to consider revisions in the provisional questionnaire, and the document giving suggestions for revision could be distributed to members of the Sub-Commission if they so wished.

Mr. HANC said there was no material before the Sub-Commission to enable it to review the economic development work carried out in the Trust Territories and Non-Self-Governing Territories since the end of the war.

/Mr. BENSON

Mr. BENSON (Secretariat) agreed with the remarks of Mr. Hanc, but pointed out that such information which could be usefully considered by the Sub-Commission would very soon be available.

Mr. WEINTRAUB (Secretariat) said the Trusteeship Council would be reviewing the provisional questionnaire in the light of comments made on it by Governments and specialized agencies, and the chances were that the provisional questionnaire would be revised. It might be better, therefore, to postpone the consideration of the questionnaire until the revised edition had been received. He pointed out that the questionnaire would be under continuous review and revision by the Trusteeship Council.

The Economic and Employment Commission, which had met a month previously, had realized that its review of the questionnaire circulated by the Trusteeship Council could not in any case be effective at the current session of the Council, and it had therefore set up a sub-committee to examine the Trusteeship questionnaire which would be drafted at the present session of the Trusteeship Council, and to report to the next session of the Economic and Employment Commission to be held in spring 1949.

Mr. CAMPOS agreed that it would be useless for the Sub-Commission to examine the present provisional questionnaire. Referring to document T/63, page 152, paragraph B, he asked for clarification of the phrase "in each section of the population".

Mr. BENSON (Secretariat) said the phrase in question was defined on page 2 of document T/63.

Mr. CAMPOS said he wished to ensure that it was not intended that there should be any difference in the wages paid to the various ethnic groups.

/The CHAIRMAN

The CHAIRMAN considered that the Sub-Commission should not discuss the present provisional questionnaire of the Trusteeship Council. Any members of the Sub-Commission who wished to submit suggestions for the revision of that questionnaire should forward them to the Secretary who would in turn transmit them to the Economic and Employment Commission.

He expressed the Sub-Commission's thanks to Mr. Benson for having attended the meeting and for the information he had given regarding Trust Territories and Non-Self-Governing Territories. He called on Mr. Delierneux, Deputy Director, Social Activities Division, to make a statement on behalf of the Social Division.

Mr. DELIERNEUX (Secretariat) stated that, on the basis of Article 66 of the Charter and of recommendations by the Economic and Social Council, the General Assembly had, during the second part of its first session, adopted resolution 58, which authorized the Secretary-General to take over the advisory functions in the field of social welfare previously carried on by UNRRA. A credit of \$670,000 had been allotted for that purpose, to be expended by the Economic and Social Council in close collaboration with the specialized agencies.

Resolution 58 defined the advisory functions as the provision of experts in the field of social service to any State requesting them, whether that State was a Member of the United Nations or not; the establishment of fellowships to enable social welfare officials of one country to observe conditions in other countries in the different fields of social service; the organization of regional seminars; the furnishing of demonstration equipment for the rehabilitation of physically handicapped persons, whether civilians or ex-servicemen; and the distribution of technical publications in the field of social welfare.

When the United Nations had initiated that work in 1946/1947, there had been a certain amount of scepticism, as nations receiving advice from

/UNRRA

UNRRA in the past had been accustomed to receive material aid at the same time. However, the services offered by the United Nations, which could not offer much material assistance, had aroused great interest and had met with considerable success. The programme drawn up by the Secretariat had been closely scrutinized and controlled by the various organs of the United Nations - collaboration for which the Secretariat was very grateful. There had also been welcome collaboration from the specialized agencies.

Mr. Delierneux proceeded to give figures for the 1948 programme: 38 requests for experts had been received from 12 countries, but it was only possible to satisfy 30, owing to budgetary restrictions; 174 fellowships had been requested by 13 different countries, but only 124 could be supplied; four regional seminars were being held during 1948, in Latin-America, the Far East (New Delhi), the Middle East, and Eastern Europe. With regard to rehabilitation the Social Commission considered that subject of the greatest importance and wanted it extended to include mental cases, but owing to financial considerations, that was impossible for the current year and the most that could be done was a repetition of the previous year's programme.

Certain new problems were now coming up in the broad field of social services: there was the question of administration from the legal as well as the executive point of view, the training of social service workers, the protection of children and family life, specialized services in industry, hospitals, prisons etc.

In conclusion, Mr. Delierneux emphasized the close relationship of the question of social services with economic problems, and hoped that some synthesis of the two subjects would emerge.

In reply to questions by the CHAIRMAN, he stated that the 1947/1948 programmes were to be found in the report of the third session of the Social Commission and that the allotment of \$670,000 was not a regular annual credit, but that a sum for disbursement had to be approved each year

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by the General Assembly. That sum did not include the salary of the Secretariat; in the case of experts sent to countries requesting them, the rule was for the United Nations to pay dollar expenses, such as the salary of the expert and in most cases his travel expenses until he reached the country, and for the country receiving him to pay all expenses in its own currency, namely, office accommodation, staff for the expert, travel within the country, per diem allowances, etc.

With regard to the selection of experts, Member States had been invited to submit a list of their leading experts in the different fields. So far, only six countries had provided such a list, while a few others had stated that they had so few experts that they could not make them available to the United Nations. Countries submitting the names of experts had a moral obligation to release them when their services were required, although the experts were not of necessity government officials. When requests were made, the procedure was for the list of experts to be sent to the Bureau of Personnel, where a Selection Board would consider their qualifications and select a few names from which the requesting country could then choose. There had recently been a request from the Philippines for experts in the fields of general social welfare administration, child welfare, the training of social welfare workers, and juvenile delinquency and probation. An international team had been sent, made up of experts from the United States, Brazil, France and Australia covering the four fields respectively.

Mr. CAMPOS drew attention to the fact that while a sum was allocated each year for technical services in the social field, there seemed to be no parallel in the economic field. He realized that the Sub-Commission was not competent to make budgetary recommendations, but he hoped that the Division of Economic Stability and Development would present a similar programme of technical assistance, for which it might gain the support of the General Assembly.

/Mr. HANC

Mr. HANC asked whether there had been difficulties in obtaining visas for experts sent to different countries.

Mr. DELIERNEUX (Secretariat) replied that while the obtaining of visas was sometimes a slow and difficult procedure, there had as yet been no case of an outright refusal of a visa by any Government.

Mr. BRAVO asked for further explanation with regard to fellowships: was that field considered important by the Social Commission in the allotment of finance, what fields were covered by fellowships, and what was the general policy and procedure?

Mr. DELIERNEUX (Secretariat) replied that the Social Commission thought the fellowship programme of great importance, since fellows returned to their own countries with greater information and experience. The field covered was broad, the requesting Government in each case defining its requirements. The procedure was for all requests to be considered from the point of view of the needs of the country and equity of distribution of the funds available. Fellowships lasted from four to eight months, in accordance with the range of the subject to be studied, and the average cost per capita was between \$2,000 and \$3,000. Much co-operation had been received from the countries receiving the fellows.

In reply to a question from the CHAIRMAN, Mr. Delierneux stated that the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics had given complete co-operation in response to a request for advisers. With regard to fellowships, the Secretariat was still awaiting a reply from the USSR delegation.

In reply to a question by Mr. BRAVO, Mr. Delierneux stated that fellows were not of necessity obliged to go into government service upon their return, although there was little else in the social field. The Secretariat was, however, careful to encourage Governments to select fellows who already held a position to which they would return.

/Mr. HANC

Mr. HANC asked whether the tendency was to send social service experts to those countries requiring assistance, or to suggest that the countries send their own officials abroad to learn what was being done in other countries.

Mr. DELIERNEUX (Secretariat) said that there were certain cases in which it was essential to send experts. Albania, for example, had asked for experts in social security for the preparation of legislation, and experts had been sent. China, on the other hand, had asked for a team of experts in the rehabilitation of disabled persons, and it had been suggested that the Chinese Government should send out its own officials to be trained in that field.

In reply to a question by Mr. CAMPOS, Mr. Delierneux stated that fellowships were open to all countries, not only to former recipients of UNRRA assistance.

In reply to a question by Mr. WEINTRAUB (Secretariat), Mr. Delierneux stated that if a country requesting experts was too poor, it was not necessarily obliged to meet all expenses incurred in local currency. On the other hand, United Nations did not always have to bear the cost of travel to the country, if that country had sea or air services which could be paid in local currency. With regard to the allotment of funds, the procedure was to ask Governments at the beginning of the year what their requirements would be; a certain percentage of the money available would be allocated at the beginning of April, the rest during the next few months and by the beginning of July all funds would have been allocated. The decisions with regard to allocation were made by the Secretariat.

Mr. WEINTRAUB (Secretariat), referring to the remark of Mr. Campos concerning the lack of provision for technical services in the economic field, asked for a brief history of resolution 58.

/Mr. DELIERNEUX

Mr. DELIERNEUX (Secretariat) replied that the UNRRA Council, at its last meeting in Geneva, had passed two resolutions in which it requested the United Nations (1) to take over its advisory functions, and (2) to create an International Children's Emergency Fund. There had been a struggle to obtain the necessary funds, the success of which was due to the fine efforts of the Social Commission and the Third Committee of the General Assembly.

Before adjourning the meeting, the CHAIRMAN thanked Mr. Delierneux on behalf of the Sub-Commission for his interesting and informative statement.

The meeting rose at 1.15 p.m.