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REPORT OF THE FIFTH CONFERENCE OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS
 INTERESTED IN MIGRATION

United Nations, New York, 2 to 6 May, 1955

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
I. INTRODUCTION	3
II. ORGANIZATION OF THE CONFERENCE.	4
III. OPENING STATEMENTS.	11
IV. DELIBERATIONS OF THE CONFERENCE	13
V. DECISIONS OF THE CONFERENCE	14
I. General statement.	15
II. Resolution on general principles concerning the protection of migrants.	16
III. Resolution on adherence to international conventions and recommendations.	17
IV. Resolution concerning repatriation under pressure.	17
V. Resolution on laws and practices concerning migration.	18
VI. Resolution concerning non-European migrants	20

TABLE OF CONTENTS (continued)

	<u>Page</u>
VII. Resolution concerning publications and information for use by prospective migrants	21
VIII. Resolution concerning minimum standards for the protection of migrants during the journey	22
IX. Resolution concerning remigration or repatriation	23
X. Resolution on legal assistance to migrants.	23
XI. Resolution concerning integration of migrants into the life of countries of resettlement	26
XII. Resolution concerning migrants in professional categories	27
XIII. Resolution concerning maintenance obligations abroad. . .	29
XIV. Resolution concerning the survey of inter-country social services.	29
XV. Resolution concerning studies of current migration problems.	30
XVI. Resolution concerning co-operation in programmes.	31
XVII. Resolution concerning the organizational structure of the Conference.	31
XVIII. Resolution concerning appreciation to the sponsoring organizations	35

REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Economic and Social Council at its seventh session, in its resolution on allocation of functions in the field of migration (156 (VII)A),^{1/} requested the Secretary-General "to consult with those non-governmental organizations which are interested in migration problems and particularly with trade union organizations, and to seek their advice in order to ascertain whether these organizations can make arrangements for co-ordinating their respective activities".
2. After a survey of the activities, programmes and accomplishments of the non-governmental organizations in the field of migration made by the United Nations in 1948 and 1949, it was considered that the best means for collaboration between the non-governmental organizations and the inter-governmental bodies would be the convening of an international conference. Accordingly, such a conference was convened for the first time, under the joint sponsorship of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director-General of the International Labour Office, in 1950 in Geneva; further sessions of the Conference were held in 1951 in Geneva, in 1952 in New York and in 1953 in Geneva; the reports of these Conferences appear in Annex B to United Nations document E/CN.5/192, and as United Nations documents E/CN.5/L.133, E/CN.5/274, and E/CN.5/NGO/24.
3. As a result of the decisions taken at the Fourth Conference, the Liaison Committee, which had been set up to preserve continuity between the conferences and liaison with the inter-governmental organizations concerned, established working parties and ad hoc committees to study and prepare reports on the following questions which were to be considered by the Fifth Conference:
 - (1) Implementation of general principles concerning the protection of migrants;
 - (2) Laws and practices on the admissibility of migrants;
 - (3) Simplification of administrative formalities and reduction of costs for migrants;

^{1/} E/983.

- (4) Minimum standards of protection of migrants during the journey;
- (5) Legal assistance to migrants;
- (6) Integration of migrants into the life of countries of resettlement;
- (7) Problems of migrants in professional categories;
- (8) Problem of non-European migrants
- (9) Information service.

II. ORGANIZATION OF THE CONFERENCE

4. The Fifth Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations Interested in Migration convened under the co-sponsorship of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director-General of the International Labour Office, met at the United Nations Headquarters, from 2 to 6 May, 1955. It held nine plenary meetings. The following non-governmental, governmental and inter-governmental organizations were represented:

A. Participants from Non-Governmental Organizations*

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| 1. Agudas Israel World Organization
(Organisation Mondiale Agudas Israël) | Salomon Goldsmith
Isaac Strahl
Michael G. Tress |
| 2. American Committee for Emigre Scholars, Writers
and Artists, Inc. | Ethel M. Thornbury
Edith Weiss |
| 3. American Council of Voluntary Agencies for
Foreign Service, Inc. | Etta Deutsch
Charlotte E. Owen |
| 4. American Federation of International Institutes | William Bernard
Judith Carioscia |
| 5. American Fund for Czechoslovak Refugees, Inc. | Jan Papanek
Mrs. Jan Papanek
Ivan Taborsky |
| 6. American Immigration Conference | Alice W. O'Connor
Read Lewis
Ruth Z. Murphy |
| 7. Canadian Citizenship Council | Henry Seyward |
| 8. Canadian Lutheran World Relief | Rev. Clifton L. Monk |

* Includes members of the Conference and observers.

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| 9. Canadian Salvation Army | J. Arthur Calvert |
| 10. Christelijke Emigratie Centrale | T. Cnossen |
| 11. Church World Service | Ruth Early
Roland Elliott
John Kulisz
Jan van Hoogstraten
Edward Savage |
| 12. Commission of the Churches of International Affairs
(Commission des Eglises pour les Affaires Internationales) | Richard Fagley
Charles Seaver |
| 13. Common Council for American Unity | Esther Kaufman
Read Lewis
Edith Lowenstein |
| 14. Community Service Society | Halina Korsak |
| 15. Consultative Council of Jewish Organizations
(Conseil Consultatif d'Organisations Juives) | Sidney Liskofsky
Carol Lubin
Moses Moskowitz |
| 16. European Association for the Study of Refugee Problems
(Association Européenne pour l'Etude du Problème des Réfugiés) | Raphael Aghababian |
| 17. Federal Catholic Immigration Committee (Australia) | Z.J. Jablonski |
| 18. Friends' World Committee for Consultation
(Comité Consultatif Mondial de la Société des Amis) | Kathleen Hanstein
Lois Jessup
Hertha Kraus |
| 19. Good Neighbour Movement of Australia | John T. Massey |
| 20. International Association of Penal Law
(Association internationale de Droit Penal) | Edith Terry Bremer |
| 21. International Catholic Child Bureau
(Bureau International Catholique de l'Enfance) | Margaret Bedard |
| 22. International Catholic Girls Society
(Association Catholique Internationale des Oeuvres de Protection de la Jeune Fille) | Mrs. Albert R. Spillman
Mrs. Gerald Rigney |
| 23. International Catholic Migration Commission
(Commission Internationale Catholique pour les Migrations) | Irene Dalgiewicz
Margaret M. Littke |
| 24. International Confederation of Free Trade Unions
(Confédération Internationale des Syndicats Libres) | William Kemsley |
| 25. International Conference of Catholic Charities
(Conférence Internationale des Charités Catholiques) | Beatrice M. Faivre
Louis C. Longarzo |
| 26. International Council of Women
(Conseil International des Femmes) | Mrs. H. Gordon Freeman
Mary H.S. Hayes |

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| 27. International Federation of Agricultural Producers
(Fédération Internationale des Producteurs
Agricoles) | Knowlton Nash |
| 28. International Federation of Christian Trade Unions
(Confédération Internationale des Syndicats
Chrétiens) | Gerard Thormann |
| 29. International Labour Assistance
(Fratr'aide Ouvrière Internationale) | Ernst Papanek |
| 30. International Legal Aid | S.S. Nehru
Mrs. S.S. Nehru |
| 31. International League for the Rights of Man
(Ligue Internationale des Droits de l'Homme) | Clarence Senior |
| 32. International Rescue Committee | Abram G. Becker
Harold Grimes
Irma Kadmon
Charles Sternberg |
| 33. International Social Service
(Service Social International) | William T. Kirk
Manuel Rodriguez
Emilie T. Strauss
Hcrtensia Varas |
| 34. International Statistical Institute
(Institut International de Statistique) | Sabin Manuila |
| 35. International Union for Child Welfare
(Union Internationale de Protection de l'Enfance) | Luise Kaufmann-
Frankenstein |
| 36. Italiani Nel Mondo | Gernando Colombardo
Luciana Corcos
Lenoida Felletti
Vincenzo Poggi di
Castellaro |
| 37. Italian Welfare League | Angela M. Carlozzi
Mrs. George Brogalina
Frank Traverso |
| 38. Japanese-American Citizens League | Mike N. Masaoka |
| 39. Lutheran Refugee Service | Cordelia Cox
Elizabeth Nicholsky
Eugene Schuttner
Rev. Francis Shearer
Ingrid Walter |
| 40. Lutheran World Federation
(Fédération Luthérienne Mondiale) | Reuben C. Baetz
Stewart W. Herman |
| 41. National Catholic Welfare Conference - Department
of Immigration | Thomas F. Mulholland |

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| 42. National Catholic Welfare Conference - War Relief Services | Edmond Cummings
James J. Norris
Rt.Rev.Msgr.Edward E.
Swanstrom |
| 43. National Committee on Immigration and Citizenship | Winifred Armstrong |
| 44. National Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church | Muriel S. Webb |
| 45. National Council of Women | Mrs. Jan Papanek |
| 46. National Legal Aid Association | Emery A. Brownell |
| 47. National Social Welfare Assembly | Arthur Greenleigh |
| 48. National Travellers Aid Association | Isabelle Axenfeld
Lauren Hyde
Ruth Powers |
| 49. Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League | Julius L. Goldstein
James Sheldon
Anita Streep |
| 50. Pax Romana | Joseph H. McMahon |
| 51. Romanian Relief Committee (CARCMAN) | Raoul Bossy |
| 52. Salvation Army | Chester Brown
Thomas A. Johnson |
| 53. Selfhelp of Emigres from Central Europe | Irma Mayer
Fred Weissman |
| 54. Tolstoy Foundation | T. Bagration
A.G. Elmendorf
Alexandra Tolstoy
E. Tomashevsky |
| 55. United Hias Service | Beatrice Behrman
Martin Bursten,
Ilja Dijour
Fred Fried
Martin Gleisner
Arthur Greenleigh
Irving Haber
Arthur T. Jacobs
William Males
William Neubau
Ann S. Petluck
Ann Rabinowitz
Lyman White |
| 56. United Lithuanian Relief Fund | Very Rev.Msgr.John
Balkunas
Vladas Barciauskas
Joseph Boley
Stanley Lusys |

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| 57. Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
(Ligue Internationale des Femmes pour la Paix
et le Liberté) | Gertrude Bussey
Mrs. Patrick Malin
Gladys Walser |
| 58. World Assembly of Youth
(Assemblée Mondiale de la Jeunesse) | Robert Snable
Robert Perlzweig
Immanuel Wallerstein |
| 59. World Federation of Trade Unions*
(Fédération Syndicale Mondiale) | Elinor Kahn |
| 60. World Jewish Congress
(Congrès Juif Mondial) | Gerhard Jacoby |
| 61. World ORT Union
(Union Mondiale ORT) | Paul Bernick
Jacob Frumkin
Jack Rader |
| 62. World OSE Union
(Union Mondiale OSE) | John Gorski
Rabbi Simon Langer
Leon Wulman |
| 63. World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations
(Union Mondiale des Organisations Féminines
Catholiques) | Jean Gartlan
Alba Zizzamia
Catherine Schaefer |
| 64. World's Young Women's Christian Association
(Alliance Universelle des Unions Chrétiennes
de Jeunes Filles) | Constance Anderson
Helen Roberts |
| 65. Young Men's Christian Association
(Union Chrétienne de Jeunes Gens) | Darius Davis
Lawrence A. Moyse
Owen E. Pence |
|
B. <u>Representatives of Inter-governmental Organizations</u> | |
| 1. United Nations | Ralph Bunche
Julia Henderson
Martha Branscombe
Witold Langrod
Bernard Kofsky |
| 2. Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees | Aline Cohn |
| 3. International Labour Office | Rudolf Metall |
| 4. World Health Organization | Sylvia Meagher |

* The representative requested that the official records of the Conference indicate that the WFTU did not participate in either the discussion or the voting during the session.

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| 5. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization | Solomon Arnaldo |
| 6. Inter-governmental Committee for European Migration | Edward Marks |
| 7. Organization of American States | Anibal Buitrón |
| <u>C. Representatives of Missions to the United Nations</u> | |
| 1. Office of the Permanent Observer of Austria to the United Nations | Heinrich Haymerle |
| 2. Permanent Delegation of Costa Rica to the United Nations | H.E. the Reverend
Benjamin Nunez
Raul Trejos
Maria L. Montejo |
| 3. Office of the Permanent Observer of Finland to the United Nations | Artturi Lehtinen |
| 4. Office of the Permanent Observer of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations | Richard Paulig
Edgar Reichel |
| 5. Permanent Delegation of Greece to the United Nations | John G. Gregoriades |
| 6. Permanent Delegation of Guatemala to the United Nations | H.E. Sr. Emilio Arenales
Catalan |
| 7. Permanent Delegation of Israel to the United Nations | Arthur C. Liveran
Gideon Saguy |
| 8. Office of the Permanent Observer of Italy to the United Nations | Vincenzo Tornetta |
| 9. Office of the Permanent Observer of Korea to the United Nations | H.E. Mr. Ben C. Limb
Yung Kyoo Kang |
| 10. Permanent Delegation of Mexico to the United Nations | Enrique Bravo |
| 11. Permanent Delegation of New Zealand to the United Nations | A.R. Perry |
| 12. Permanent Delegation of Panama to the United Nations | H.E. Sr. Eusebio A.
Morales |
| 13. Philippine Mission to the United Nations | Jose D. Ingles |
| 14. Office of the Permanent Observer of Switzerland to the United Nations | Auguste Lindt
Denis Grandjean |

D. Representatives of Governmental Agencies

United States Foreign Operations Administration William H. McCahon

5. The Conference adopted its rules of procedure and the following agenda:
- (1) Opening of the Conference by the President;
 - (2) Statements by representatives of the United Nations, International Labour Organisation, Inter-governmental Committee for European Migration and Inter-governmental Organizations;
 - (3) Adoption of rules of procedure;
 - (4) Adoption of the agenda;
 - (5) Report of the Liaison Committee on:
 - (a) Organization of the Liaison Committee and the Secretariat,
 - (b) Action taken on resolutions of the Fourth Conference, ad hoc Committees and Working Parties,
 - (c) Other activities ,
 - (d) Finance;
 - (6) The role of the Conference in relation to future developments and needs in the field of migration;
 - (7) Proposals of the Liaison Committee regarding organization, membership, functioning and financing of the Conference;
 - (8) Election of the Liaison Committee and of its Officers;
 - (9) Any other business.

6. In conformity with Resolution XVI of the Fourth Conference, the following officers who had been elected in 1953 functioned as officers of the Fifth Conference:

Mr. Lawrence A. Moyse	(World's Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations)	President
Mr. Reuben Baetz	(Lutheran World Federation)	Vice-President
Mr. William Males	(United Hias Service)	Vice-President
Mrs. Margaret Littke	(International Catholic Migration Commission, replacing Dr. T. Stark)	Secretary
Mrs. Kathleen Hanstein	(Friends' World Committee for Consultation)	Associate Treasurer

III. OPENING STATEMENTS

7. Mr. Lawrence A. Moyses, President of the Conference, opened the meeting and welcomed the delegates. He read a letter in which Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld, Secretary-General of the United Nations, expressed his appreciation for the work of the Conference.

8. Dr. Ralph J. Bunche, Under-Secretary of the United Nations, welcomed the Conference on behalf of the Secretary-General. He reviewed the work of the four previous Conferences, and observed that they had served as a valuable frame which had permitted the various organizations to view their own programmes and achievements as part of an over-all programme integrating the work of all bodies in this field, and to trace the best ways for further development of such activities. They have also offered an additional basis for co-operation with the United Nations and other inter-governmental organizations concerned with migration. He noted that this successful co-operation had taken place in addition to, and without impeding direct consultations between United Nations and individual organizations, especially those having consultative status with the Economic and Social Council. He pointed out that the most difficult tasks before the present meeting were the same as those facing the first: deepening inter-agency co-operation by comparing the programmes and achievements of the agencies concerned in order to fill existing gaps and eliminate overlapping, and thus derive maximum benefit from these programmes and achievements for the sake of the migrants and countries concerned. He concluded by stressing the continued desire of the Secretary-General to co-operate closely with the non-governmental organizations, and conveyed the best wishes of the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to the Conference for a successful session.

9. Dr. Rudolf A. Métaill, Director of the ILO New York office, expressed the appreciation of the Director-General of the International Labour Office for the work of non-governmental organizations interested in migration, and indicated the ILO's support of their work as a valuable adjunct to the programmes of the inter-governmental agencies.

10. Mrs. Sylvia Meagher of the WHO Liaison Office with the United Nations expressed the greetings of the Secretary General of the World Health Organization. She called attention to the fact that her organization, together with the International Labour Organisation, had prepared a draft report on medical criteria for the selection of migrants, and these criteria have been made available to all member Governments of the World Health Organization. At the present time, the WHO is continuing consultations with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and making other efforts to secure fellowships for refugee doctors.

11. Mr. Solomon Arnaldo, Director of the New York office of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, referred to the studies undertaken by his organization on the cultural assimilation of immigrants, and announced that a synthesis of those studies will be published sometime in 1955. On the basis of this synthesis and the replies of Governments to a UNESCO questionnaire on this subject, a Conference on the Cultural Integration of Immigrants has been scheduled for December 1955.

12. Mr. Edward B. Marks, Chief of the New York ICEM Office, greeted the Conference on behalf of the newly-elected Director of the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration. He said that the ICEM programme, which has grown from 77,000 migrants in 1952 to over 121,000 in 1954, has relied heavily on the practical experience and support of non-governmental organizations, and that as migration becomes less spontaneous and more planned, the role of voluntary agencies becomes more and more significant.

13. Dr. Anibal Buitrón, Section of Labour, Migration and Social Security, Organization of American States, conveyed to the Conference the greetings of the Secretary General of the Organization of American States, and called attention to the fact that his organization was particularly concerned with international movements of population, with emphasis on the causes and effects of rural exodus, and with the economic and social effects of external migration movements.

14. The Conference heard statements for the success of the Conference from the representatives of the offices of the Permanent Observers of Italy and Switzerland to the United Nations.

15. At the invitation of the President of the Conference, Mr. Kaare Salvesen, representative of Norway to the Social Commission and Chairman of the Tenth Session of the Commission, explained how co-ordination between all interested public and private agencies is being carried out in Norway through the Norwegian Refugee Council.

IV. DELIBERATIONS OF THE CONFERENCE

16. Repatriation under pressure occupied the attention of the members of the Conference, especially because of the possibility that a provision for such repatriation might become a part of an international agreement. On this subject, the observer of the Austrian Government to the United Nations gave explanations to the Conference. The results of the discussion appear in Resolution IV.

17. The UNESCO representative, in informing the Conference that his organization would convene in 1955 a meeting on the cultural integration of immigrants, invited the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations Interested in Migration to provide participants and nominate observers.

18. The United Nations Secretariat submitted a preliminary text of a study on the social welfare services provided to migrants by non-governmental organizations. Members of the Conference were asked to submit their proposed additions or changes to the text of the study to the United Nations Secretariat before 1 July 1955.

19. The deliberations of the Conference indicated a need for a general exposition of the attitude of the non-governmental organizations in relation to the over-all situation in the field of migration. A general statement on this is embodied in Resolution I.

V. DECISIONS OF THE CONFERENCE

20. Following the proposals of a nominating committee, appointed by the Conference, a new Liaison Committee to function from the end of the Fifth Conference until the end of the Sixth Conference was elected. The new Liaison Committee, whose officers were nominated by the Committee itself and approved by the Conference, is as follows:

Mr. James J. Norris	National Catholic Welfare Conference	President
Mr. Reuben Baetz	Lutheran World Federation	Vice-President
Mr. Arthur Greenleigh	United Hias Service	Vice-President
Mr. J. Duncan Wood	Friends' World Committee for Consultation	Vice-President
Mr. Elfan Rees	Commission of the Churches on International Affairs	Secretary
Mr. Roland Elliott	Church World Service	Treasurer
Mr. Georges Th��lin	International Union for Child Welfare	Associate Treasurer
Abb�� Paul Bouvier	International Conference of Catholic Charities	
Mr. Henri Coursier	International Committee of the Red Cross	
Mr. George Eggermann	International Federation of Christian Trade Unions	
Mr. Vladimir Halperin	World ORT Union	
Mr. William T. Kirk	International Social Service	
Mr. Morris Laub	American Joint Distribution Committee	
Mrs. Margaret Littke	International Catholic Migration Conference	
Mr. Lawrence A. Moyse	World's Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations	

21. The Conference adopted the following resolutions:

I. General statement

We live in an age which has been terrorized by war, hunger and homelessness. The process of recovery, even relief, is far from finished. Mankind has suffered - and still suffers - enormous casualties, inflicted on itself by itself. Inhumanity has not yet been vanquished by the forces of humanity.

One of the most tragic products of our political, social and economic convulsions is a turgid, never-ending stream of hapless refugees, moving - wherever and whenever movement is possible - at the mercy of other men. Resettlement is not always the only solution, but in thousands and thousands of cases it is.

Added to the stream of refugees is the flow of migrants who seek new homelands in response to population pressures at home and population needs in other countries. We must realize that this movement of peoples can, and should be, one of the great positive forces for world integration and understanding. Owing to the increased complexity of modern life, even these migrants are in greater need than ever before of special services. Much has already been done to help both these migrants and the refugees but much more remains to be done throughout the world.

The Fifth Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations Interested in Migration deplures two common evils of our era: first, the use of force and persecution in driving men, women and children from their homes and countries, and secondly the existence of vexatious barriers impeding admission to new countries and of obstacles to full acceptance in the community, even in new found homelands. We call upon all Governments, as well as inter-governmental and private agencies, to work towards the following:

1. The world-wide recognition of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the implementation of the General Principles Concerning the Protection of Migrants, adopted by our 1951 Conference;
2. The careful scrutiny of all migration plans to assure the most favourable social, cultural and economic advantages to the immigrant family, as well as to the country of reception;

3. The abolition of all discriminatory immigration legislation and practices based on nationality, race or religion, and elimination of unreasonable restrictions to migration as well as of all artificial hindrances to the exercise of vocational skills and professional abilities;
4. The attainment of greater co-operation between all agencies, governmental and non-governmental, with a view to obtaining all the facts and the funds, necessary to solve migration problems and to reap the benefits that migration offers.

II. Resolution on General Principles Concerning the Protection of Migrants

The CONFERENCE,

TAKES NOTE of the reports of the working parties on the implementation of General Principles Concerning the Protection of Migrants;

VIEWS WITH ALARM the obstacles to resolving the problems of migrants and the tragic threat to the human rights of migrants due to the non-adherence of various States to these General Principles;

RECOMMENDS the continuation of the study by the Non-Governmental Organizations Interested in Migration of the extent of implementation in various States of the General Principles Concerning the Protection of Migrants;

RECOMMENDS that States concerned with the problems of migration be requested to provide in official reports to the Secretary-General of the United Nations information on the implementation of relevant aspects of these General Principles in their territories;

EXPRESSES THE HOPE that such reports be made available to the Conference by the competent organs of the United Nations;

FURTHER RECOMMENDS that every effort be made by the non-governmental organizations to promote the implementation, at international and national levels, of the General Principles Concerning the Protection of Migrants.

III. Resolution on adherence to international conventions and recommendations

The CONFERENCE,

EXPRESSES THE HOPE that Governments which have not done so will ratify the 1949 ILO Convention on Migration for Employment; become parties to the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons; implement the recommendations adopted by the Economic and Social Council in 1951 on Assistance to Indigent Aliens and in 1952 on the Simplification of Formalities and Reduction of Costs for Migrants; follow the conclusions of the 1955 United Nations Report on Expulsion of Immigrants; and support generously the United Nations Refugee Fund.

To this end, the CONFERENCE URGES its member Organizations to take appropriate action in relation to their own Governments.

IV. Resolution concerning repatriation under pressure

The CONFERENCE,

RECALLING article XII of the General Principles Concerning the Protection of Migrants which reads as follows:

"No migrant, once admitted into a country, shall be expelled, deported or otherwise removed therefrom, unless such a measure is justified on grounds of public security and imposed by due process of law.

"Indigence, sickness or unemployment shall in no circumstances be regarded as sufficient grounds for such removal.

"Persons entitled to invoke the right of asylum shall not be expelled or sent back to a territory where their lives or liberty would be in danger."

VIEWS WITH DEEPEST CONCERN any threat of repatriation by international agreement or under direct or indirect pressure, through the withdrawal of relief or otherwise, upon those who have found asylum in another country;

URGENTLY WISHES to draw to the attention of the United Nations and the International Labour Organisation this present and potential danger; and

INVITES the members of the Conference to make such representations as they may see fit to forestall any such danger.

V. Resolution on laws and practices concerning migration

A

The CONFERENCE,

HAVING TAKEN NOTE of the report of the Working Party on Laws and Practices Concerning the Admissibility of Migrants,

CONSIDERING that the emphasis of the Non-Governmental Organizations should be placed on action to alleviate or remove existing obstacles, and on initiating and stimulating such research as may be needed as background for practical action,

NOTING that the report on preliminary study of discrimination in emigration, immigration and travel, submitted to the 7th session of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities has stated that "Of the 35 countries in which official information is available in the United Nations Secretariat and the International Labour Office, at least 17 restrict immigration on grounds of race, sex, language or religion",

REALIZING that information on the state of discrimination in the various countries of the world is of basic importance for the practical work of the non-governmental organizations interested in migration,

RECOMMENDS that the Economic and Social Council authorize the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to include in the programme of studies undertaken under its auspices the subject of discrimination in emigration, immigration and travel and to place the results of such study at the disposal of other interested organs of the United Nations and the International Labour Organisation, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other appropriate inter-governmental organizations, and of the non-governmental organizations interested in migration.

B

The CONFERENCE,

RECOGNIZING that the United Nations and the International Labour Office compilation of the laws and regulations of emigration and immigration countries are a useful contribution to a comparative analysis of said laws and regulations

HAVING NOTED in the report of the Working Party on Laws and Practices Concerning the Admissibility of Migrants widespread discriminatory provisions and practices in immigration laws and regulations and that the eradication of such discrimination is a problem of global interest

RECOGNIZING with deep concern that:

A. The recommendations contained in resolution VII of the Third Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations Interested in Migration on Simplification of Formalities and Reduction of Costs are basically no less valid than in 1952.

B. The resolution of the Economic and Social Council to draw the attention of Governments to the recommendations and inviting them to consider the possibility of adjusting their practices and procedures accordingly has not been put into effect by countries of immigration

BEING FULLY AWARE that further progress in the simplification of formalities and reduction of costs is dependent on the revision of immigration laws, regulations and practices in accordance with the spirit of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the General Principles for the Protection of Migrants

URGES non-governmental organizations to intensify their efforts through all appropriate measures in preventing and eradicating discriminatory aspects of immigration laws, rules and practices as well as to exert more effective co-operative action to remove obstacles to migration;

INVITES non-governmental organizations on a national and international level to exchange their ideas and experiences as to legal, education, social action and other techniques to prevent and eradicate discriminatory aspects of immigration laws, rules and practices;

RECOMMENDS that all non-governmental organizations on a national level urge their respective Governments (a) wherever possible themselves to provide fellowships and scholarships, and (b) to submit to the Technical Assistance Board of the United Nations for consideration as part of the Technical Assistance Programme increased requests for fellowships, scholarships and seminars in the formulation and administration of immigration laws, rules and practices, consonant with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, appropriate international conventions and recommendations and the General Principles Concerning the Protection of Migrants;

RECOMMENDS that non-governmental organizations on a national level urge their respective Governments to frame, interpret and administer their immigration legislation in a truly liberal spirit and without regard to reciprocity, with a view to facilitating the departure, transit, admission, freedom of residence and settlement of migrants.

VI. Resolution concerning non-European migrants

The CONFERENCE,

NOTES that economic, social and political problems arising from excessive population pressures in Asia and certain other non-European areas, such as parts of Africa and the Caribbean, are exceedingly grave in their significance for the future peace and prosperity of the world;

IT ALSO NOTES that hitherto totally inadequate international effort has been directed toward resolving these problems;

And that there is opportunity for improvement in social attitudes toward, and legislation dealing with, non-European immigration;

RECOGNIZES that education is the most crucial part of the complicated task of balancing population with developed resources and the great need for efforts to improve literacy and other educational programmes;

RECOGNIZES also the need for public and private endeavours to improve internal and international transportation and communication, to better agriculture technically and, through land reforms where needed, to facilitate foreign capital investment and the sharing of the vast store of techniques and experience for economic development, the establishment of equitable terms of trade between the raw material producing countries and the industrial nations, and the liberalization of trade policies;

EXPRESSES THE HOPE that national and international bodies, public and private, will:

1. Strive to apply the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights to the treatment of non-European countries and peoples in matters of immigration;

2. Help educate the public to the lack of ethical scientific or other basis for discrimination against non-Europeans as immigrants on the ground that their satisfactory integration is impossible;
3. Utilize every opportunity to bring about personal contacts between students, teachers, business men, religious leaders, labour and farmer representatives and others, from both oriental and occidental cultures in order to help overcome misconception and prejudice;
4. Make studies of the cultural, economic and political adjustments of the non-European immigrants and use such studies in combatting inequitable and discriminatory practices;
5. Consider the need for an international body to explore possibilities of public international assistance to non-European inter-continental and intra-continental migration, and plan appropriate programmes of action machinery.

VII. Resolution concerning publications and information for use by prospective migrants

A

The CONFERENCE,

NOTES with appreciation reports presented to the Conference of efforts by both non-governmental and inter-governmental organizations to make available to prospective migrants fuller information on countries of reception such as the folders being produced by the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration, and the publications of the International Labour Office and the Organization of American States, the bulletins and leaflets of non-governmental organizations, and the legal reference book entitled L'Italiano nel Mondo;

RECOGNIZES that, even with the existence of fuller information about countries of resettlement, changes in the laws and practices of Governments and in the services and facilities of non-governmental organizations make desirable a comprehensive comparative guide service offering constantly current precise information; and

REQUESTS the Liaison Committee to consider the need for, and feasibility of, providing such a comprehensive and up-to-date guide service through the co-operation of existing agencies. If such a service is found necessary and cannot be provided through existing sources, the Liaison Committee is requested to seek resources adequate for setting up such a service and to cover an initial period of operation.

B

The CONFERENCE,

HAVING NOTED with interest the report of the Sub-Committee on Information and the establishment at the Conference Headquarters of a card index of publications of value to non-governmental organizations interested in migration,

REQUESTS the Liaison Committee to continue its efforts to expand this card index system, and to disseminate this information to interested organizations, by whatever means are possible within the limits of available funds;

REQUESTS member organizations to co-operate fully with this service, and to supply it with all appropriate publications or other information.

VIII. Resolution concerning minimum standards for the protection of migrants during the journey

The CONFERENCE,

CONSIDERING that there is need for more adequate provisions to ensure the best possible travel arrangements for migrants,

CONSIDERING that there is a desire among certain nations to see international standards established on this subject,

TAKES NOTE of the efforts made by the International Labour Organisation, the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration and the World Health Organization to improve the travel conditions of migrants;

ACCEPTS the recommendations made in the report of the Working Party and those made during the Conference;

SUPPORTS the efforts of the inter-governmental organizations on behalf of the principles involved;

APPEALS to the non-governmental organizations in their national settings as well as to the inter-governmental organizations to urge Governments to put the recommendations into effect and to incorporate them into national legislation;

AUTHORIZES the Liaison Committee to complete a publication making known the principles embodied in the recommendations and to transmit the document to national groups of the Conference with the request that translations be prepared, which could then be used to promote the adoption of these standards.

IX. Resolution concerning re-migration or repatriation

The CONFERENCE,

HAVING DISCUSSED the problem of re-migration or repatriation for persons not firmly resettled,

DECIDES that the question be referred to the Liaison Committee for appropriate study and recommendation.

X. Resolution on legal assistance to migrants

The CONFERENCE,

HAVING TAKEN NOTE of the reports on legal assistance submitted by the Working Parties pursuant to mandate of resolution IX adopted by the Fourth Conference,

APPROVES the said reports;

NOTES that the Working Parties having examined the needs and the degree these needs have been met in certain selected countries in Europe and in the Western Hemisphere,

NOTES further that the Working Parties having determined that "legal assistance to migrants" has many facets; that it was important in trying to serve these needs to understand them fully,

NOTES further that the Working Parties recognized that needs for legal assistance, for purposes of clarity, should be divided into several basic categories such as:

Pre-migration services

Problems involved in integration in relation to the country of immigration and the country of emigration

Family status

Financial transactions

NOTES further that the Working Parties have determined that in some instances services could best be rendered by a social agency; in others by a socio-legal body; and in still others by the legal profession

PLACES ITS CONFIDENCE in those institutions which already provide legal assistance; and

URGES the continuation of their action; and

RECOGNIZES SPECIFICALLY:

IN PRE-MIGRATION

That while the major denominational groups supply adequate services, there is need for development of these services, particularly in smaller cities and in a number of countries;

RECOMMENDS that further study be undertaken in this regard, not only in the country of emigration but in the country of immigration, to more clearly determine whether a complete service is being rendered in view of the established need for simultaneous service in the country of emigration to the prospective migrant and in the country of immigration to the immigrant's friends and relatives;

IN SOCIO-LEGAL PROBLEMS

RECOMMENDS with regard to the legal assistance problems inherent in the integration of migrants into their new country, that there be expansion in these services, in this connexion a programme of interpretation and publicity be engaged in by the non-governmental organizations in the countries of immigration in conjunction with legal aid societies and the legal profession, to make the migrants aware of their rights, responsibilities and limits, and to make them aware of where they may find available services;

RECOMMENDS an expansion of these services to migrants in conjunction with their integration; taking cognizance of the fact that the services in this area are less complete than in pre-migration because of lack of awareness and because of inadequacy of personnel, budgetary allocations, and other such practical concerns;

MAKES PARTICULAR RECOMMENDATION, in conjunction with the migration of professionals, because of the problem of licensure in countries of immigration, that particular attention should be paid to developing information in the countries of emigration so that prospective migrants will have the opportunity to prepare themselves for the special licensure requirements, both in securing of documentation and in reaching a decision as to whether the proposed migration is sound;

IN FAMILY STATUS

RECOMMENDS that in the area of family status problems, there be further study not only on a national, but particularly on an international level, with a view to solving cases which go beyond purely national limits;

IN FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

RECOMMENDS further, in conjunction with the financial transactions which are primarily a legal problem, that an organized programme be initiated to acquaint the legal profession with this need;

With regard to both family status and financial transaction problems, many of which are purely legal in character, the Conference recommends the strengthening and the development of legal assistance to persons of limited means in the countries of emigration and immigration in the hope that services will be more easily available to the migrants in the country in which they find themselves, also with regard to their problems which cross national boundaries and therefore require service in another country or countries;

THE CONFERENCE FURTHER URGES that the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, because of his mandate to give protection to refugees which includes legal protection, and other appropriate agencies of the United Nations, in conjunction with International Bar Association and other appropriate legal

bodies and legal aid societies, and such social agencies as maintain legal departments such as the International Committee of the Red Cross which has offered its services, concern themselves with stimulating the development of these facilities, and that they experiment with methods for improving and facilitating inter-country legal services for migrants;

EXPRESSES THE HOPE that, because of the magnitude of this problem and because of the necessary inter-relationship of voluntary social agencies, legal aid societies, and the legal profession, particular attention be given by inter-governmental bodies and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, with a view towards assisting the non-governmental groups to expand and to co-ordinate their services.

XI. Resolution concerning integration of migrants into the life of countries of resettlement

A

The CONFERENCE,

TAKES NOTE of the efforts of the Working Party on Integration to popularize the pamphlet "On Putting Down Roots", its work toward further dissemination, and the use of the pamphlet as one of the documents for the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization Conference on Cultural Integration of Immigrants to be held in South America in December 1955;

RECOMMENDS that reprints of the French version as published in the International Social Science Bulletin be secured and distributed through member agencies;

COMMENDS the draft of a pamphlet for use by prospective migrants and suggests to the Working Party:

- (a) that the draft be revised for use with migrants by simplifying Section II, and
- (b) that the full Section II be prepared in mimeographed form for distribution through member organizations as a guide to counsellors with migrants;

NOTING the substantial volume of immigration to South America and the emphasis placed upon immigration to this area by the projected UNESCO meeting on Cultural Integration of Immigrants,

WELCOMES the initiative of UNESCO in convening the Conference, and calls upon its member organizations to co-operate as fully as possible with the Conference, especially through sending observers; and

SUGGESTS that they use the occasion of the Conference for member agencies present to consider plans to study integration in South America, and to develop such relationships as will achieve their objectives through the creation of a working party or through some other device which may seem appropriate to the participating agencies;

TAKES COGNIZANCE of the need for definitive research and study on the sociological and psychological elements of migration and resettlement, and as opportunity affords, enlist and encourage interested agencies and foundations to enter into such studies, and to make them available for the use of non-governmental and inter-governmental organizations interested in migration.

B

The CONFERENCE,

RECOGNIZING the value of the programmes of the Australian Good Neighbour Movement and the Canadian Citizenship Council; and further

THANKING their representatives for drawing the Conference's attention to their programmes,

RECOMMENDS that the members of the Conference study the methods employed by these two movements and take full account thereof in working out their own plans.

XII. Resolution concerning migrants in professional categories

The CONFERENCE,

HAVING TAKEN NOTE of the renewed efforts of the participating Organizations and of the Working Groups established for this purpose by the Conference, to assist in the solution of the specific problems of migrants belonging to the professional categories,

EXPRESSES ITS CONCERN about the slow and limited progress achieved in this field, and hopes that continuing efforts may lead to more successful achievements, and to a broader understanding of the social and economic importance of the resettlement of migrants in these categories;

EXPRESSES ITS BELIEF that success in this field depends on active and continuous co-operation between the public and voluntary organizations on every level;

1. URGES all the non-governmental organizations to expand and develop further their efforts to provide individualized services for migrants belonging to professional categories who either still await possibilities of emigration or, having arrived at the country of destination, have not managed to obtain employment in line with their training and experience. Since, in frequent cases, a number of applicants have similar educational backgrounds, experiences and expectations, individualizing services may include the group approach for homogeneous groups. The group approach, being more economical in operation, also offers distinctive value through stimulating constructive interaction among participants;
2. Among most desirable services to be offered, the Conference DRAWS ATTENTION to the continuing need for consultant services on educational preparation and retraining, pre- and post-migration seminars and other forms of supplemental orientation, all with special emphasis on the utilization of available talents within a new frame of reference;
3. In the light of cumulative experience indicating the successful transfer of professional qualifications into productive service - which now can be widely documented - the Conference URGES all the organizations to renew systematically and with vigour the request to employer and labour organizations, as well as to governmental and professional organizations for the removal of policies and restrictive regulations which at present impede the full utilization and integration of sizable numbers of qualified individuals whose knowledge and skill can make a valuable contribution;

4. To assist the operating agencies in dealing with the problems of migrants in the professional categories, the Conference REQUESTS the Liaison Committee to establish a working group in Europe, with sections in the major areas of temporary refuge and resettlement.

XIII. Resolution concerning maintenance obligations abroad

The CONFERENCE,

In view of the long experience of the non-governmental organizations interested in migration in assisting and counselling abandoned women and children,

In view of the extreme difficulty of securing voluntary support from deserting husbands and fathers living abroad, and

In view of the years of consideration by international bodies of the necessity for international action on behalf of dependants,

URGES the Economic and Social Council to take favourable action at its 19th session toward the establishment of international machinery for the recovery abroad of claims for maintenance.

XIV. Resolution concerning the survey of inter-country social services

The CONFERENCE,

RECOGNIZING that the years since 1945 have been characterized by large shifts in population, these shifts including refugees and displaced persons, normal population of overcrowded areas seeking new opportunity in under-populated countries, students studying abroad on exchange programmes, military personnel stationed outside their own countries and fulfilling duties under defence arrangements, employees of Governments and inter-governmental bodies employed on technical assignments and other programmes, employees of business and commercial firms travelling or living for long periods outside their own countries,

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that this greatly increased mobility of people made possible by modern transportation developments creates some social problems which must be effectively dealt with to avoid hardship, friction and international misunderstanding,

FURTHER RECOGNIZING the problems created include separation of families, support of dependants in other countries, international marriages, illegitimacy, inter-country adoptions, location of missing family members, securing of marriage, birth and other records from foreign countries, reports on illness and arrangements for care of physically or mentally ill relatives in overseas countries,

COMMENDS these questions to the attention of the Social Commission of the Economic and Social Council, and RECOMMENDS that a study be undertaken by a qualified team of social workers and social scientists to determine the following questions:

- (a) What are the kinds of inter-country social services needed in the world of 1955?
- (b) What is the extent of need of such services?
- (c) What type(s) of organization(s) can best supply such services?
- (d) How does need for this type of service relate to economic, military, transportation and other changing factors in the international community?

XV. Resolution concerning studies of current migration problems

The CONFERENCE,

REQUESTS the Liaison Committee to explore the possibilities for meeting the need for studies of current migration problems, such studies constituting, in the light of the Conference's experience, a prior condition for the solution of these problems, including those connected with the welfare of migrants. Operating

non-governmental organizations have to date found it impossible to carry out such studies on a current and practical basis. The Conference therefore requests that every effort be made to find ways to undertake such studies.

XVI. Resolution concerning co-operation in programmes

The CONFERENCE,

URGES that a more effective co-operation in programmes on behalf of migrants be achieved by voluntary organizations in association with the inter-governmental organizations concerned. Such co-operation should ensure the greatest efficiency by eliminating duplication and overlapping of efforts, by filling gaps wherever they exist and through an exchange of experiences and skills. The Conference places great value on recent examples of co-operation such as the International Catholic Migration Conference in Breda, the formation of the American Immigration Conference, the discussions at the World Council of Churches Assembly at Evanston, the Good Neighbour Movement in Australia, the Norwegian Refugee Council, the meeting on migration in connexion with the International Conference of Social Work in Toronto, and the establishment of United Hias Service by the merger of its three constituent organizations.

XVII. Resolution concerning the organizational structure of the Conference

The CONFERENCE APPROVES THE FOLLOWING AS ITS ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE:

1. Objectives

The objectives of the Conference are as follows:

- (a) To study and recommend the best methods for assisting migrants.
- (b) To exchange information regarding the results of practical experience.
- (c) To provide guidance out of the experience of the non-governmental organizations for the United Nations, the International Labour Organisation and other inter-governmental organizations in their migration concerns.

(d) To further the dissemination and implementation of such principles concerning migrants as may be developed by the Conference.

(e) To facilitate co-operation among non-governmental organizations interested in migration so as to obtain maximum efficiency.

2. Character and methods of work

(a) The Conference is a forum where the largest possible number of organizations interested in migration will meet to exchange their views on questions of migration.

(b) It should stimulate the development of non-governmental organizations' activity and co-operation both nationally and regionally, and in such a way that they will be able to influence developments in the application of such principles concerning migrants as may be recommended by the Conference.

(c) It should endeavour to develop wider geographical representation especially to include countries and territories not yet represented.

(d) It should encourage the establishment of national groups of non-governmental organizations to promote the implementation of Conference objectives and recommendations where no groups of non-governmental organizations are available for this purpose.

(e) The implementation of Conference decisions will be essentially the task of the non-governmental organizations themselves.

(f) Where practicable meetings for exchange of views may be organized at the time of other international or national Conferences attended by some members of the Conference.

3. Membership

(a) Membership in the Conference will be open to international and national voluntary, non-political organizations operating in the migration field or being interested in that field.

(b) Membership in the Conference does not in any way limit the carrying out of the regular consultative relationship of any organization to the appropriate organs of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other inter-governmental organizations.

(c) Members of the Conference are all non-governmental organizations as defined above, who have been admitted as members by the Conference.

(d) Only members paying an annual contribution have the right to vote, and only representatives of such organizations are eligible for election to the Liaison Committee.

(e) Members not paying an annual contribution may attend plenary sessions of the General Assembly and participate in discussions without the right to vote, provided they have paid the registration fee for the General Assembly.

(f) The registration fee for the General Assembly shall be fixed by the Liaison Committee. The payment of the registration fee entitles members to send three representatives to the General Assembly. An additional fee to be fixed by the Liaison Committee will be required for every additional representative.

4. Observers

Non-member non-governmental organizations may, with the approval of the Liaison Committee, send observers to the General Assembly on the same conditions as those applying to non-voting members.

5. Organs of the Conference

A. The General Assembly whose function is to take all decisions concerned with the realization of the objectives of the Conference. It shall meet as a general rule every two years.

B. The Liaison Committee elected by the General Assembly and composed of fifteen persons chosen from member organizations, but serving in their individual capacity.

Its functions are:

(a) To further the objectives of the Conference between meetings of the General Assembly;

(b) To carry out the responsibilities specifically given to it by the General Assembly;

(c) To prepare and distribute reports of the Conference proceedings and Liaison Committee activities, as well as such other reports as the Liaison Committee may deem desirable, to member organizations, appropriate inter-governmental organizations and other interested bodies;

- (d) To prepare and direct the next following meeting of the General Assembly;
- (e) To constitute and facilitate the functioning of the Working Parties, and to co-operate in the promotion of national groups of non-governmental organizations mentioned in Section 2;
- (f) To prepare and administer a budget within the limits of available funds;
- (g) To secure the necessary financial and other assistance to accomplish its various tasks;
- (h) To circulate to the members of the Conference copies of the budget and financial reports.

The Liaison Committee functions until the end of the next following meeting of the General Assembly.

There shall not be more than one person from any member organization on the Liaison Committee. Vacancies occurring between Assemblies shall be filled as soon as possible by the Liaison Committee.

Members of the Liaison Committee are eligible for re-election. The Liaison Committee nominates from among its members the Conference officers for election by the General Assembly, provided that the President shall not succeed himself in consecutive terms of office.

The Liaison Committee has its seat in Geneva; it designates a representative in New York.

6. Financing

The financing of the Conference is provided for:

- (a) By annual contributions from member organizations and by registration fees for each session of the General Assembly;
- (b) By such grants as may be received from inter-governmental organizations interested in the problems of migration;
- (c) By donations from foundations, organizations or individuals.

7. This resolution supersedes resolution XVI of the Fourth Conference.

XVIII. Resolution concerning appreciation to the sponsoring organizations

The CONFERENCE,

RECOGNIZING and APPRECIATING the cordial co-operation given by its sponsoring organizations, the United Nations and the International Labour Organisation,

WRITES upon the record of the Fifth International Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations Interested in Migration its gratitude for their contribution in co-operative planning, discussion and facilities, which has so greatly helped in achieving the success of the Conference.
