

UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL



GENERAL

E/2158
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ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Resumed 13th session

BASIC PROGRAMME OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL FOR 1952

Note by the Secretary-General

I

By resolution 414 (XIII), paragraph 45, the Council decided to hold a limited number of meetings ("resumed 13th session") before the end of 1951 for the purpose, inter alia, of working out, with the assistance of the Secretary-General, a basic programme for 1952. The Council decided under other parts of the same resolution (paragraph 8(a) and (f)) to consider at each session the provisional sessional agenda drawn up by the Secretary-General for the next regular session. Accordingly, it appears to the Secretary-General that it would be convenient to present his proposals for the basic programme for 1952 in the form of draft provisional agenda for both the 14th and 15th sessions, with annotations. It will be understood that the proposals relating to the 15th session are necessarily formulated more tentatively than those for the 14th session; also, proposals for the grouping of related items and for the fixing of dates for the commencement of discussion of those groups are made for the 14th session only. This would be done for the 15th session towards the end of the 14th session, at the time the provisional sessional agenda for the 15th session is being settled.

Fixed dates during the fourteenth session are suggested for a limited number of groups of items and for a few other specific items only; it will be understood that to attempt to fix too many such dates would make the arrangements impracticable to carry out and so defeat the object of ensuring stable dates for the major groups of subjects.

II

DRAFT OF PROVISIONAL AGENDA

List of items for the first regular (14th) session in 1952,
scheduled to commence at Headquarters on 1 April

1. Election of the President and Vice-Presidents for 1952 (see rule 19 of the rules of procedure).
2. Adoption of the sessional agenda.
3. World economic situation (General Assembly resolution 118(II)).
Note: It is anticipated that the world economic report will be issued in the first language about early March.
4. Annual report of the Economic Commission for Europe.
Note: The session of ECE is scheduled for 3-15 March 1952 at Geneva; it was, however, considered desirable that the Report should be taken at this session together with reports of the other regional economic commissions (see E/C.4/SR.26).
5. Annual report of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East.
Note: The session of ECAFE is scheduled for 29 January-9 February 1952.
6. Report of the Economic Commission for Latin America.
Note: The Committee of the whole of ECIA is scheduled to meet in February 1952 at Santiago.
7. Report of experts on international impact of economic recessions and on measures required to mitigate the effect of fluctuations in international markets on the economies of under-developed countries (Council resolutions 290 (XI), paragraph 19 and 341 A (XII), paragraph 5)

Document E/2156, to be distributed in December 1951 (or early in January 1952)

8. Economic development of under-developed countries: report of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development on the question of creating an International Finance Corporation (Council resolution 368 (XIII), paragraph 13)).
Note: It is anticipated that this report will be available by February 1952.
9. Proposed establishment of an ad hoc Committee to study international commodity problems (item proposed by the International Federation of Agricultural Producers: subject to the recommendations of the Council NGO Committee under rule 10 of the rules of procedure).

10. Procedures for the convening of study groups and international commodity conferences.
See document E/2039 distributed on 27 June 1951.
Note: This item is included in consequence of paragraph 5 of Council resolution 373 (XIII), in which the Council decided to consider the question at one of its sessions in 1952.
11. International action for conservation and utilization of non-agricultural resources (Council resolution 345 A and B (XII)).
Note: This report will be circulated in January 1951.
12. International co-operation on water control and utilization (Council resolution 346 (XII)).
Note: This report will be circulated in February 1952.
13. Development of arid land (General Assembly resolution 402 (V)).
Note: It is expected that the Report called for by this resolution will be issued in February 1952.
14. Critical shortage of insecticides for public health purposes (Council resolution 377 (XIII)).
Note: The working party set up by this resolution will convene in mid-February 1952; the report should be ready early in March.
15. Annual report of the International Monetary Fund.
Note: The annual report of the IMF which relates to the year ending 30 April 1951, will be distributed early in 1952. It is anticipated that a supplementary report will be submitted by the Fund a short time before the opening of the 14th session.
16. Annual report of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.
Note: The annual report of the Bank which relates to the year ending 30 June 1951, will be distributed early in 1952. It is anticipated that a supplementary report will be submitted by the Bank a short time before the opening of the 14th session.
17. Migration (Council resolution 396 (XIII)): report by the International Labour Organisation.
18. Development and concentration of the efforts in the social field of the United Nations and the specialized agencies
(See document A/C.3/L.181).
Note: The Council will no doubt wish to give preliminary consideration to this resolution of the General Assembly at the fourteenth session; it will arise at the fifteenth session in connexion with item 13 (Report of the Social Commission, which will cover consideration of the report on the world social situation), and with item 24 (Programmes of the United Nations and the specialized agencies in the economic and social fields).

19. Allegations regarding infringements of trade union rights received under Council resolution 277 (X).

Note: See document E/2157, to be issued in December 1951. The item would also cover any further allegations received up to 12 February 1952.

20. Forcible removal of political opponents by agents of foreign powers (item proposed by the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions: subject to recommendations of the Council NGO Committee under rule 10 of the rules of procedure).

21. The problem of statelessness: consolidated report by the Secretary-General under Council resolution 352 (XII).

Note: It is anticipated that this report will be available in February 1952.

22. Flight of survivors of concentration camps (Council resolution 386 (XIII)).

Note: The Secretary-General will submit a progress report, for the information of the Council, before the 14th session.

23. Reports of the Executive Board of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund.

24. International limitation of opium production (Council resolution 395 (XIII)).

Note: In view of the commencement of the session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on 17 April this item should be taken at the commencement of the session.

25. Permanent Central Opium Board:

(a) Annual report of the Board.

Note: This report will be circulated in December 1951.

(b) Approval of the appointment of the Secretary of the Board (Article 20 of the 1925 Convention, as amended).

26. Report of the International Refugee Organization
This report will be circulated in March 1952.

27. United Nations programme of technical assistance.

Note: An interim report will be circulated in February 1952; the major report of the year will be submitted for the 15th session of the Council.

28. Expanded programme of technical assistance.

Note: Under its terms of reference the TAC may report to each session of the Council. An interim report from TAB to TAC will be submitted in connexion with the 14th session; the major report of the year will be submitted for the 15th session.

It is anticipated that the TAC will meet on 24 March 1952.

29. Implementation of recommendations on economic and social matters (Council resolution 283 (X)).

Note: It is anticipated that the report of the Secretary-General, incorporating replies from governments, will be available towards the end of February or early in March 1952.

/30. Non-governmental

30. Non-governmental organizations:

(a) Applications and re-applications for consultative status.

Note: The recommendations of the Council NGO Committee will be circulated early in March 1952.

(b) Hearings by the Council Committee on Non-governmental Organizations under rules 80 and 81 of the rules of procedure of the Council and applications for hearings by the Council under rule 82.

Note: The hearings will take place either before, or during the first days of the session.

(c) Review of organizations granted consultative status at the seventh and eighth sessions of the Council (Council resolution 413 B (XIII)).

31. Amendment of the rules of procedure of the Council and the functional commissions:

memorandum by the Secretary-General (Council resolution 414 (XIII))

Note: This item includes: (i) amendments consequent on the reorganization of the Council and Commissions (resolution 414 (XIII)), (ii) amendments consequent on the Council's recommendations regarding methods for inter-agency consultation (resolution 402 (XIII), Annex, paragraph 39), (iii) amendments to the rules concerning records and concerning financial implications to be proposed by the Secretary-General.

32. Provisional sessional agenda for the second regular session of the Council in 1952.

33. Summary of financial implications of actions of the Council.

34. Confirmation of members of functional commissions of the Council.

35. Election of members of the Council Committee on Non-governmental Organizations for 1952.

Together with business arising out of decisions taken by the General Assembly at its sixth regular session.

List of items for the second regular (15th) session in 1952,
scheduled to commence at Headquarters on 1 July

1. Adoption of the sessional agenda

2. Full employment (Council resolutions 371(XIII) and 414(XIII)).

/Special series of meetings on Full Employment under Council resolution 414(XIII) paragraph 177.

Note: This item cannot be taken before the second regular session of the Council in 1952 (See E/Sr.503).

3. Economic development of under-developed countries:

(a) Methods of financing economic development: report by the Secretary-General under Council resolution 368 C (XIII), paragraph 14 (b)

Note: This report cannot be made available before June 1952

(b) Other aspects of economic development.

Note: The replies of governments to the Secretary-General's questionnaire on full employment and the Secretary-General's analysis of these replies will be relevant to this item (Council resolution 371 B (XIII), paragraphs 1 and 2).

/Special series of meetings on Economic Development under Council resolution 414 (XIII), paragraph 147.

4. International action for conservation and utilization of non-agricultural resources (Council resolution 345 (XII)).

5. Production and distribution of newsprint and printing paper (Council resolution 374 (XIII)).

Note: A note indicating the action being taken under this resolution will be circulated to the Council for information before the 14th session. The results of certain surveys of resources which it is anticipated will be carried out by the FAO will, however, not be available until the 15th session

6. Report of the Commission on Human Rights (8th session) (21 April - 6 June 1952).

7. Report of the Commission on the Status of Women (6th session) (24 March - 4 April 1952).

8. Freedom of information:

(a) Report of the Sub-Commission on Freedom of Information and of the Press (5th session) (3 March - 21 March 1952).

(b) Report by the Secretary-General on the result of the enquiry under Council resolution 414 (XIII), Section B.III, paragraph 28

/9. Prevention

9. Prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities: report by the Secretary-General under resolution 414 (XIII), Section B.II, paragraph 23.
Note: This report depends upon replies from governments and the result of consultations with specialized agencies, and cannot be made available before May 1952.
10. Allegations regarding infringements of trade union rights received under Council resolution 277 (X).
(i.e. any allegations received between 12 February and 15 May 1952).
11. Slavery: report by the Secretary-General under resolution 388 (XIII).
12. Forced labour: reports of the ad hoc Committee on Forced Labour (Council resolution 350 (XII)).
Note: The first report of the Committee (which deals almost wholly with matters of procedure) has been distributed on 30 October 1951 as E/2135. It is anticipated that the report of the second session of the Committee, dealing with substantive matters, will be available by July 1952.
13. Report of the Social Commission (8th session) (19 May - 6 June 1952).
Note: In 1952, the report of the Social Commission will include consideration of the World Social Situation (See resolution 309 F (XI)).
14. Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund.
15. Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (7th session) (17 April - 16 May 1952).
16. Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (General Assembly resolution 428 (V), Annex, Chapter II).
17. Teaching of the purposes and principles, the structure and activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies in schools and other educational institutions of Member States (resolution 314 (XI)).
18. World conference on population (Council resolution 389 (XIII)).
19. United Nations programme of technical assistance.
20. Expanded programme of technical assistance.
21. Relief and rehabilitation of Korea (General Assembly resolution 410 A (V), Section A, paragraphs 5 (d) and 13).
22. International co-operation on cartography: report by the Secretary-General and replies by governments (Council resolution 261 (IX)).
23. Report of the International Labour Organisation.

/24. Report

24. Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
 25. Report of the World Health Organization
 26. Report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
 27. Report of the International Civil Aviation Organization
 28. Report of the International Telecommunication Union
 29. Report of the Universal Postal Union
 30. Report of the World Meteorological Organization
 31. Relations among the United Nations and the specialized agencies: report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination
 32. Programmes of the United Nations and the specialized agencies in the economic and social fields:
 - (i) Review of 1953 programmes and adoption of United Nations priority programmes in the economic and social fields (Council resolution 402 (XIII))
 - (ii) Development and concentration of the efforts in the social field of the United Nations and the specialized agencies (See A/C.3/L.181)
 33. Inter-governmental Organizations (resolution 412 (XIII))
 34. Non-governmental Organizations
 35. Election of one-third of the membership of the functional commissions of the Council
 36. Confirmation of members of functional commissions of the Council
 37. Election of members of the Executive Board of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (General Assembly resolution 417 (V))
 38. Election of members of the Permanent Central Opium Board (Council resolution 125 (VI))
 39. Summary of financial implications of actions of the Council
 40. Arrangements regarding the report of the Council to the General Assembly
- Together with business arising out of decisions taken by the General Assembly at its sixth regular session.

Additional Notes

Resumed 15th session (to take place towards or after the end of the seventh regular session of the General Assembly)

41. Basic programme for 1953
42. Provisional agenda for the first regular session of 1953
43. Disposal of items arising out of the seventh regular session of the General Assembly in 1952

The report of the ad hoc Committee on Restrictive Business Practices established under Council resolution 375 (XIII) is to be available not later than March 1953.

The report on Land Reform, which is being prepared by the Secretary-General in conjunction with FAO, ILO and the other competent specialized agencies under Council resolution 370 (XIII) will not be available before 1953.

III

Length of sessions

It is estimated that, at the normal rate of four meetings a day (i.e. not more than two meetings simultaneously), agenda approximately of the magnitude indicated in Section II above would require

- (i) for the 14th session, between five and six weeks
- (ii) for the 15th session, between six and seven weeks

IV

Groupings of items and fixing of dates for groups at the fourteenth session.

The Secretary-General proposes the following grouping of items and fixing of dates for the 14th session. It will be realised that the question of fixing dates depends in a considerable degree not only upon the length of time taken by the discussion of various items, but also on the extent to which items are discussed in Committee, since the Council decided to include both economic and social subjects in the agenda of the 14th session and to proceed with both concurrently. For the purposes of the dates suggested below it is assumed that the items marked *, or a roughly equivalent amount of business, will receive detailed consideration in committee - either commencing in committee or being referred to committee after a preliminary general or procedural discussion in the Council. The items are arranged in two columns to show how they might be considered concurrently.

I

2 April - 27, 28

7 April - Major Group A

9*, 10*, 14*; 11*, 12*, 13*;

3 (15 April)^{1/}, 4, 5, 6, 15, 16, 8, 7

II

2 April - 24*, 25*

10 April - Major Group B

18; 19, 20, 21*, 23*; 26; 23*

^{1/} Good Friday falls on 11 April 1952.

/The remaining

The remaining items - 1, 2, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35 - could be taken as the course of business allowed. Among them, special attention is called to item 29 ("Implementation of recommendations on economic and social matters"). It is recommended that the documents to be made available on this question should be examined by the Council's Co-ordination Committee, which might sit at different times during the session as requirements indicated.
