United Nations

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Nations Unies

CONSEIL ECONOMIQUE ET SOCIAL

UNRESTRICTED

E/HR/4 25 April 1946

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

DRAFT RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE CALLING OF AN INTERNATIONAL PRESS CONFERENCE SUBMITTED BY THE DELEGATION OF THE PHILIPPINE COMMONWEALTH TO THE FIRST PART OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY - AND THE DECISION REACHED ON 11 FEBRUARY 1946. (A/BUR/24)

WHEREAS

World peace and freedom can be maintained only by a determined, well-informed and enlightened world public opinion;

WHEREAS

A free world press - deeply conscious of its responsibilities and obligations as well as of its rights and privileges, and properly provided with the necessary facilities and freedom to accomplish its mission - wields tremendous influence in moulding and giving expression to that opinion;

WHEREAS

It is highly desirable that the peoples of the world be fully and speedily informed through press, film and radio of world events as they occur day to day, and in order to encourage the free flow of such information among all nations, it is essential that the following principles shall govern the international gathering and distribution of news:

- (a) All sources of news, particularly official sources, shall be open to all without discrimination,
- (b) All transmission facilities shall be equally available to all,
- (c) There shall be a minimum of official regulation of the flow of news itself;

WHEREAS

It is the urgent responsibility of the United Nations Organization, as the guardian and promoter of international peace and security, to ensure the establishment, operation and movement of free press throughout the world; and E/HR/4 Page 2.

WHEREAS

For the attainment and implementation of the foregoing objectives, it is hereby

RESOLVED,

1. That the General Assembly take necessary steps to call an International Press Conference;

2. That the Conference shall be participated in by Member States of the UNO;

3. That in every delegation to the Conference adequate representation should be given to representative organizations of the press, both managerial and professional, of the country of origin; and
4. That the Conference shall take place at the permanent site of the UNO during the second session of the General Assembly.

General Assembly Decision: (Journal No. 28, page 480) (The President.)

"You will doubtless remember that this matter was first submitted to the Assembly by the Philippine delegation. The General Committee examined the proposal several times and came to the conclusion that the best plan would be to recommend the placing of this question of the organization of an international press conference upon the agenda of the second part of the first session of the General Assembly."
