

UNITED NATIONS  
ECONOMIC  
AND  
SOCIAL COUNCIL



Distr.  
GENERAL

E/CN.4/851  
28 February 1963

Original: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS  
Nineteenth session  
Item 14 of the provisional agenda

Dual distribution

DRAFT INTERNATIONAL COVENANTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS:  
PROPOSALS RELATING TO AN ARTICLE ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

Comments of specialized agencies

In accordance with paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 1843 A (XVII), the Secretary-General invited the specialized agencies to submit comments on the proposals relating to an article on the rights of the child. The International Labour Organisation and the Food and Agriculture Organization stated that they had no comments to make. The World Health Organization submitted the following comments:

.....With regard to the matters discussed by the Third Committee during the seventeenth session of the General Assembly and particularly to paragraph 18 of its report (document A/5365), I would call attention to the preamble of the Constitution of the World Health Organization which declares that "Governments have a responsibility for the health of their peoples which can be fulfilled only by the provision of adequate health and social measures". The directing organs of WHO have, however, taken no decisions that apply directly to the proposals considered by the General Assembly before adopting resolution 1843 A (XVII).

It is for the General Assembly to decide, on the advice of the competent United Nations organs, whether it is desirable to add to the draft convention an article on the rights of the child; on that question, therefore, I have no comments to offer. I would recall, however, that the Declaration of Rights of the Child, which was adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 1386 (XIV) takes into account the observations and suggestions regarding health which this Organization submitted to the Commission on Human Rights and the Social Commission during their debates on the draft declaration.