



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL



GENERAL
E/1988
E/AC.33/13
4 May 1988
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
Thirteenth session

I.21.

REPORT OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON SLAVERY (SECOND SESSION)

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INTRODUCTION

1. The ad hoc Committee on Slavery, appointed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations in accordance with resolution 238 (IX) of the Economic and Social Council, held its second session at the Headquarters of the United Nations, New York, from 2 to 27 April 1951. The Committee held 21 meetings, all in closed session.

2. The following members, acting in their individual capacity as experts, attended:

Chairmen: Mr. Moises Poblete Troncoso of Chile
Reporteur: Mr. C.W.W. Greenidge of the United Kingdom
Members: Mr. Bruno Lasker of the United States
Mrs. Jene Vielle of France

Mr. Robert Gevin made a valuable contribution to the work of the session as a representative of the International Labour Organisation.

3. The expression of the views of the individual members of the Committee is contained in the summary records of its meetings (E/AC.33/SR.34 - E/AC.33/SR.55), and is therefore not reproduced in this Report.

4. At the first meeting of its second session the Committee considered the provisional agenda prepared by the Secretary-General (E/AC.33/12), and adopted it in the following amended form:

Agenda

1. Election of Officers
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Study and definition of slavery and other institutions or customs resembling slavery; evaluation of the nature and extent of these problems at the present time
4. Suggestions as to methods of attacking and resolving these problems
5. Adoption of the report of the ad hoc Committee to the Economic and Social Council.

5. In its work, the Committee had before it 64 replies from Governments to the Questionnaire on Slavery and Servitude, which the Economic and Social Council had authorized it to circulate by Resolution 276 (X), contained in the following documents:

Hungary	E/AC.33/10
Southern Rhodesia	E/AC.33/10/Add.1
Iceland	/Add.2
Luxembourg	/Add.3
Monaco	/Add.4
Syria	/Add.5
Brazil	/Add.6
Norway	/Add.7
Denmark	/Add.8
Nepal	/Add.9
Finland	/Add.10
Ceylon	/Add.11
Lebanon	/Add.12
Honduras	/Add.13
Liechtenstein	/Add.14
US-UK Zone Free Territory of Trieste	/Add.15
Poland	/Add.16
Italy	/Add.17
Egypt	/Add.18
Uruguay	/Add.19
Federal Government of Germany	/Add.20
Thailand	/Add.21
Bolivia	/Add.22
Switzerland	/Add.23
Bulgaria	/Add.24
Argentina	/Add.25
New Zealand	/Add.26
Belgium	/Add.27
Netherlands	/Add.28
Austria	/Add.29
Ecuador	/Add.30
Belgium	/Add.31
Sweden	/Add.32
Canada	/Add.33
Hashemite Kingdom of the Jordan	/Add.34
	/Australia

Australia	E/AC.33/10/Add.35 also /Add.35/Corr.1
Venezuela	/Add.36
Colombia	/Add.37
Yugoslavia	/Add.38
Costa Rica	/Add.39
Japan	/Add.40
Israel	/Add.41
French Union and Morocco	/Add.42
Australia	/Add.43
Pakistan	/Add.44
Union of South Africa	/Add.45
Free Territory of Trieste	/Add.46
Ireland	/Add.47
Burma	/Add.48
Turkey	/Add.49
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	/Add.50
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	/Add.51
Peru	/Add.52
Burma	/Add.53
Mexico	/Add.54
United States of America	/Add.55
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republics	/Add.56
Indonesia	/Add.57
Ethiopia	/Add.58
Greece	/Add.59
Chile	/Add.60
Iran	/Add.61
Iraq	/Add.62
Panama*	/Add.63

* Additional replies were received from the following Governments too late for consideration by the Committee: China (Add.64), Dominican Republic (Add.65), El Salvador (Add.66), and the Philippines (Add.67).

6. The Committee also had before it numerous statements submitted to it, either on their own initiative or in response to the Questionnaire on Slavery and Servitude, by non-governmental organizations, research institutions, missionary and church organizations, and individuals; and information gathered by its Members during the interval between its first and second sessions.

CHAPTER I

Study and definition of slavery and other institutions or customs resembling slavery; evaluation of the nature and extent of these problems at the present time

7. In the light of the information before it, the Committee proceeded to attempt to prepare a definition of slavery and other institutions or customs resembling slavery. In this connexion it took note of Resolution 350 (XII) of the Economic and Social Council, concerning forced labour, by which the Council had invited the International Labour Organisation to co-operate with it in the earliest possible establishment of an ad hoc Committee on Forced Labour which would, inter alia, "study the nature and extent of the problem raised by the existence in the world of systems of forced or 'corrective' labour which are employed as a means of political coercion or punishment for holding or expressing political views, and which are on such a scale as to constitute an important element in the economy of a given country ..." In view of this decision by the Council, the Committee decided that it would not attempt to study or to make recommendations concerning such systems of forced or "corrective" labour.

8. The Committee found that the rather loose present-day usage of the term "slavery", that characterizes not only the most recent studies of the subject, but also much of its discussion during the last hundred years or so, arises in part from the fact that the nature of the institution, the conditions which surround it, and the public attitudes toward it, are undergoing constant change. Except for a few countries, slavery today is clandestine. More often than not, it assumes disguised forms. The suppression of slavery in its older forms has made great strides since its abolition was first discussed in the parliaments of the world. Public opinion is now almost universally with the agencies appointed to enforce the laws. The new States that have arisen since the First World War have

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for the most part provided in their basic law for guarantees of personal freedom - whether general or specific - that stand in opposition to slavery, serfdom or involuntary servitude in any form. In the territories of most of the States signatories to the Slavery Convention of 1926 even the less overt forms of slavery have disappeared or occur only in rare and isolated cases, when offenders against the existing laws are easily brought to book. In other territories, the machinery for apprehending offenders and for protecting sections of the population especially exposed to the operations of slave dealers, or the revival of practices analogous to slavery, has been greatly improved. And yet, the task of suppression has not yet been fully met. War and famine, disruption of social bonds that have held individual greed in check, loss of authority on the part of classes or age-groups formerly empowered by custom and tradition to keep watch over the social welfare, economic changes that break up old culture patterns, new temptations brought to distant and isolated places by world trade, and many other causes still threaten in many places the right of individuals to dispose of their own persons. And many of the older causes, rooted in tradition, are as yet by no means eliminated. Indeed the Committee found that according to the information it had received, there had been an upsurge or removal of the slave trade in certain parts of the world after the end of World War II.

9. The Committee took cognizance of the special difficulties faced by some Governments that desire to eliminate any customs or practices analogous to slavery or serfdom which may still exist in their territories. Governments that have inherited remnants of institutions and customs now unanimously condemned by world opinion sometimes find their financial and administrative resources unequal to the task of doing so; or even though they see their way to create appropriate instruments of law enforcement, are appalled by the costs and risks involved in speedily bringing about those economic and social changes without which conditions predisposing to involuntary servitude cannot be removed. The Committee was also aware of the fact that some of the Governments concerned face an influential internal opposition to such measures, not merely because of the existence of conflicting interests but also through apathy, tradition-mindedness, lack of contact with the outside world, or general ignorance of parts of the population.

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There are also Governments that are relatively new and have yet to construct an effective administrative apparatus. Under such circumstances, all that has been accomplished thus far, in some instances, has been a declaration of purpose or the enactment of laws that are not at once applied with equal vigor and precision in every part of the territory in question. The Committee is aware of all this and understands these difficulties; but in its opinion they afford no justification whatever for the continued existence of slavery or other forms of servitude. Such difficulties can be met by persistent and effective administration especially if there is brought to bear on them such expert assistance and international co-operation as the United Nations is in a position to mobilize.

10. In seeking a definition of slavery which would meet present-day requirements, the Committee turned first to the definition contained in the International Slavery Convention of 1926. In Article 1 of that instrument slavery is defined as "the status or condition of a person over whom any or all the powers attaching to the right of ownership are exercised". Feeling that perhaps that definition might be improved in the light of modern thinking, the Committee took cognizance of the debates on slavery which have occurred in the United Nations in recent years, particularly in relation to the drafting of Article 4 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; of many suggestions put forward by interested organizations and outstanding authorities on the subject, past and present; and of the Report of the International Commission of Enquiry into the Existence of Slavery and Forced Labour in Liberia of 1930. It agreed with the conclusion reached by that International Commission, that slavery is so various in its forms that it hardly admits of a strict definition and that there is little prospect of formulating a definition of it which will be so precise and comprehensive as to embrace all types of servitude in all societies.

11. As a result of its examination of this question, the Committee decided that there is not sufficient reason for discarding or amending the definition of slavery contained in Article 1 of the International Slavery Convention of 1926. It agreed therefore to recommend that this definition should continue to be accepted as an accurate and adequate definition of the term.

12. With respect to the slave trade, the Committee likewise found no reason to discard or to amend the definition contained in paragraph 2 of Article 1 of the same convention, which is as follows:

"The slave trade includes all acts involved in the capture, acquisition or disposal of a person with intent to reduce him to slavery; all acts involved in the acquisition of a slave with a view to selling or exchanging him; all acts of disposal by sale or exchange of a slave acquired with a view to being sold or exchanged, and, in general, every act of trade or transport in slaves."

13. The Committee felt, however, that it was questionable whether these definitions embraced all the types of servile status the abolition of which, in its opinion, should be promoted by the United Nations. It took note of information received from many sources which indicated that other forms of servitude, in addition to slavery and the slave trade, existed to a considerable extent in many portions of the world. When it attempted to define these forms of servitude, it discovered that a great deal of confusion had arisen because different names were applied to these practices in different regions of the world, and even in different countries. It therefore discarded the existing nomenclature for the time being, and instead attempted to describe these forms of servitude by reference to their particular characteristics.

14. The Committee first turned its attention to what has commonly come to be known as debt bondage. It decided that this term should properly be defined, as slavery had been defined by the League of Nations, in terms of a status or condition in which an individual found himself. On the basis of the information which was available to it, the Committee agreed that the status or condition in question might arise in one of two ways; either an individual, owing a debt to another individual, pledges his personal services in payment of the debt; or he pledges the services of a third person under his control. However, the Committee did not feel that the resulting status or condition alone constituted a form of servitude; it agreed that there must also be present a general denial or disregard of the principle that an individual should be treated as a person rather than as a thing, and considered as an end in himself and not only as a means to the purpose of someone else. It therefore agreed that the presence of one or more of the

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following conditions was necessary to bring debt bondage within the Committee's concept of servitude:

- (a) if the services rendered by the bondsman or the pawn do not count toward the payment of the debt;
- (b) if the nature and length of the services to be performed by the bondsman or the pawn are not defined; or
- (c) if the bondsman or the pawn submits to conditions that do not allow the person pledged to exercise the rights enjoyed by ordinary individuals within the framework of local social customs.

The Committee took note of the opinion expressed by the Committee of Experts on Slavery of the League of Nations in 1932 (C.109(I).M.145) that "it is possible that there is more human misery as a result of debt slavery than there is anywhere as the result of domestic slavery". Members endorsed this opinion as being equally true at the present time.

15. The Committee then considered what has commonly come to be known as "bride-price". It noted that, according to the information it had received, a social custom exists in many parts of the world whereby a man cannot obtain a wife for himself without offering money or services to the family of his prospective wife. If the custom did not go beyond this practice, often of a token or ritual nature, the Committee would not have considered that it fell within its terms of reference. It was pointed out to the Committee that in certain societies the payment of bride-price did not entail the cession of any rights of ownership, either in respect of the woman involved or of her children. It was also pointed out that the position of a woman in some societies was such that she always remained dependent upon some male person. The Committee did not feel that the explanations given could justify any practice which placed a woman in a servile status. It found ample evidence that in certain parts of the world the bride-to-be is regarded as the property of her father, or that at least his right is recognized to dispose of her in marriage; and that as a widow she is regarded as part of the heritable property of her husband and as such passes to the person who inherits that property on his death. Children of the marriage in such cases are also often at the disposal of their late father's heir. It was the presence of one or more of these elements which in the opinion of the Committee brought the

practice of payment of bride-price within the scope of its study. The fact that the bride is sometimes married without her consent - and often when too young to consent even if she were asked - adds to the deleterious practical effects of these rights of disposal on the persons who are the victims. The Committee decided, therefore, that it would consider as a form of servitude the practice whereby a woman is given in marriage, without the right to refuse, at a price or under conditions which give to the husband, to his clan or family, a right of disposal over her or over her children and permit her exploitation for the advantage of others.

16. The Committee next turned to the practice, particularly prevalent in the Far East, which in some localities is known as "mui tsei". This involves the sale of a child's working capacity and usually takes the form of the transfer of a small child, usually a girl, for employment as a domestic servant by means of an adoption procedure, sometimes fraudulent. The custom has been known to exist under other names in other regions of the world, including parts of Africa. The Committee recognized that in many cases an element of servitude may not be involved. Often the parents of the child effect such a transfer in what they believe to be the best interests of the child. The Committee therefore felt that a status or condition of servitude existed only when the conditions of the transfer were such as to permit the exploitation of the child regardless of its welfare. The Committee was aware of the fact that in many areas there has been a great deal of recent legislation on this subject, and that some of the laws have integrated these measures in such a way with other measures for the protection of children as to make them particularly effective. It expressed the hope that similar legislation might be considered favourably by the governments of those countries in whose territories the practice exists.

17. Some members of the Committee expressed the opinion that the three forms of servitude described above fall within the definition of slavery contained in Article 1 of the International Slavery Convention of 1926. Others pointed out that these forms of servile status could not have been present in the minds of all the governments that signed the Slavery Convention of 1926, and that therefore it would be more reasonable, both on legal and practical grounds, to consider these forms of servitude as involving a "status analogous to slavery".

18. The Committee next turned its attention to what is commonly known as "serfdom". After examining the information at its disposal on this subject it came to the conclusion that there still exists in some countries a condition, sometimes legally recognized, whereby an individual is attached to agricultural or pastoral land and cannot change his status or freely dispose of the produce of his labour. The attachment might be effected either by law (including customary law), custom, or agreement. In some cases the individual may be required to perform duties for the landowner without compensation. The Committee felt that such a condition constitutes a form of servitude that should be abolished.

19. A similar practice, which the Committee considered, is that requiring an individual, or groups of individuals, to perform services for another individual, or for the collectivity. Such services may range from menial labour or manual work to religious or ritualistic functions. They may be required either by customary or other law, and are usually rendered without financial or other compensation. These practices differ from those usually referred to as "forced labour" in that they involve the status of the persons concerned - who are often referred to as "slaves" - and in that the obligation as a rule is hereditary. The Committee felt that this practice might be considered a form of servitude if the individual, or group of individuals, were unable to terminate these service obligations of their own free will.

20. Having completed its study of the definitions to be applied to slavery, the slave trade, and the various forms of servitude, the Committee turned its attention to an attempt to evaluate the nature and extent of these problems at the present time. In this effort the Committee found itself confronted by a serious problem. In some cases the information furnished by governments was not wholly in agreement with that received from unofficial sources or furnished by Members of the Committee. On the basis of the personal knowledge of its members of conditions of servitude existing in the world today, the Committee agreed that it could not in all cases accept the information furnished by these sources as being complete and satisfactory for its purposes. However, since it had no way of verifying the information which reached it from unofficial sources, it could not in good conscience put forward such information as its own. The Committee

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therefore decided that it could go no further with its survey than to submit to the Economic and Social Council the replies which it had received from governments, together with its comments on these replies which are as follows:

- (a) Twelve Member Governments^{1/} had not replied to the Questionnaire up to the end of the Committee's session; it is suggested that the Council request these Governments to reply to the Questionnaire;
- (b) governments generally based their replies solely on the legal status of various forms of servitude in their territories, contending that their political constitutions or laws prohibit slavery or servitude; it is suggested that the Council request these governments to furnish information also on the application of the laws enacted and the practices actually prevalent in their territories.
- (c) a number of governments submitted information concerning only their non-self-governing territories; it is suggested that the Council request these governments to submit information concerning their metropolitan territories as well;
- (d) a number of governments submitted information in ambiguous terms that the Committee did not wish to interpret without further data from the government concerned; it is suggested that the Council might request these governments to submit more detailed and informative replies; and
- (e) only a few non-governmental organizations having consultative status submitted replies to the Questionnaire; it is suggested that the Council might request these organizations, particularly those interested in labour conditions, to submit replies as soon as possible.

21. The Committee felt that even when all the above-mentioned information had been obtained, a complete and up-to-date survey of slavery still would not be possible unless a body of the United Nations were given authority to verify its information by appropriate means and to study such actual conditions of slavery or servitude as might exist in the world today.

^{1/} Afghanistan, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Guatemala, Haiti, India, Liberia, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Saudi Arabia, Ukrainian SSR, and Yemen.

22. Although the Committee did not undertake to prepare a definitive survey of the field of slavery and other institutions or customs resembling slavery for the reasons set forth above, it did reach certain tentative conclusions with respect to the nature and extent of these problems at the present time. It adopted what it considered to be the most effective and useful procedure open to it for dealing with the vast amount of data available, within the prescribed time limit. Each Member of the Committee undertook primary responsibility for study of that region of the world best known to him, and prepared a memorandum summarizing his conclusions with respect to the existence of slavery or other forms of servitude in that region at the present time. Mr. Poblete Troncoso dealt with the Americas (document E/AC.33/R.12); Madame Vielle with central and southern Africa (E/AC.33/R.13) and Mr. Lasker with Asia, Oceania and Australia (E/AC.33/R.11). Because of the lack of time, the Committee did not consider these individual memoranda in detail or adopt them as its own. It decided, however, to draw them to the attention of the Economic and Social Council without assuming any collective responsibility for their contents. Mr. Greenidge prepared a more comprehensive memorandum which the Committee considered an interesting and valuable study, but did not have the time to examine in full (E/AC.33/R.14). Mr. Greenidge considered his study to be a "minority report". The Committee decided to draw it to the attention of the Council without assuming any collective responsibility for its contents.

23. The Committee unanimously agreed that slavery, even in its crudest form, still exists in the world today, and that it should continue to be a concern of the international community. Other forms of servitude exist in practically all regions of the world. They are rapidly subsiding in some, with favourable judicial or legislative action and an aroused public opinion; but in others they appear to be growing. The Committee felt that they should equally be a concern of the international community, particularly because the number of people affected and the suffering caused by these practices is much more significant at present than that resulting from crude slavery.

24. Members of the Committee examined estimates of the total number of slaves in the world, but were unable to give credence to any of them. This was partly because the definition of what constitutes slavery differs widely in different regions, or with different fact-gatherers. Moreover, so great have been the political and social changes of recent times that estimates made only a decade or two ago may be out of date and not representative of present conditions. While it would perhaps be possible to indicate in general terms the major regional concentrations of particular forms of servitude, such a statement also would be hazardous. Similar customs and institutions may have been clearly identified and studied in one country or one region, and been kept out of sight in some other because there they are disguised as contractual forms of service or as traditions which, since they are accepted by the local populations concerned, have not attracted the attention of governments. Although there has been considerable international co-operation under the guidance of the United Nations in the design of statistical methods for the simultaneous study of social and economic phenomena in countries with widely differing conditions, the Committee did not consider that the time has come for an international statistical study of slavery and other forms of servitude - partly because the situation is in flux, and no one year may be representative for a series of years; and partly because there is not as yet sufficient international agreement on definitions.

CHAPTER II

Suggestions as to methods of attacking and resolving these problems

25. In considering what proposals it might put forward to the Council with respect to methods of attacking and resolving these problems, the Committee was acutely aware of the change in the attitude of world public opinion towards slavery and other forms of servitude which, in its view, had occurred since the adoption of the International Slavery Convention of 1926. This change was most clearly evident in the recent adoption by the States Members of the United Nations of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in which the principle is proclaimed in Article 4 that "No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms." It appeared to the Committee that this principle was considerably more far-reaching in its implications than that which inspired the League of Nations to formulate the International Slavery Convention of 1926, and provided the basis for the preparation of a new instrument which would on the one hand speed up the abolition of whatever slavery still exists in the world, and on the other extend the scope of international concern to include other types of servitude as well as slavery.

26. The Committee considered that abolition of slavery and other forms of servitude could no longer be accomplished by a negative programme of abolition alone; positive measures of international assistance in eliminating the economic and social causes of slavery were also necessary. It felt that the abolition of practices derogatory to the dignity of man will result in the release of human resources, more necessary today than ever for the building of nations. Some of the States in whose territories slavery and other forms of servitude still exists seemed to the Committee to be shy of admitting the existence of these practices. The Committee felt that in the light of improved present-day understanding of the problems of under-developed areas of the world, such States might well anxiously seek international co-operation and assistance for the complete eradication of such practices, without in any way forfeiting their pride. The Committee felt that the United Nations could, under its Charter, do much to assist such States toward this objective.

27. In its examination of the International Slavery Convention of 1926, the Committee found no reason to doubt that the convention remains binding as between the States parties thereto. It noted, however, that certain provisions of the

Convention refer to action by persons or by institutions no longer in existence. These are Articles 7, 10, 11 and 12, which refer to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations; and Article 8, which refers to the Permanent Court of International Justice. It also noted that full implementation of Article 3, concerning the suppression of slave trade at sea, has never taken place, and that present arrangements for international co-operation against slavery, the slave trade, and other forms of servitude are less detailed and systematic than those of the Brussels General Act.

28. The Committee reached the conclusion that if the necessary formal changes were to be made, the International Slavery Convention might well be brought as soon as possible within the framework of the United Nations. It noted that in the case of certain international conventions, under which the Secretary-General of the League of Nations performed duties similar to those assigned him in the Slavery Convention, special protocols for regularizing the position had been entered into. This has not as yet been done in the case of the Slavery Convention. The Committee agreed to recommend that the Economic and Social Council take the necessary steps to do so.

29. The Committee decided, however, that merely bringing the Slavery Convention of 1926 within the framework of the United Nations would not provide sufficient guarantees that the legal status of slavery would be abolished in all countries, nor would it provide any guarantee that certain institutions or customs resembling slavery, not referred to or covered by the definitions contained in the Slavery Convention, would be brought to an end. In its opinion the time had come for governments to undertake these two additional responsibilities. It felt that this could be accomplished by the preparation and adoption of an international convention supplementary to the Slavery Convention of 1926.

30. Such a supplementary convention, in its view, should affirm the Slavery Convention of 1926 as a whole, and should be more precise than that instrument in defining the exact forms of servitude dealt with. It should provide for the transmission of annual reports on the application of its provisions to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and should enlist the co-operation of signatory States with the United Nations for the purpose of bringing about the abolition of slavery and other forms of servitude.

31. The Committee discussed many additional suggestions as to the substantive provisions which might be incorporated in such a supplementary convention. It felt that governments might be asked to undertake:

- (a) to end such remnants of slave-raiding and slave-trading as might still exist;
- (b) to end the mutilation, branding, or tattooing of persons of servile status;
- (c) to punish as criminals any individuals engaged in conspiracy to enslave, incitement to enslave, or enticement to part with the liberty of oneself or a dependent person; and
- (d) to encourage civil marriages and their registration as a means of eliminating certain forms of servitude.

As a result of its discussion the Committee formulated a precise recommendation covering these questions, set forth in Chapter III as recommendation B, parts (2), (3), (4), (5) and (6).

32. On the basis of its examination of all the information available to it, the Committee considered a number of specific problems, among them (a) how governments might best end slavery and other forms of servitude; (b) what provisions might be made to assist persons freed from servile status to establish themselves in a free society; (c) what steps might be taken to end debt bondage, serfdom, and other types of servitude; and (d) what transitional measures might be taken between the time when these types of servitude are legally abolished and the time when the individual actually achieves full freedom. The Committee formulated a recommendation on each of these questions, set forth in Chapter III as recommendation C, parts (1) to (8).

33. The Committee felt that the creation of international supervisory machinery for the abolition of slavery and other forms of servitude was urgent and should be undertaken immediately. It decided that a standing body of experts on slavery would be the most practical type of organization to undertake the tasks which it envisioned for such a body. These tasks are set forth in Chapter III, recommendation D. The Committee expressed the view that an appropriate secretariat should be assigned to provide the administrative and substantive services which such a body would require.

34. The Committee noted that conditions of servitude varied greatly in different regions of the world. The problems of the Middle East, for example, appeared to
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be quite different from those of the Far East or of Africa. The Committee came to the conclusion that a great many of these problems might usefully be approached on a regional basis. Not only might the representatives of governments facing common problems meet and discuss the solution of those problems, but in addition they might prepare regional agreements which would establish a common standard, and a programme, for the solution of these problems. Accordingly the Committee formulated a recommendation on this subject, which is set forth in Chapter III as recommendation E.

35. The Committee took due account of the recognized fields of competence of the various bodies within the framework of the United Nations, and came to the conclusion that the International Labour Organisation was one of these which could be of direct immediate assistance to the Economic and Social Council in dealing with slavery and other forms of servitude. In particular it felt that the question of "hard bargain" contracts - that is, contracts of service for a large number of years or even for life - might well be studied by the ILO because of the part they apparently play in the creation or continuance of a servile status. The Committee accordingly prepared a recommendation on this subject which appears in Chapter III as recommendation F.

36. The Committee regretted that the briefness of its session, and the absence of authority or facilities for verifying much of the information which came to its attention, prevented it from completing definitively the task assigned to it by the Council. It is happy to report, however, the recommendations embodied in Chapter III of this Report were adopted unanimously and represent, in the collective opinion of its members, a sound basis for future international action with respect to the abolition of slavery and other forms of servitude.

CHAPTER III

Recommendations*

A. Recommendations concerning the International Slavery Convention of 1926

It is recommended:

1. That the definitions of slavery and the slave trade contained in Article 1 of the International Slavery Convention of 1926 should continue to be accepted as accurate and adequate international definitions of those terms; and
2. That the United Nations should assume the functions and powers exercised by the League of Nations under the International Slavery Convention of 1926, by preparing a protocol to give effect to that decision and by inviting all States to adhere to the protocol or to the International Slavery Convention of 1926, as amended thereby.

B. Recommendations concerning a new supplementary international convention on slavery

It is recommended:

1. That a supplementary international convention be drafted by the United Nations which will embody the following principles:
 - I. Each contracting State should undertake not only to abolish the legal status of slavery, as defined in Article 1 of the International Slavery Convention of 1926, but also should undertake to abolish, at the earliest possible date, the following institutions and practices analogous to slavery or resembling slavery in some of their effects, in so far as they are not already covered by Article 1 of the International Slavery Convention of 1926:
 - (a) the practice of debt bondage, which is the status or condition arising from a pledge by a debtor of his personal services, or those of a third person under his control, where those services do not count towards payment of the debt, or are undefined as regards the nature and length of the services to be performed, or force the person pledged to submit to conditions that do not allow such person to exercise the rights normally enjoyed by ordinary individuals within the framework of local social custom;

* In Annex I of this Report these recommendations have been put in the form of draft resolutions for the Economic and Social Council.

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- (b) the legal status of serfdom, and the practice whereby an individual is by law (including customary law), custom, or agreement, attached to agricultural or pastoral land and cannot change his status or freely dispose of the produce of his labour, whether or not he may be required to perform, without compensation, duties for the landowner;
 - (c) the practice whereby an individual or groups of individuals who, being obliged by customary or other law, to perform services for another individual, or the collectivity, with or without financial consideration, cannot terminate those services of their own will;
 - (d) the practice whereby a woman is given in marriage, without the right to refuse, at a price and under conditions which give to the husband, to his clan or his family, a right of disposition over herself and over her children and permit her exploitation for the advantage of others;
 - (e) the practice whereby a child is transferred by its parents or guardians to a third party on payment or under conditions permitting the exploitation of the child regardless of its welfare.
- II. Each Contracting State should undertake to transmit an annual report to the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the application of this convention.
- III. Each Contracting State should undertake to co-operate with the United Nations and any agency created within the framework of the United Nations for the purpose of bringing about the abolition of slavery and other forms of servitude.
- IV. The supplementary convention should affirm the Convention of 1926 as a whole.
2. That slave raiding and slave trading on the high seas should be declared to be a crime similar to piracy in international law and that States adhering to the Supplementary Convention should bind themselves to enact laws within a prescribed time declaring that all the attributes of, and penalties for, piracy shall attach to them.

3. That States adhering to the Supplementary Convention should bind themselves to enact laws prohibiting the mutilation, branding or otherwise marking of human beings within their territories, whether as a means to indicate their servile status or in punishment of such offences as theft or running away.
4. That such early stages of dealing in slaves as may not be embraced by Article 1 of the Slavery Convention of 1926, such as conspiracy to enslave, incitement to enslave, accessories in enslavement, attempts at enslavement and enticement to part with the liberty of oneself or of a dependent person, should be made criminal offences in the laws of States parties to the Convention.
5. That States adhering to the Slavery Convention of 1926 and the supplementary international convention should bind themselves to communicate to the United Nations annually information not only on any laws and regulations which they may enact to apply to provisions of those conventions but also on the enforcement of those laws, on conditions pertaining to slavery and the slave trade, and on conditions and practices analogous to slavery, such as those described in recommendation B, part (I), (a) to (e), above.
6. That in order to speed the abandonment of practices of involuntary servitude arising from marriage customs by which women are subjected to a servile status. States adhering to the supplementary international convention should bind themselves to establish in all their territories, civil marriage by an easily accessible marriage officer, accompanied by registration of marriages contracted in his presence, and to encourage the inhabitants of those territories to make use of that mode of contracting a valid marriage.
7. That States adhering to the supplementary international convention should bind themselves to enact within all their territories laws providing that the age of consent in marriage shall be 16 years in the case of males and 14 years in the case of females.

C. Recommendations to governments for legislative and administrative measures.

It is proposed that the Economic and Social Council recommend to Governments:

1. That abolition of slavery, serfdom and other forms of servitude should begin with the abolition of their legal status rather than with compulsory emancipation, so as to prevent the possibility of social disorder. During the

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period of transition from servile status to full participation in a free society the governments concerned should take all necessary steps to insure an orderly termination of those mutual obligations between master and servant which are to be abolished.

2. That every State in which slavery or other forms of servitude exist or have been abolished comparatively recently should bind itself to make suitable provisions for:
 - (a) the assistance of emancipated slaves, or individuals of former servile status, to establish themselves in the free society of the country;
 - (b) the maintenance of such individuals, if they are aged or infirm or without means of subsistence;
 - (c) the maintenance, care and education of the children of such individuals if their parents are not able or willing to provide it.
3. That the following principles be incorporated in any basic legislation intended to abolish debt bondage:
 - (a) all agreements for labour in consideration of a debt should be held to be legal only if reduced to writing;
 - (b) a procedure should be evolved whereby the correctness of the debt and the value of the services to be rendered in payment thereof should be established before a competent official and incorporated in the agreement;
 - (c) the proportion of the value of the services to be paid towards the elimination of the debt should also be prescribed;
 - (d) the debtor should in no circumstances be bound to work for the creditor under the agreement for more than a prescribed maximum number of days;
 - (e) the value of the work as undertaken in the agreement should not be less than what is sanctioned by usage in the district;
 - (f) the duty of rendering services in extinguishment of a debt should not be transferable to a third person; and
 - (g) the agreement should not bind the heirs of the debtor.
4. That States in whose territories serfdom and agricultural debt bondage, distinguishable from serfdom, exist, shall apply economic measures to solve this problem such as making land available to the agricultural workers.

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(accompanied by the provision of financial services to enable them to cultivate it), and instruction in modern methods of cultivation and co-operative marketing of their produce; or where land is not available they should seek to make it available by reclamation of land, transfer of population or by establishing other industries into which agricultural workers could be absorbed.

5. That, slavery and other forms of servitude being often products of ignorance and illiteracy, Governments in whose territories they exist should bind themselves to take all necessary measures for the education of children and adults, male and female.

6. That, pending the creation of an international police force, States in which slave raiding and slave trading still occur, should, by agreement with contiguous States, grant to the officers of those States, engaged in the pursuit of slave traders and slave raiders, reasonable facilities to pursue persons suspected of taking part in slave trading or slave raiding across their common frontiers, to arrest such persons, and to deliver them for trial by the courts of the State where they were caught.

7. That provision should be made for assisting freed slaves who desire to return to their home country with the parents, wives and children, if any, and to rejoin their kin or tribe.

8. That any State, considering that it was unable to liberate at once all slaves or persons of other servile status, in its territory, should nevertheless abolish the legal status of slavery or other forms of servitude on a given date and in the transitional period should take the following measures:

(a) the person of servile status shall be entitled, irrespective of his ability to work for reasons of age, native talent, injury or health, to all the rights enjoyed by the members of the master's household or dependents, which include the right to be fed, clothed and housed; the right to be well-treated and employed with kindness; and the right to medical attention;

/(b) the

(b) the courts shall be empowered to set free any slave or other person of servile status who proves to the satisfaction of the court that he or she has been ill-treated by the owner;

(c) the government shall provide by law that after a prescribed date all children born of slaves or other persons of servile status shall be considered free from birth;

(d) the slaves or other persons of servile status shall be registered with the record of the genesis of their status; any person not so registered shall have the right to apply to a competent authority for a certificate of freedom;

(e) persons of servile status, when duly married, shall not be separated by their masters; no child shall be separated from his mother because of the status of either;

(f) mutilation and branding of slaves shall be prohibited;

(g) the government shall establish an Office whose function shall be to supervise the application of the laws concerning slaves and other individuals of servile status; the Office shall also conduct social services for the rehabilitation of such persons after they are freed and assistance to those who are unable to earn their own living; it shall also be a function of the Office to promote knowledge of laws concerning slavery and other forms of servitude, in language comprehensible both by persons of servile status and by their masters; the Office shall employ an adequate staff of agents to confer with and counsel such persons;

(h) the government shall provide funds to assist slaves in buying their freedom and to grant loans to slaves and other persons of servile status for individual rehabilitation.

(Attention is called to the instructions concerning traffic in slaves, Saudi Arabia, 1936, and the Ethiopian anti-slavery legislation between 1923 and 1935.)

D. Recommendations concerning the creation of international supervisory machinery:
It is recommended:

That the United Nations should establish a standing body of experts on slave

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with an appropriate secretariat, for the performance of the following tasks:

1. to examine the information communicated to the United Nations in accordance with the terms of any United Nations convention on slavery;
2. to study the working of any laws, regulations, or administrative measures that may have been adopted by any of the Member States to carry out or to make effective the terms of their obligations under such conventions;
3. to appoint commissioners or to set up special commissions to co-operate with the governments concerned in the study and evaluation of such measures;
4. to study and make recommendations to the Economic and Social Council on social and economic measures which might be taken by governments to correct abuses of debtor-creditor and landlord-tenant relationships which have resulted, or are liable to result, in slavery or other forms of servitude;
5. to work out and supervise a programme of education designed to correct a social outlook that justifies the existence of slavery and other forms of servitude;
6. to report on its activities to the Council at least once a year.

E. Recommendations concerning regional arrangements

It is recommended:

1. That governments facing common problems, with respect to slavery or other forms of servitude, should organize, within the framework of the United Nations, regional conferences or seminars among peoples with a common cultural background for the following purposes:
 - (a) to consider the most effective means of eliminating slavery or other forms of servitude in the region concerned;
 - (b) to establish standards for the treatment of persons of servile status until they are able to participate in national life on a basis of full equality;
 - (c) to devise the means of utilizing the good offices of such governments in the region as have abolished slavery, the slave trade or any other form of servitude, for the assistance of such other governments in the

/region

region as may desire to undertake similar measures;

- (d) to review customary and religious laws pertaining to slavery and other forms of servitude as understood and practised by the people in the region;
- (e) to study movements of population, such as pilgrimages, labour migrations, etc., and their relation to the clandestine traffic in slaves; and to devise such means as may be necessary to check the exploitation of individuals participating in such population movements;
- (f) to promote the exchange of technical information among officials and other persons concerned with problems relating to slavery, the slave trade and other forms of servitude.

F. Recommendation for action by other United Nations bodies or agencies
It is recommended:

1. That the ILO be invited to study the implications of contracts of service for life, or for a long period of years, and other contracts of service which come within the category of "hard bargains", with particular reference to the creation or continuance thereby of servile status.

ANNEX

DRAFT RESOLUTION FOR THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

I

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note of the Report of the ad hoc Committee on Slavery (second session);

II

TRANSFER TO THE UNITED NATIONS OF FUNCTIONS AND POWERS
EXERCISED BY THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNDER THE
INTERNATIONAL SLAVERY CONVENTION OF
25 SEPTEMBER 1926. 1/

Whereas, under the International Slavery Convention of 25 September 1926, the League of Nations was entrusted with certain functions and powers, and

Whereas, in its resolution adopted on 12 February 1946, on the Report of the League of Nations Committee, the General Assembly declared the willingness of the United Nations to assume the exercise of certain functions and powers previously entrusted to the League of Nations under international agreements, and referred to the Economic and Social Council to take the necessary measures with respect to functions of a technical and non-political character, and

Whereas, the Economic and Social Council recognizes the desirability of ensuring continuity in international co-operation relating to slavery,

Therefore

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends that the General Assembly approve the assumption by the United Nations of the functions and powers exercised by the League of Nations in respect of slavery under the above-mentioned International Convention, as provided in the attached draft resolution and draft protocol;

Requests the Secretary-General to inform the Members of the United Nations of this recommendation, in order that their representatives at the next session of the General Assembly may be given authority to sign the Protocol;

Recommends that the following resolution be approved by the General Assembly:

1/ This draft resolution is based upon recommendation A (Chapter III).

TRANSFER TO THE UNITED NATIONS OF FUNCTIONS AND POWERS
EXERCISED BY THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNDER THE
INTERNATIONAL SLAVERY CONVENTION OF
25 SEPTEMBER 1926

The General Assembly of the United Nations,
Desirous of continuing international co-operation relating to the
elimination of slavery,

Approves the Protocol which accompanies this resolution;

Urges that it shall be signed without delay by all the States who are Parties
to the International Slavery Convention of 25 September 1926;

Recommends that, pending the entry into force of the aforesaid Protocol,
effect to be given to its provisions by the Parties to the Convention;

Instructs the Secretary-General to perform the functions conferred upon him
by the aforesaid Protocol upon its entry into force.

DRAFT PROTOCOL AMENDING THE INTERNATIONAL SLAVERY CONVENTION
SIGNED AT GENEVA ON 25 SEPTEMBER 1926

The Parties to the present Protocol, considering that under the International
Slavery Convention of 25 September 1926, the League of Nations was invested with
certain duties and functions for whose continued performance it is necessary to
make provision in consequence of the dissolution of the League of Nations, and
considering that it is expedient that these duties and functions should be
performed henceforth by the United Nations, hereby agree as follows:

Article I

The Parties to the present Protocol undertake that as between themselves they
will, in accordance with the provisions of the present Protocol, attribute full
legal force and effect to, and duly apply the amendments to that instrument as
they are set forth in the annex to the present Protocol.

Article II

The Secretary-General shall prepare a text of the Convention as revised in
accordance with the present Protocol, and shall send copies, for their information,
to the Governments of every Member of the United Nations and every State non-Member
of the United Nations to which this Protocol is open for signature or acceptance.
He shall also invite Parties to the aforesaid Convention to apply the amended text
of this instrument as soon as the amendments are in force, even if they have not
yet been able to become Parties to the present Protocol.

/Article III

Article III

The present Protocol shall be open for signature or acceptance by any of the Parties to the International Slavery Convention of 25 September 1926 to which the Secretary-General has communicated for this purpose a copy of the present Protocol.

Article IV

States may become Parties to the present Protocol by:

- (a) Signature without reservation as to acceptance;
- (b) Signature with reservation as to acceptance, followed by acceptance;
- (c) Acceptance.

Acceptance shall be effected by the deposit of a formal instrument with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Article V

The present Protocol shall come into force on the date on which two or more States shall have become Parties thereto.

The amendments set forth in the annex to the present Protocol shall come into force when twenty States have become Parties to the present Protocol and consequently any State becoming a Party to the Convention, after the amendments thereto have come into force, shall become a Party to the Convention as so amended.

Article VI

In accordance with paragraph 1 of Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations and the regulations pursuant thereto adopted by the General Assembly, the Secretary-General of the United Nations is authorized to effect registration of the present Protocol and of the amendments made in the Convention by the present Protocol on the respective dates of their entry into force and to publish the Protocol and the revised text of the International Slavery Convention of 25 September 1926 as soon as possible after registration.

Article VII

The present Protocol, of which the Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited in the archives of the United Nations Secretariat. The Convention to be amended in accordance with the annex being in the English and French languages only, the English and French texts of the annex shall equally be authentic texts and the Chinese, Russian and Spanish texts shall be translations. A certified copy of the Protocol, including the

/annex, shall

annex, shall be sent by the Secretary-General to each of the States Parties to the International Slavery Convention of 25 September 1926, as well as to all other States Members of the United Nations.

In faith whereof the undersigned being duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments signed the present Protocol on the date appearing opposite their respective signatures.

Done at this day of 195....

ANNEX A

INTERNATIONAL SLAVERY CONVENTION OF 25 SEPTEMBER 1926

In Article 7 "the Secretary-General of the United Nations" shall be substituted for "the Secretary-General of the League of Nations".

In Article 8 "the International Court of Justice" shall be substituted for "The Permanent Court of International Justice" and "the statute of the International Court of Justice" shall be substituted for "the Protocol of 16 December 1920, relating to the Permanent Court of International Justice".

In Article 10 "the United Nations" shall be substituted for "the League of Nations" in paragraphs 1 and 2.

In Article 11 "the United Nations" shall be substituted for "the League of Nations" in paragraphs 2 and 3.

In paragraph 2 the word "subsequently" shall be deleted and the words "to which he will have transmitted a certified copy of the Convention" shall be inserted after the words "including States which are not Members of the United Nations".

In Article 12 "the United Nations" shall be substituted for "the League of Nations".

III

SUPPLEMENTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON SLAVERY
AND OTHER FORMS OF SERVITUDE 2/

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering that with respect to the elimination of slavery and other forms of servitude many international instruments have been concluded, including the International Slavery Convention of 25 September 1926,

Bearing in mind the provisions of Article 4 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Having examined the report on slavery and other forms of servitude prepared by the ad hoc Committee on Slavery,

Recognizing that substantial changes in the general situation and attitude related to slavery and other forms of servitude have occurred since 1926,

Realizing that the functions to be undertaken by the United Nations with reference to slavery and servitude should be wider than those envisaged by the International Slavery Convention of 25 September 1926 with respect to the League of Nations,

Decides to appoint a drafting committee composed of the representatives of

which will be convened prior to the _____ session of the Council and prepare the draft of a supplementary international convention on slavery and other forms of servitude, bearing in mind the recommendations concerning such a convention made by the ad hoc Committee on Slavery.

IV

RECOMMENDATIONS TO GOVERNMENTS 3/

The Economic and Social Council,

Having noted the proposed recommendations to governments formulated by the ad hoc Committee on Slavery,

Decides to recommend to Governments:

1. that abolition of slavery, serfdom and other forms of servitude should begin with the abolition of their legal status rather than with compulsory emancipation, so as to prevent the possibility of social disorder. During

2/ This draft resolution is based on recommendation B (Chapter III).

3/ This draft resolution is based on recommendation C (Chapter III).

the period of transition from servile status to full participation in a free society the governments concerned should take all steps to insure an orderly termination of those mutual obligations between master and servant which are to be abolished.

2. that every State in which slavery or other forms of servitude exist or have been abolished comparatively recently should bind itself to make suitable provisions for:

(a) the assistance of emancipated slaves, or individuals of former servile status, to establish themselves in the free society of the country;

(b) the maintenance of such individuals, if they are aged or infirm or without means of subsistence;

(c) the maintenance, care and education of the children of such individuals if their parents are not able or willing to provide it.

3. that the following principles be incorporated in any basic legislation intended to abolish debt bondage:

(a) all agreements for labour in consideration of a debt should be held legal only if reduced to writing;

(b) a procedure should be evolved whereby the correctness of the debt and the value of the services to be rendered in payment thereof should be established before a competent official and incorporated in the agreement;

(c) the proportion of the value of the services to be paid towards the elimination of the debt should also be prescribed;

(d) the debtor should in no circumstances be bound to work for the creditor under the agreement for more than a prescribed maximum number of days;

(e) the value of the work as undertaken in the agreement should not be less than what is sanctioned by usage in the district;

(f) the duty of rendering services in extinguishment of a debt should not be transferable to a third person; and

(g) the agreement should not bind the heirs of the debtor.

4. that States in whose territories serfdom and agricultural debt bondage, distinguishable from serfdom, exist, shall apply economic measures to solve this problem such as making land available to the agricultural workers

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(accompanied by the provision of financial services to enable them to cultivate it), and instruction in modern methods of cultivation and co-operative marketing of their produce; or where land is not available they should seek to make it available by reclamation of land, transfer of population or by establishing other industries into which agricultural workers could be absorbed.

5. that, slavery and other forms of servitude being often products of ignorance and illiteracy, governments in whose territories they exist should bind themselves to take all necessary measures for the education of children and adults, male and female.

6. that, pending the creation of an international police force, States in which slave raiding and slave trading still occur should by agreement with contiguous States grant to the officers of those states, engaged in the pursuit of slave traders and slave raiders, reasonable facilities to pursue persons suspected of taking part in slave trading or slave raiding across their common frontiers, to arrest such persons, and to deliver them for trial by the courts of the State where they are caught.

7. that provision should be made for assisting freed slaves who desire to return to their home country with their parents, wives and children, if any, and rejoin their kin or tribe.

8. that any State, considering that it was unable to liberate at once all slaves or persons of other servile status in its territory, should nevertheless abolish the legal status of slavery or other forms of servitude on a given date and in the transitional period should take measures along the lines suggested by the ad hoc Committee in its recommendation C, part (8).

V

INTERNATIONAL SUPERVISORY MACHINERY FOR THE ABOLITION
OF SLAVERY AND OTHER FORMS OF SERVITUDE ^{4/}

The Economic and Social Council,

Recognizing the great importance and urgency of bringing about, at the earliest moment, the total abolition of slavery and other forms of servitude;

Bearing in mind that the process of abolition can be expedited with due regard to the maintenance of order and the well-being of the peoples concerned;

^{4/} This draft resolution is based on recommendation D (Chapter III).

/Having noted

Having noted the recommendations of the ad hoc Committee on Slavery regarding the establishment of international supervisory machinery for the abolition of slavery and other forms of servitude;

Recalling the progress achieved in the abolition of slavery and other forms of servitude following upon the creation of previous international supervisory machinery for this purpose, such as the establishment of the Permanent Slavery Bureau by the General Act of Brussels Conference, 1890, and the later establishment of an Advisory Committee of Experts on Slavery by the Assembly of the League of Nations on 12 October 1932;

Decides to establish a standing body of experts on slavery, appointed by the Secretary-General and responsible to the Council, containing from three to five experts on slavery of high qualifications and utilizing the services of experience expert consultants with first-hand experience for the performance of the following tasks:

1. To examine the information communicated to the United Nations in accordance with the terms of any United Nations convention on slavery;
2. To study the working of any laws, regulations, or administrative measures that may have been adopted by any of the Member States to carry out or to make effective the terms of their obligations under such conventions;
3. To appoint commissioners or to set up special commissions to co-operate with the governments concerned in the study and evaluation of such measures;
4. To study and make recommendations to the Economic and Social Council on social and economic measures which might be taken by governments to correct abuses of debtor-creditor and landlord-tenant relationships which have resulted, or may result, in slavery or other forms of servitude;
5. To work out and supervise a programme of education designed to correct the social outlook that justifies the existence of slavery and other forms of servitude; and
6. To report on its activities to the Council at least once a year.

VI

REGIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ABOLITION OF SLAVERY
AND OTHER FORMS OF SERVITUDE 5/

The Economic and Social Council,

Having examined the recommendations of the ad hoc Committee on Slavery concerning regional arrangements for the abolition of slavery and other forms of servitude;

Considering that the programme of direct assistance furnished to requesting Governments by the United Nations under General Assembly resolution 58 (I) include assistance in eliminating the economic and social causes of slavery and other forms of servitude;

Requests the Secretary-General and the Governments concerned, with the assistance of local and foreign experts, to organize regional conferences and seminars among peoples with a common cultural background living in areas where slavery or other forms of servitude are reported to exist:

- (a) to consider the most effective means of eliminating slavery or other forms of servitude in the region concerned;
- (b) to establish standards for the treatment of persons of servile status until they are able to participate in national life on a basis of full equality;
- (c) to devise the means of utilizing the good offices of such governments in the region as have abolished slavery, the slave trade or any other form of servitude, for the assistance of such other governments in the region as may desire to undertake similar measures;
- (d) to review customary and religious laws pertaining to slavery and other forms of servitude as understood and practised by the people in the region;
- (e) to study movements of population, such as pilgrimages, labour migrations etc., and their relation to the clandestine traffic in slaves; and to devise such means as may be necessary to check the exploitation of individuals participating in such population movements; and
- (f) to promote the exchange of technical information among officials and other experts, regional or persons concerned with problems relating to slavery, the slave trade and other forms of servitude.

5/ This draft resolution is based on recommendation E (Chapter III).

VII

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION^{6/}

The Economic and Social Council,

Transmits the report of the ad hoc Committee to the International Labour Organisation; and

Invites the International Labour Organisation to study the implications of contracts of service for life, or for a long period of years, and other contracts of service which come within the category of "hard bargains", with particular reference to the creation or continuance thereby of servile status.

^{6/} This draft resolution is based on recommendation F (Chapter III).