

SUB-COMMITTEE OF
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF INFORMATION

SUMMARY RECORD OF FIFTEENTH MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY, 29 JANUARY 1946
AT 3 P.M.

Acting Chairman: Mr. J. Szapiro.

The Sub-Committee had before it two papers summarizing the observations of outside experts on co-operation with the non-governmental voluntary organizations and on publications.

(A/INF/W/18 and A/INF/W/19).

I. Consideration of observations on co-operation with non-governmental voluntary organizations. (A/INF/W/18)

Introduction.- It was decided to substitute the phrase "non-governmental voluntary organizations" for the term "unofficial organizations" throughout the Sub-Committee's report.

The Sub-Committee agreed to amend the second paragraph of the introduction to read "the co-operation of non-governmental voluntary organizations can also be useful in spreading through groups with special interests, substantive material produced by particular organs of the United Nations, such as the Economic and Social Council, and by specialized agencies".

Paragraph 1:- It was agreed that the last two sentences of paragraph 1 should read "for this purpose full documentation should be supplied to these organizations, and visits by their representatives to the United Nations headquarters should be given encouragement, with the necessary access to meetings and to delegates and members of the Secretariat. Assistance in arranging such visits would be particularly recommended in the case of

organizations operating far from headquarters".

Paragraph 2:- It was agreed that the second sentence of this paragraph should be deleted, and that the last sentence should read "the United Nations should co-operate in supplying information for use in preparing such material".

Paragraph 3:- The Sub-Committee decided that the first sentence should be amended to read "many organizations, in addition, distribute general material not prepared by themselves", and that the last sentence but one should read "study material such as pamphlets, films etc., might be supplied to them for use in these activities".

It was decided to delete the last sentence of paragraph 3.

Paragraph 4:- It was decided to replace paragraph 4 by the following:- "non-governmental voluntary organizations will continually transmit invitations to representatives or speakers from the United Nations Organization to attend their formal meetings, special Institutes and Study Groups. The Secretary-General would find it necessary to meet this problem in an organized way which could best be done through the Department of Public Information."

Paragraphs 5 - 6:- no comment.

Paragraph 7:- The first part of this paragraph should read "where necessary officers of the Department might be responsible for contact with a particular group of organizations".

Paragraph 8:- It was agreed that this paragraph should read: "Organizations whose principal aim is to spread knowledge and understanding of United Nations affairs, will wish to maintain direct contact with the United Nations Headquarters. Those Organizations that wish to maintain representatives at headquarters, should be encouraged to do so".

Paragraph 9:- It was agreed to delete the last sentence.

Paragraph 10:- The Sub-Committee decided to delete this paragraph.

II. Consideration of Views on Publications Expressed by Experts and Members. (A/INF/W/19)

1. Books:- The Sub-Committee agreed that this report should not be concerned with the technical and general publications of the Secretariat, as these fell outside the scope of the Publications Section of the Department of Public Information. The Sub-Committee decided to specify that books on United Nations subjects by outside authors should not receive any official endorsement.
2. Pamphlets:- The Sub-Committee decided to incorporate in its report the substance of the first sentence of the first paragraph and of the second paragraph and to recommend that the ultimate aim of the Department should be to produce pamphlets on all the general activities of the United Nations. These pamphlets should be kept up to date and published in many languages.
3. United Nations Year Book:- It was agreed that the words "Year Book" should replace the word "Annual".
4. The Sub-Committee decided not to make any categorical recommendation on the subject of a popular magazine, but to indicate the desirability of issuing a reference digest covering all aspects of United Nations work.
5. Illustrations:- No comment.
6. Language Problems:- The Sub-Committee decided to recommend that most of the translation work on United Nations publications and publishing activities in countries other than the United States could best be done locally at the Branch Offices.

The meeting rose at 5 p.m.