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REPORT OF THE FOURTH SESSION OF THE SOCIAL COMMISSION

Financial Estimate Prepared in Accordance with Rule 33
of the Rules of Procedure of the Economic and Social Council

The resolutions adopted by the Social Commission at its Fourth Session, the financial implications of which can be estimated, are found in document E/1359, E/CN.5/152, paragraphs 33 and 67.

1. Advisory Social Welfare Functions

The Social Commission recommended that the Economic and Social Council should adopt a resolution to the effect that the advisory social welfare services now provided from year to year in line with Resolution 58 (I), be placed on a continuing basis, and that for 1950 the services be at approximately the same level as that approved for 1949. The programme, however, and the amount involved will be the same whether the services are continued on a year to year basis as at present, or on a continuing basis as proposed by the Social Commission. The amount included in the budgetary estimate for 1949, and approved by the General Assembly, is \$675,000 distributed in general terms among advisory social welfare experts, fellowships, seminars, demonstration equipment, literature, apparatus, etc. It is to be noted in this regard that there has been so great an increase in requests for these services that of 244 applications for Fellowships, for example, only 150 (approximately) could be met within the sum provided, while countries applying for advisory social welfare experts have increased from 10 in 1948 to 31 in 1949.

2. Tropical Housing: Meeting of Experts

The Social Commission at its Second Session (28 August to 17 September 1947) adopted a resolution proposing that the Secretary-General arrange for small meetings of experts on particular questions on Housing (E/578, paragraph 51 (K)).

The Economic and Social Council at its Sixth Session (February 1948 to 11 March 1948) in Resolution 122 (VI) (D) suggested that the Secretary-General include in his budgetary estimate for 1949 provision for two small meetings of experts on particular technical matters in the housing field. The budget
/estimate for 1949

estimate for 1949 included a provision of \$27,120 for the holding of two meetings in New York, each to last for two weeks and to include eight invited experts (Budget Estimate for Financial Year 1948 Part II, page 53). This amount was subsequently halved by the Fifth Committee, and approved at \$13,560, apparently on the assumption that at this stage one meeting only was desirable.

It was the opinion of the Social Commission at its Fourth Session, that a meeting of experts on particular technical aspects of housing problems and planning in tropical areas, could not be successful unless it was held in an appropriate tropical area, where local experience and regional officials were available. The Commission submitted a resolution for adoption by the Economic and Social Council requesting the Secretary-General to arrange for a meeting of experts in 1950 in an appropriate tropical area to consider technical questions relating to housing and town planning for the lower income groups in the humid tropics (E/1359, E/CN.5/152 paragraph 67).

The financial implications of such a meeting in a tropical area are \$23,025, to which it is necessary to add the cost of a Consultant at grade 16 for three months: \$3,750, bringing the total to \$26,775.
