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COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON
NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

THE PARTICIPATION OF YOUTH IN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Statement submitted by the World Assembly of Youth, a
non-governmental organization granted consultative
status in Category B

The Secretary-General has received the following statement,
which is circulated in accordance with paragraphs 22 and 23
of Council resolution 288 B (X):

Dated: 22 November 1950

Received: 24 November 1950

In the technical assistance programme it is generally recognized that the programme of technical assistance to under-developed countries can only have the desired effect on the populations which benefit from it in so far as these populations are able to contribute their active and increasing co-operation both in achieving a rise in their living standards and an increase in culture and security. Unless it is accompanied by an educational effort, the execution of the programme may be compromised and in any case it can only be ensured slowly and at the cost of much waste of energy and money.

The World Assembly of Youth respectfully draws the attention of the Economic and Social Council to the following necessary points:

- (1) The right to education as it is defined in Article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights must be rendered effective as must also the protection of young workers by an efficient control of conditions of engagement, and especially age conditions laid down by the official services for manpower in each country or territory.
- (2) Young people in schools must be informed of the manpower needs and the openings which are available to them as a result of the execution of the technical assistance programme in each country, in order to avoid the creation of unemployment due to the lack of adaptation of manpower.

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(3) The countries being developed must be equipped with vocational guidance institutes with a sufficient number of competent specialists, taking into account that this measure can only be really fruitful if it is prepared by a good general education and scholastic guidance.

(4) Apprenticeship centres and vocational schools must be created. Apprenticeship must be guaranteed by the institution of apprenticeship contracts. Apprenticeship must be made fully effective by the incorporation during the working hours of the apprentice of the time necessary for basic education.

(5) The instruction and general education of girls must be developed since this is indispensable for the establishment of normal family life, not only on the level of professional life but also on domestic life.

(6) A housing policy must be developed which will spare the countries which are now being industrialized from the appalling experiences of countries which were industrialized under the old order.

(7) The establishment of labour legislation must be envisaged which will guarantee to the worker his fundamental rights as they are recognized in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, especially those defined in Articles 22-25. Such legislation should also set up the necessary institutions to ensure that the rights of workers are guaranteed.

The World Assembly of Youth, conscious of the difficulties of the task, but aware of the excellent results which would be obtained for the great benefit of the world, is willing to do anything within its power to help the United Nations in this field and in particular in encouraging young people to enter the teaching and vocational guidance professions, and in helping to make known among the youth organizations of these countries the work of the United Nations in this field, and further in encouraging these organizations to make the necessary educational efforts.
