

COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONSULTATION
WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS
(COUNCIL NGO COMMITTEE)

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE THIRTIETH MEETING

Lake Success, New York

Saturday, 31 January 1948, at 2.00 p.m.

Present:

Chairman: Mr. PAPANEK (Czechoslovakia)
Mr. Wu (China)
Mr. de Folin (France)
Mr. Kobushko (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)
Mr. Alexander (United Kingdom)
Mr. Kotschnig (United States of America)
Secretary: Mr. White (Non-Governmental Organization Section
Division of Co-ordination and Liaison)

III. UNITED STATES PROPOSAL ON THE RECONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS

The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Committee might first discuss the proposal of Mr. Kotschnig (United States of America) that the Committee should not reconsider rejected applications before the lapse of a time-limit of eighteen months.

On a motion by Mr. KOBUSHKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), the Committee agreed to postpone consideration of the United States proposal.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS FOR CONSULTATIVE STATUS; (documents E/C.2/W.8 and E/C.2/W.8/Add.1/Rev.1)

1. Central Council of International Touring

Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) stated that the organizations affiliated to the Central Council of International Touring appeared to be unwilling to let that organization represent them. The organization had not been very active in its field, and the United States Government had come to the conclusion that consultative status to this organization should not be granted.

/Mr. de FOLIN

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Mr. de FOLIN (France) expressed the hope that the Committee would not take a final decision rejecting the application, and thought that the case might be reconsidered later. Should the Committee adopt the United States proposal on the reconsideration of applications, this case might still be considered in conformity with the terms of that proposal.

Mr. ALEXANDER (United Kingdom) agreed with Mr. de Folin, and suggested that in the meanwhile the Transport and Communications Commission should be asked for advice on the value of the technical assistance which the Central Council of International Touring might give.

The Committee rejected, by two votes to one, with three abstentions, the proposal of Mr. Kotschnig (United States of America) that the application of the Central Council of International Touring should not be recommended for acceptance.

The Committee adopted, by two votes to one, with three abstentions, the proposal of Mr. Alexander (United Kingdom) to refer the application to the Transport and Communications Commission for technical advice.

2. International Air Transport Association
5. International Union of Railways
6. Permanent International Association of Navigation Congresses

Mr. ALEXANDER (United Kingdom) felt that these applications should be first referred to the Transport and Communications Commission for technical advice.

Mr. KOBUSHKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) submitted that none of these organizations was acceptable as they all had branches in Spain, and the Economic and Social Council had decided that no organization should be granted consultative status if its membership included organizations in Franco Spain.

Mr. de FOLIN (France) stated that the Spanish companies had no influence on the policy of the International Union of Railways; he pointed out that the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics had agreed that this union should send a representative to the Economic Commission for Europe. The Committee could refer these applications to the Transport and Communications Commission for advice on the value of the technical contribution which these organizations might bring to the Council, and could then take a decision on their application or it could take this decision now and still ask the Transport and Communications Commission for technical advice on the organizations for future reference.

Mr. ALEXANDER (United Kingdom) and Mr. WU (China) agreed that any decision on these applications would only apply subject to the resignation or expulsion of the Spanish members.

/Mr. KOTSCHNIG

Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) pointed out that the Transport and Communications Commission would merely be asked to state if the organizations in question could bring a positive contribution to its work. The Committee would remain entirely free to reject the applications, for the reasons adduced, after it had obtained advice as to the usefulness of these organizations' representation.

In order to enable a unanimous decision to be taken, Mr. KOBUSHKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) withdrew his objection.

The Committee decided unanimously to recommend to the Council that it ask the Transport and Communications Commission for technical advice on the International Air Transport Association, on the International Union of Railways and on the Permanent International Association of Navigation Congresses, as well as on the Central Council of International Touring, the question of their Spanish affiliates to be considered later, if the advice obtained was favourable.

7. International Academy of Comparative Law

Mr. de FOLIN (France) expressed the view that the Academy fulfilled the requirements of organizations under category (b) and advocated that consultative status under category (b) should be granted.

Mr. ALEXANDER (United Kingdom) supported the proposal.

Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) felt that the Academy was mainly concerned with historical studies regarding the development of comparative laws which was not the primary concern of the Economic and Social Council.

Mr. KOBUSHKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) pointed out that the Academy had members in Germany, Italy and Japan and asked for an explanation of the statement that it had ceased its activities during the war.

The SECRETARY explained that the seat of the Academy was at the Hague, and that it had ceased its activities owing to German occupation.

The Committee decided, by two votes to two with two abstentions, to recommend that the application of the International Academy on Comparative Law should be rejected.

8. International Association of Penal Law

Mr. WU (China) moved that it should be granted consultative status under category (b), as fulfilling the necessary requirements.

Mr. de FOLIN (France) and Mr. ALEXANDER (United Kingdom) agreed, and Mr. KOBUSHKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) raised no objection.

The Committee agreed unanimously to recommend the granting of consultative status under category (b) to the International Association of Penal Law.

/9. International Council of

9. International Council of Christians and Jews

Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) pointed out that this Council was very actively engaged in trying to solve the problem of discrimination, with which the Economic and Social Council was so concerned. The Council of Christians and Jews was a young organization, however, and Mr. Kotschnig thought that its application should be considered in one year's time, when there would be more evidence of its effectiveness in the international field.

Mr. KOBUSEKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) drew attention to the end of the first paragraph of the statement relating to this Council, according to which it was not yet fully organized, and moved that the Committee should recommend the rejection of its application.

The CHAIRMAN drew the attention of members to the additional information provided on this subject in document E/C.2/W.8/Add.2, page 9.

The Committee rejected, by one vote to three, the proposal to recommend that the application of the International Council of Jews and Christians should not be accepted.

The Committee adopted by four votes to one with one abstention, the proposal to postpone the consideration of this application for one year.

11. Pan-American League

Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) stated that this organization was largely American and had members in only three countries.

The Committee decided unanimously to reject this application.

12. People's Common Law Parliament

Mr. Alexander (United Kingdom) stated that this organization was mainly British and that he would not support it.

The Committee decided unanimously to reject this application.

13. World Government Association

Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) said that the statements made by this organization, (as quoted in E/C.2/W.8) were erroneous and did not tend to strengthen confidence in this organization.

Mr. KOBUSHKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) stated that the aims of this organization were not in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.

The Committee unanimously rejected this application.

14. World Organization of the Teaching Profession

Mr. de FOLIN (France) and Mr. ALEXANDER (United Kingdom) felt that this organization should establish relations with UNESCO since its activities were within the scope of UNESCO, but Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) drew
/attention

attention to the additional remarks presented by the Secretariat in E/C.2/W.8/Add.2, page 11 and to the fact that the United Nations had retained direct responsibility in this field.

Mr. Kotschnig moved that the Committee recommends that the organization be granted consultative status under category (c).

Mr. ALEXANDER (United Kingdom) said that in view of Mr. Kotschnig's remarks he would abstain from voting.

The Committee decided by three votes, with three abstentions, to recommend granting of consultative status under category (c) to the World Organization of the Teaching Profession.

15. European Union of Federalists

The CHAIRMAN drew the attention of members to the additional information published on this organization in document E/C.2/W.8/Add.2, pages 12 and 13.

Mr. KOBUSHKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) objected to the request of the organization because it pursued aims that were contrary to those of the United Nations Charter. He moved to recommend that the application should be rejected.

Mr. ALEXANDER (United Kingdom) could not agree with Mr. Kobushko. It was desirable to have various points of view represented. He was of the opinion, however, that similar organizations should enter into sufficiently close relations with each other as to be represented by one group. He suggested that the organization should be advised that the Committee had considered its application sympathetically and had taken note that it was trying to join with similar organizations. The decision would be postponed until these efforts had brought concrete results. Mr. Alexander advocated the same course for all the organizations which might be reasonably expected to join together.

Mr. de FOLIN (France) agreed with the United Kingdom representative; the voice of Europe should be heard but these organizations were still young, and it would be wise to postpone the decision until there was evidence as to which of them assumed leadership.

Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) stated that he had been prepared to vote for the granting of consultative status of category (b), because this organization was already the strongest in the field, however, he was now ready to agree that the decision should be postponed until similar organizations had joined together.

The Committee rejected by three votes to one and two abstentions Mr. Kobushko's proposal to recommend that the application should not be granted.

/The Committee

The Committee adopted the proposal of Mr. Alexander (United Kingdom) to reconsider the application when similar organizations entered into sufficiently close relations with each other to permit joint representation, with Mr. Kobushko (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) voting against.

16. Friends World Committee for Consultation

Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) strongly supported the application of this Committee of the Society of Friends, which had done outstanding rehabilitation work of direct interest to the United Nations in some twelve countries. He moved that the Committee should be recommended for recognition under category (b).

Mr. ALEXANDER (United Kingdom) stated that his Government considered the Committee as of the highest standing.

Mr. WU (China) and Mr. de FOLIN (France) supported Mr. Kotschnig's proposal.

Mr. KOBUSHKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) declared that he would abstain from voting.

The Committee decided by five votes in favour with one abstention to recommend that the Friends World Committee for Consultation should be granted consultative status under category (b).

17. Improved Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the World

The Committee observing that the geographical field of action of this organization was very restricted decided to recommend that consultative status should not be granted.

18. International Association of the Medical Press

At the request of Mr. KOBUSHKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), the Committee agreed to consider this application on Monday, 2 February.

19. International Commission on the Teaching of Mathematics

Mr. de FOLIN (France) thought that this organization should co-operate with UNESCO.

Mr. KOBUSHKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) favoured recommending the granting of consultative status under category (c).

The Committee rejected the proposal of Mr. KOBUSHKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) by one vote in favour, four against and one abstention, on the understanding that the International Commission on the Teaching of Mathematics would be informed that the Committee felt that its field of activity was closely related to that of UNESCO.

20. International Committee for Human Rights

The Committee rejected the application because it felt that this organization was not sufficiently representative since its membership was almost entirely American.

21. International Council of

21. International Council of Nurses

The Committee decided to recommend that the application should not be granted as the organization was narrowly specialized in the medical field.

The Committee decided to inform the International Council of Nurses that its activities fell within the scope of the World Health Organization.

22. International Federation of Secondary Teachers.

Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) considered that this application should be dealt with in the same way as that of the World Organization of the Teaching Profession and that category (c) consultative status be recommended.

Mr. ALEXANDER (United Kingdom) drew attention to the fact that the Federation was already negotiating an agreement with UNESCO. In the circumstances he felt that it could make no further contribution to the work of the Council.

The Committee decided by three votes to one with two abstentions to recommend that the International Federation of Secondary Teachers should be granted consultative status under category (c).

23. International P.E.N. Club

Mr. ALEXANDER (United Kingdom) felt that its established relations with UNESCO were sufficient to secure for the United Nations the benefit of this organization's experience.

Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) shared this view.

Mr. KOBUSHKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) drew attention to the good work done during the war on behalf of political refugees. If this were true he would recommend category (c).

The Committee by four votes to one with one abstention decided to recommend that the application of the International P.E.N. Club should not be granted.

24. International Psycho-Analytical Association

The application was unanimously rejected as coming from an organization, the activities of which lay outside the scope of the Economic and Social Council.

25. International Union of Family Organizations

Mr. de FOLIN (France) reminded the Committee that at the last session it had considered the application of the Union nationale des Associations familiales which had been deemed justified. That application however had been withdrawn in favour of the International Union to which the National Union was affiliated. (See: E/C.2/SR.21-25, page 12). Mr. de Folin hoped, therefore, that the Committee would recommend that the International Union should be given consultative status under category (b).

/Mr. KOBUSHKO

Mr. KOBUSHKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) drew attention to the last line of the statement on this organization which said that it was too early to speak of its activities. He felt therefore that the application was not justified and that if it felt so inclined, the Committee should consider that of the National Union.

The SECRETARY informed the Committee that the legal organization of the International Union was now completed.

Mr. ALEXANDER (United Kingdom), Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) and Mr. de FOLIN (France) felt that since it was agreed that the National Union had sufficient claim to the status and since it had withdrawn its application in favour of the International Union, consultative status under category (b) should be granted to the latter.

The Committee decided by four votes to one with one abstention to recommend the International Union of Family Organizations for consultative status under category (b).

26. International Youth Hostel Federation

Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) proposed that the Committee should recommend that the application of the International Youth Hostel Federation should not be granted because that body could not bring any substantive contribution to the work of the Economic and Social Council.

The Committee decided unanimously to recommend that the application of the International Youth Hostel Federation should not be granted.

27. Overseas Press Club of America.

The CHAIRMAN drew attention to additional information contained in document E/C.2/W.8/Add.2 on page 18.

Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) doubted that this organization could claim international standing, although its members included citizens of states other than the United States of America.

Mr. KOBUSHKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) stated that there was no evidence that the club was furthering the aims set by United Nations Charter or that its activities would be acceptable to all members of the United Nations. He moved that the Commission should recommend the rejection of the application.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the first paragraph of the additional information seemed to justify the view that this club was really a national organization.

The Committee unanimously decided to recommend that the application of the Overseas Press Club of America should be rejected.

28. Pan-American Association of Ophthalmology

Mr. ALEXANDER (United Kingdom) and Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) felt that this organization should apply to the World Health Organization.

The Committee

The Committee unanimously decided to recommend that the application should not be granted.

29. Pax Romana - International Movement of Catholic Students
(document E/C.2/W.8)

50. Pax Romana - International Catholic Movement for Intellectual and Cultural Affairs (document E/C.2/W.8/Add.1/Rev.1)

Mr. de FOLIN (France) moved that the first organization should be recommended for consultative status under category (b). It was a religious organization but such organizations were already to be found among those submitted for category (b). This organization fulfilled the requirements for that status.

With regard to the application of the Pax Romana - International Catholic Movement for Intellectual and Cultural Affairs recorded in document E/C.2/W.8/Add.1/Rev.1, Mr. de Folin thought that this organization should present its views through the Pax Romana - International Movement of Catholic Students and that the status of category (b) should be granted to the latter, since the Intellectual and Cultural Movement had sprung from the Movement of Catholic Students.

Mr. KOBUSHKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) objected because the Movement had members in Spain.

Mr. de FOLIN (France) hoped that the fact that the Pax Romana organizations had branches in Spain would not present an unsurmountable obstacle. The Committee had already agreed to recommend similar organizations even though they had branches in Spain. However, the Committee had made specific reservations in such cases. The same reservations could be made in this instance.

Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) pointed out that the previous decisions of the Committee had been made with the assumption that the organizations involved were not following governmental directives.

The CHAIRMAN read the Council resolution 57 (IV) dealing with non-governmental organizations with members in Spain.

Mr. KOBUSHKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) pointed out that the branches of this organization for Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Ukraine were recorded as in exile. He emphasized that the Latvian, Lithuanian and Ukrainian branches of the Pax Romana International Catholic Movement for Intellectual and Cultural Affairs had their seats in Germany instead of in Latvia, Lithuania and the Ukraine as they should be, an ex-enemy country. This was an amazing state of affairs for which no explanation was provided. The Slovenian group had its seat in Rome, the Roumanian group in Paris, and the Polish group in London. The Spanish branches, however, were all located
/in Madrid,

in Madrid, and Mr. Kobushko doubted that one could consider as valid any statement to the effect that the policies of Catholic organizations in Spain were not controlled by the Franco Government.

Mr. Kobushko asked the Secretariat to secure detailed information on the position of branch associations in exile, on the activities of the Spanish branches and in general on the membership of the Pax Romana organizations.

Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) pointed out that he knew the organization to be very active in relief work in Poland at the present time. He was therefore astonished at the manner in which the seat of the Polish Branch had been listed.

Mr. ALEXANDER (United Kingdom), Mr. WU (China) and Mr. de FOLIN (France) agreed that the discussion should be postponed until this situation had been clarified.

The SECRETARY explained that the listing of members followed the information given by the organization itself.

Mr. de FOLIN (France) was confident that Mr. KOBUSHKO's misgivings could be allayed without great difficulty.

Mr. KOBUSHKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) moved that the Committee should recommend the rejection of the application. To grant it would be contrary to the decision taken by the Economic and Social Council on organizations with members in Spain.

The Committee rejected, by four votes to one, with one abstention, Mr. Kobushko's proposal to recommend that the Pax Romana organization should not be granted consultative status under category (b).

The Committee decided by four votes to one with one abstention, to reconsider these two applications at a later date when the explanations requested had been provided. It was understood in accordance with the suggestion of Mr. de Folin, that consultative status would not be given to number 90.

10. World CRT Union

Mr. KOTSCENIG (United States of America) stated that this organization, though working in a restricted field, had extensive experience in vocational re-training. Since it was recognized that a great majority of Jews chose to work in a limited number of occupations, it was trying to re-train unemployed and the young to take up other occupations. It could be of assistance to the Economic and Social Council on account of its unique experience.

Mr. ALEXANDER (United Kingdom) considered that this organization's relations should rather be with UNESCO and ILO.

/Mr. KOBUSHKO

Mr. KOBUSHKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) considered that the application should be rejected and recognition reserved for truly representative Jewish organizations. Such organizations had already been admitted and this organization had not the requisite standing.

Mr. de FOLIN (France) felt that the organization's activities were not only related to those of the IRO, and favoured a recommendation to classify it under category (b).

Mr. ALEXANDER (United Kingdom) thought that it should establish relations with the IRO inasmuch as it dealt with the problem of refugees, with the FAO with regard to agricultural problems and problems of resettlement, and with UNESCO with regard to vocational training.

The Committee rejected by two votes to two the motion to recommend this organization for category (b).

31. The World Trade Alliance Association

The application was rejected, since the Committee felt that the activities of the WTAA lay rather within the scope of FAO.

32. World Union of Jewish Students

Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) thought that this organization was not sufficiently representative and pointed out that its views were undoubtedly covered by the other Jewish organizations already granted status. He, therefore, would move the rejection of its application.

Mr. KOBUSHKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) stated that he would abstain.

The application was rejected by five votes, with one abstention.

44. International Hebrew-Christian Alliance (document E/C.2/W.8/Add.1/Rev.1

The Committee decided unanimously to recommend that the application of the International Hebrew-Christian Alliance should not be granted.

45. International Industrial Relations Institute

Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) did not think that this body was sufficiently well established on an international basis, and Mr. ALEXANDER (United Kingdom) agreed.

On a motion by Mr. KOBUSHKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) seconded by Mr. WU (China), the Committee decided unanimously to recommend that the application should be rejected.

46. International Institute of Political and Constitutional History

Mr. de FOLIN (France) moved that the Committee should recommend the granting of consultative status under category (b).

The Committee rejected this proposal by four votes to one, with one abstention.

47. International Institute of Public Law

Mr. de FOLIN (France) supported this application.

/Mr. KOTSCHNIG

Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) thought that the consideration of this application should be postponed by one year until sufficient evidence was available as to how active it was in the promotion of human rights.

The Committee decided to postpone consideration by one year regardless of the United States proposal that rejected applications should not be reconsidered earlier than eighteen months after their rejection.

48. International Union of Official Travel Organizations

Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) moved that the Committee should recommend it for category (b). He pointed out, together with Mr. ALEXANDER (United Kingdom), that this organization had brought a valuable contribution to the work of the Conference on Passport Facilities.

Mr. de FOLIN (France) seconded the motion.

Mr. KOBUSHKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) stated that the Union had resumed its activities only in 1947. He therefore considered that any decision on its application would be premature.

The Committee decided by four votes to one with one abstention, to recommend that the International Union of Official Travel Organizations should be granted consultative status under category (b).

49. International Union of Socialist Youth

The Committee acceded to the request of Mr. KOBUSHKO to postpone this application until Monday, 2 February.

50. Pax Romana - International Catholic Movement for Intellectual and Cultural Affairs had already been considered in connection with No. 29.

51. South American Union of Engineers' Associations

Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) thought that the primary interest of this organization lay with the Pan-American Union. He therefore moved that the Committee should recommend the rejection of its application.

Mr. KOBUSEKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) stated that he would abstain from voting.

The Committee decided by five votes with one abstention to recommend that the application should not be granted.

52. World Federation of Scientific Workers

Mr. ALEXANDER (United Kingdom) and Mr. KOTSCHNIG (United States of America) stated that the work of this organization was related to UNESCO.

Mr. KOBUSHKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) moved that the Committee should recommend the granting of consultative status to this organization.

The Committee rejected Mr. Kobushko's proposal by three votes to one with two abstentions.

53. World Movement for World Federal Government

The Committee made the same decision on this organization as it had made on No. 15, European Union of Federalists.

58. International Shipping Federation, Limited

Mr. KOBUSHKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) moved that the Committee should recommend not to grant this application, on the ground that the Federation had Spanish members.

Mr. ALEXANDER (United Kingdom) advocated that the application should be first referred to the Transport and Communication Commission for technical advice.

Mr. KOBUSHKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) objected to this procedure.

The Committee decided by four votes to one, with one abstention to request the Transport and Communication Commission to advise it on the technical value of the contribution which the Federation might give to the Economic and Social Council.

The meeting rose at 4.45 p.m.
