



ECONOMIC, EMPLOYMENT AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
Sixth session

STATEMENT ON THE FAR EAST

Submitted by the National Association of Manufacturers,  
a non-governmental organization category A consultative status

On 14 May 1951, the Secretary-General received the statement entitled "Excerpts from statement on the Far East by the International Relations Committee, National Association of Manufacturers, approved by the Board of Directors, April 10, 1951", with the request that it be circulated to the Economic, Employment and Development Commission in accordance with paragraphs 22 and 23 of Economic and Social Council resolution 288 B (X). This statement follows:

"The broad statement of international policy adopted by the Board of Directors suggested that in extending aid to friendly governments the requirement be made that these friendly governments give evidence of determination to defend themselves and to effectively mobilize their human and natural resources in the common cause. It premised that we must have assurance that these friendly nations will join us in effective action, leading toward the re-establishment of multilateral world trade, the elimination of discrimination in the application of import controls, the over-all relaxation of these controls and the establishment of convertibility of their currencies with all others including the dollar.

"Since problems vary considerably from country to country and the economic, political, and social factors differ in each country, no uniform over-all policy can be framed to deal with the development of individual countries. However, it is possible to state the basic conditions under which economic assistance could be given, even while fully cognizant of these national differences.

"Fundamentally, the countries ... must recognize that the primary responsibility under any programme is upon them and that the ultimate solution of their problems depends upon the will and genius of their own people and their determination to undertake and carry out the programme. Equally fundamental to any programme involving the use of the technical skill and capital of the companies and people of the United States is the recognition by ... countries that the underlying principles of present-day private competitive enterprise are not exploitive, but productive, do not desire domination of any foreign country, but are based on developing the resources of that country for the mutual benefit of the people of the foreign country and the investor in the United States.

"To stimulate the flow of private United States capital, which is a necessary ingredient of any sound economic development programme, the Association has repeatedly urged that the independent nations of the Far East and the United States hasten the negotiation of bilateral treaties providing for fair treatment of investments, technical and managerial personnel, and industrial property rights.

"Finally, there must be a realization that any programme of economic development should be based primarily on private initiative, through private individuals, firms and organizations, both foreign and domestic. This primary emphasis is consistent with full co-ordination with the use of the facilities of organizations such as the Export-Import Bank and the World Bank and in co-operation with the agencies of the United Nations.

"The Association is convinced that these fundamental premises are essential to the effective realization of any programme designed to raise productivity and living standards in the countries of Asia."

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