

UNITED NATIONS
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GENERAL

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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Sub-Commission on Freedom of
Information and of the Press
Fifth session

Draft resolution concerning the calling of an international
professional conference submitted by
Messrs. Azkoul, Lopez and Silva Carvalho

The Sub-Commission on Freedom of Information and of the Press,
Having re-examined, in accordance with Economic and Social Council
resolution 306 (XI), the draft International Code of Ethics in the light of
comments received from information enterprises and national and international
associations, and having prepared a second draft of the code;

Noting that the majority of organizations which submitted comments and
suggestions are of opinion that the code will serve a useful purpose,

Noting also the strongly expressed opinion of many organizations that
further work on the draft code is a matter which should be undertaken by
professional workers in the media of information without governmental
interference, national or international,

Forwards the text of the draft International Code of Ethics as prepared at
its fifth session to the Economic and Social Council for transmittal to the
profession, with the recommendation that the Council:

(a) Request the Secretary-General to set up an ad hoc committee,
consisting of not more than five persons, representative on the broadest
possible basis of professional workers in all media of information,
charged with the preparation in accordance with General Assembly
resolution 479 (V) of an international professional conference to be held
not later than 31 December 1953 for the purpose of:

- (i) Preparing and accepting a final text of an international code
of ethics; and
- (ii) Taking such further steps concerning the implementation of
the code as the professional conference may deem advisable;

(b) Recommend to the seventh session of the General Assembly that it make available such funds as may be necessary for the successful conclusion of such a professional conference; and

(c) Further request the Secretary-General to communicate the report of the fifth session of the Sub-Commission, together with other relevant documents concerning the preparation of the draft International Code of Ethics, to national and international professional associations, informing them at the same time of the opinion of those organs of the United Nations which have been associated with the drafting of the code that its further development is entirely a professional matter, to be carried out without governmental interference on either the national or the international plane.

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