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AD HOC COMMITTEE ON  
IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS ON ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL MATTERS  
SUMMARY RECORD OF THE TENTH MEETING

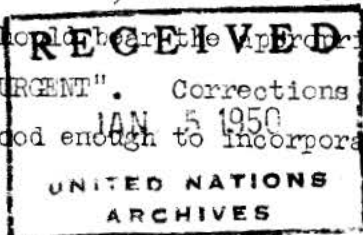
Held at Lake Success, New York,  
on Monday, 19 December 1949, at 3 p. m.

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two papers circulated by the Chair) (continued).

<u>Chairman:</u>	Mr. PLIMSOLL	Australia
<u>Members:</u>	Mr. TSAO	China
	Mr. AMANRICH	France
	Mr. RUTZINSKI	Poland
	Mr. CHERNYSEEV	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
	Mr. LEDWARD	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
	Mr. CATES	United States of America
	Mr. NASS	Venezuela
<u>Secretariat:</u>	Mr. YATES	Secretary of the Economic and Social Council
	Mrs. GRANT	Secretary of the Committee

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GENERAL DISCUSSION (E/1561, E/1561/Add.1, E/AC.31/1, E/1325, TWO PAPERS  
CIRCULATED BY THE CHAIR) (continued).

1. The CHAIRMAN summarized the developments of previous meetings and invited further comments.
2. Mr. CATES (United States of America) suggested that when the Secretary-General sent out the resolutions, an analysis or questionnaire could also be included. That paper could indicate clearly that answers were required to certain questions and would greatly facilitate the preparation of replies.
3. The CHAIRMAN observed that that point had been adequately covered in paragraph 42 of document E/1561/Add.1.
4. Mr. LEDWARD (United Kingdom) observed that the question of implementation was governed by the type of resolution. It would not be possible in all cases to ascertain to what extent and in what manner the resolutions had been implemented.
5. Mr. RUDZINSKI (Poland) did not understand the United Kingdom representative's proposal. Most of the resolutions called for a change in the legislation and in such cases one could not speak of "implementation by voluntary means" or implementation by the population itself.
6. The CHAIRMAN doubted the advisability of submitting a questionnaire. The Secretary-General should not include such a paper unless the Council decided accordingly.
7. Mr. CATES (United States of America) thought that various headings could be set forth in the questionnaires; that would result in uniformity of the replies, which in turn would assist the Secretary-General in the preparation of his report.
8. Mr. YATES (Secretariat) pointed out that in certain instances there were many ways of implementing resolutions.

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9. If a committee were set up, it could be consulted by the Secretary-General on those of the numerous questions which are in the report which had a markedly political character.
10. The CHAIRMAN did not think that the Secretary-General should send out questionnaires on his own initiative, but he could, of course, consult the Council on any particular resolution.
11. Mr. CATES (United States of America) proposed that the Committee should support the suggestion contained in document E/1561/Add.1, and the Secretary-General should be permitted to ask questions. The various Governments, however, would not be bound to supply answers.
12. Mr. AMANRICH (France) was in favour of sending a questionnaire with certain types of resolutions, but these should not be complicated in form, since that would place too much work upon the Governments concerned.
13. Mr. LEDWARD (United Kingdom) supported the view of the French representative. The main objective was to obtain an accurate picture of the situation and to ascertain what had been done in implementing the resolutions. The suggested headings were designed to that end and to facilitate consideration of not only the legal aspects, but the situation as a whole.
14. Mr. CATES (United States of America) thought that the word "questionnaire" might be misleading. He considered the French representative's suggestion satisfactory.
- There was general agreement on that point.
15. The CHAIRMAN recalled that in connexion with the form of the Secretary-General's report, it had been agreed that a document similar to E/1325 was suitable. The report should not be unwieldy; it might not be possible to give full consideration to a voluminous document. Furthermore, the Secretary-General should not attempt to evaluate the replies submitted

by the various Governments. He should only give the factual information as submitted by the Governments, and should leave it to the Council to take judgment.

16. The United States representative had suggested that the report should have three sections:

- I. Treaties and conventions.
- II. List of Governments which had been requested to supply information, showing those which had replied and those which had failed to reply.
- III. Remainder of the report.

17. Mr. CATES (United States of America) suggested that the Secretary-General could indicate whether sufficient information had been supplied by the Governments concerned.

18. Mr. AMANRICH (France) said that the report could be laid out on a "double-entry" basis, showing the resolutions alongside the Governments consulted. Such a system would show the situation at a glance.

19. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that some Governments would reply in detail, others would state that the matter was under consideration, while others would not reply at all. Even lengthy replies, which, in fact did not give the desired information, could be considered as replies.

20. Mr. YATES (Secretariat) said that the system of "entries" had been explored previously, but without much success.

21. Mr. LEDWARD (United Kingdom) thought that the Council's report could consist of a broad analysis of the replies obtained and could contain any conclusions which might be useful for future consideration. The Secretary-General's report could be preparatory to that document. The Secretary-General should be given a free hand to draw up the analysis without passing judgment on the resolutions.

22. Mr. CATES (United States of America) observed that the tables given on page 21 of document E/1325 were merely a tentative approach to the problem. The Secretary-General could go a little further at his own discretion.

23. The CHAIRMAN agreed that the Secretary-General could go further when he considered it appropriate.

24. The CHAIRMAN circulated a paper to be used as a basis for discussion concerning action to be taken by the Council on the report (E/AC.31/L.18). Two points had been deliberately omitted from the paper: the United Kingdom suggestion for setting up an ad hoc committee, and the Polish representative's proposal for a study in segments. Perhaps both those items could be included under item (6).

25. He referred to a paper (E/AC.31/L.17A) circulated at the previous meeting which suggested a timetable for action on the implementation of resolutions. That paper, which proposed that in February 1952 the Council would consider the matter, had been adopted in principle.

26. Mr. CHERNYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) thought that the recommendations were useless. The Council was able to act in any way it thought fit and there was no need for the Ad Hoc Committee to put forward such proposals.

27. Mr. TSAO (China) thought that the remarks of the USSR representative also applied to all the six recommendations suggested by the Chairman. It should be borne in mind that the final authority was the General Assembly itself; all the Council could do was to make recommendations, unless the resolution in question had been adopted by the Council and not the Assembly.

28. Mr. CATES (United States of America) wondered whether the Secretary-General would send out type (iv) resolutions unless he received instructions to the contrary from the Ad Hoc Committee, or whether he would await specific instructions in that respect.

29. The CHAIRMAN said that resolutions which were obsolete or on which information had been obtained would not be included in the Secretary-General's list.
30. Mr. LEDWARD (United Kingdom) agreed. He wished to change the wording of the preamble in the Chairman's paper to read "it may see fit to recommend the following courses".
31. Mr. CATES (United States of America) suggested the insertion of the word "recommend" in item (3) of the Chairman's paper.
32. The CHAIRMAN agreed that those changes could be made.
33. Mr. CHERNYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) pointed out that his previous remarks concerning the functions of the Economic and Social Council applied not only to implementation but also to questions of substance. Although the draft paper had been approved by the majority in the Committee, he considered it superfluous.
34. Mr. RUDZINSKI (Poland) thought that item (6) should expressly mention segmental reviews, and he wished the text to be amended accordingly.
35. Mr. CATES (United States of America) pointed out that such reviews were beyond the scope of the paper under discussion.
36. The CHAIRMAN observed that in addition to the six different courses of action which had been suggested, the Council might also decide to undertake an intensive study of any particular question.
37. Mr. TSAO (China) thought that segmental reviews should be included.
38. Mr. LEDWARD (United Kingdom) said that segmental reviews might involve the preparation of additional reports and that work could be delegated to one of the functional Committees. Perhaps the words "on any particular recommendation or group of recommendations" could be included in the beginning.

39. Mr. TSAO (China) agreed with the United Kingdom representative's suggestion.

40. Mr. RUDZINSKI (Poland) observed that segmental reviews should cover a wide field of studies. They should therefore not be confined to any particular resolutions but should be applied to United Nations activities on a broad basis.

41. Implementation should not be considered in its relation to certain specific resolutions alone. The matter should not be dealt with in a superficial manner and intensive studies could be made of certain subjects.

42. Mr. CATES (United States of America) agreed with the representative of Poland. It might also be helpful to know how the Secretary-General thought segmental reviews should be carried out.

43. Mr. YATES (Secretariat) referred the Committee to the Secretariat's discussion on analytical reviews (E/1561/Add.1, page 13, paragraph 27). The suggestion had been made because of the opinion widely expressed in the Council that analytical reviews of governmental action to implement resolutions would be helpful. However, serious administrative difficulties for both the Secretariat and Governments would be involved in any attempt to make an analytical review covering the entire field of activities in one year. Segmental reviews had been suggested as an approach to a solution of the problem. It was one way of making the transition from the material presented to the Council under the resolutions to a report more suitable as a basis for further action to be presented by the Council to the General Assembly.

44. Mr. CATES (United States of America) thought the Rapporteur's Report could state that the idea of segmental reviews had been suggested by the

/Secretary-General

Secretary-General and by the representative of Poland and had met with favour in the Committee but that the precise limitations of such studies had not been laid down.

45. Mr. RUDZINSKI (Poland), replying to the United Kingdom representative, observed that if the segmental review were properly carried out, no overlapping would result. The Council could ask a ~~commission~~ to prepare a thorough analysis of a situation for presentation at a particular session rather than its usual type of report. Such an analysis would be useful in assisting the Council to see how the situation in that particular field could be improved. It would not be a simple repetition of the current events outlined in the ordinary reports prepared by the commissions.

46. The CHAIRMAN asked whether the United Kingdom representative would be satisfied if the first paragraph were amended to read "to take action on any particular recommendation or group of recommendations." That formulation would include segmental reviews.

47. He pointed out that the Polish representative's suggestion covered not only the implementation of resolutions but complete studies of a whole field of activity. He thought therefore that the Polish idea was included in points 4 and 6 of the Chair's paper.

48. Mr. LEDWARD (United Kingdom) did not feel that the two views were incompatible. It might be, however, more satisfactory to say "and a group of resolutions covering a particular field".

49. Mr. CATES (United States of America) observed that the Committee in recommending a report from the Secretariat on how resolutions were being implemented and a thorough periodic analysis of a situation as a whole had been outlining two different methods of dealing with the problem. He moved that the two procedures should be presented in that form in the Rapporteur's Report.

50. Mr. AMANRICH (France) pointed out that segmental reviews should be carried out in the light of resolutions adopted in the field because it was the province of the Committee to study only the implementation of resolutions. A review of an entire field of United Nations activity was not within the Committee's competence.

51. The CHAIRMAN thought it was the sense of the Committee that the Council might from time to time take a particular field of activity and study how resolutions it had adopted in that connexion were being implemented.

52. The Committee should decide how it wanted that programme to be carried out. Should an ad hoc Committee be set up to function between sessions or would some other procedure be preferable?

53. Mr. LEDWARD (United Kingdom) noted that segmental reviews required much work. The Council would undoubtedly delegate the drafting of reports on implementation to another body, whether permanent or temporary, which could meet either during sessions of the Council or at other times. A small committee would suffice for the task.

54. The Co-ordination Committee had been suggested. If it were given the task, however, its terms of reference would have to be amended because such responsibility was not within its scope at that time.

55. The United Kingdom preferred that any committee preparing a report on implementation should meet between sessions of the Council when it would be easier to take an objective approach and prepare a more balanced document. With those reasons in mind the United Kingdom delegation had proposed that an ad hoc Committee should be created, and had suggested its terms of reference, which should include the power to eliminate obsolete resolutions.

56. Mr. AMANRICH (France) did not fully share the United Kingdom views. The Co-ordination Committee was, in his opinion, competent to review reports on implementation. Moreover, many resolutions concerned the work of the specialized agencies whose reports were considered by the Co-ordination Committee.

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Furthermore, in accordance with its revised terms of reference that body was empowered to study the substance of those reports. Therefore, it was in his opinion competent to study the question of implementation as well.

57. The French delegation thought it unnecessary for such a Committee to meet between sessions of the Council. Nor should the Committee attempt to decide the membership of the proposed committee. That was for the Council to do. Moreover, it might prove difficult, if not impossible, for a large committee to meet between sessions.

58. Mr. CHERNYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) disagreed with the United Kingdom representative. Too many organs of the Council already existed and he felt the number should be reduced rather than increased.

59. It would be better to leave the question in abeyance at that time and state in the Rapporteur's report that the problem had arisen and that the Committee had decided to refer the matter to the Council. On that point he agreed with the representative of France.

60. Mr. TSAO (China) agreed with the representatives of France and of the USSR. The Council should decide whether an existing committee should deal with reports on implementation or whether a new body should be created. He pointed out, however, that if it was decided to consider those reports between sessions, some delay would result.

61. Mr. CATES (United States of America) also felt the Council should be the one to decide whether the Secretary-General's report should be sent directly to the Council or whether it should first pass through a committee.

62. The CHAIRMAN thought that it was generally agreed that the Rapporteur's report should contain a paragraph stating that the Committee had suggested the possibility of establishing an ad hoc committee to deal with the Secretary-General's report, obsolete resolutions and other related questions, but had decided that the final decision on the matter lay with the Council.

63. Mr. LEDWARD (United Kingdom) feared that if an ad hoc committee were not created the Council would lose much time in considering reports on implementation.

64. He agreed that the report should include a paragraph along the lines suggested by the USSR representative. The United Kingdom proposal seemed unpopular, but his delegation wished to go on record as adhering to the procedure suggested in document L/AC.31/L.8, namely that the Council might see fit to delegate the following functions to an ad hoc committee, authorized to meet between sessions if necessary, with the following terms of reference:

- (i) to recommend lists of resolutions upon which no further reports would be needed.
- (ii) to advise the Secretary-General on implementation procedures.  
(This might include the selection of fields of activity, the replies relating to which would be the object of special analyses by the Secretary-General).
- (iii) to make recommendations to the Council on any changes of procedure which seem necessary.
- (iv) to prepare a draft report for the Council before it undertakes its overall review.

65. Mr. NASS (Venezuela) wished his support of the United Kingdom proposal to be recorded.

66. The CHAIRMAN observed that the Committee had decided to recommend further action on three resolutions -- General Assembly resolutions 125 (II) (E/1325, page 82) and 130 (II) and Economic and Social Council resolution 203 (VIII).

67. In view of the importance of resolution 125 (II) and since some of the replies sent in by Governments had not been sufficiently complete, the Secretary-General should circulate the request for information, again asking Governments for a full reply on what they were doing, giving details of their inter-governmental machinery, and their methods for co-ordinating policy and working with the specialized agencies. The replies on the resolution concerning regional conferences were also insufficient and further information should be obtained.

It was so agreed.

/68. Mr. RUIZINSKI

68. Mr. RUDZINSKI (Poland) thought that the resolution on regional conferences was vague. If Governments were to be asked to co-ordinate their policy with that of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, it should be pointed out where co-ordination had been lacking; otherwise, the replies would be couched in general terms and produce little of practical value.

69. The CHAIRMAN noted that the Committee was not attempting to criticize any particular Government; it felt, however, that a description of the steps Governments were taking to co-ordinate their policies would be constructive. He agreed that the Committee could state specifically what information it wanted.

70. Mr. AMANRICH (France) pointed out that paragraph (c) of the Committee's terms of reference could be interpreted to mean either that it could study the implementation of the resolution, or consider the drafting of the resolutions themselves. A clear distinction should be made between those two aspects of the Committee's work in the Rapporteur's report.

71. The CHAIRMAN asked the Committee what recommendations it wished to make concerning Resolution 130 (II).

72. Mr. AMANRICH (France) suggested that the Economic and Social Council might be asked to take further steps to clarify the resolution or to issue an explanatory statement.

73. The CHAIRMAN said that the concern in connexion with that Resolution had been whether the responsibility for sending in the decision of the conference and any pertinent factual information lay with the State which had been host to the conference or with the other States participating.

74. Mr. CATES (United States of America) thought the Committee should recommend that the Council should clarify the text of the Resolution.

/75. The CHAIRMAN

75. The CHAIRMAN noted an alternative would be to include a paragraph in the Rapporteur's report stating that the Committee interpreted the Resolution to mean that the Council should communicate with Governments once a year and that those Governments which had been hosts to international conferences should forward decisions and factual information to the United Nations. The General Assembly could disagree with that interpretation and recommend other clarifying steps, if it so desired.

76. With regard to Resolution 203 (VIII) (E/AC.31/page 45) on the teaching of the purposes and principles, the structure and activities of the United Nations in the schools of Member States, he thought it was the sense of the Committee that a two-year schedule for reporting should be suggested.

It was so agreed.

77. Mr. CATES (United States of America) with regard to the United Kingdom suggestion to create an ad hoc Committee thought the Rapporteur's report could include a paragraph stating that:

"The Committee is of the opinion that if the Council approves the action of this ad hoc Committee under sub-paragraphs (b), (c), (d) and (e) of Resolution 255 (IX), the Council may also feel it desirable to have a committee to perform somewhat the same functions as the ad hoc Committee, to meet just before the winter session of the Council and recommend action under sub-paragraphs (b), (c) and (e)."

78. That paragraph would enable the Council to set up a committee if it wished to do so.

79. Mr. AMANRICH (France), with reference to the proposed ad hoc committee, thought there was general agreement that a committee was necessary although his Government considered the Co-ordination Committee was competent to consider reports on implementation. Nor was there any disagreement on the terms of reference of the proposed committee. There was no unanimity, however, on the proposal that the Committee should meet between sessions or that it should not be a committee of the whole.

80. Mr. RUDZINSKI (Poland) did not agree that the ad hoc committee was indispensable. In the future, the Co-ordination Committee could carry out the work that body had accomplished during its current session. He saw no need to ask the Economic and Social Council to perpetuate the ad hoc Committee's existence.

81. Mr. LEDWARD (United Kingdom) made it clear that his Government was not suggesting that an ad hoc committee should be set up annually.

82. Mr. CATES (United States of America) wondered whether the Committee had reached agreement concerning resolutions in category (iv) as well as those in category (i).

83. The CHAIRMAN thought the Committee had decided to annex resolutions in category (i) and obsolete resolutions to its report and to let the Secretary-General take the final decision on the other two categories.

84. Mr. CATES (United States of America) observed it might be useful to make a further classification of those resolutions.

85. The CHAIRMAN wondered whether such a procedure would not mean that the Committee had reverted to the idea of rigid classifications.

86. Mr. LEDWARD (United Kingdom) thought the problem had been debated sufficiently and that the decisions reached earlier covered the situation adequately.

87. Mr. CHERNYSHYEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) pointed out that two categories had been decided upon as a compromise solution. The problem had been settled to the satisfaction of the majority and need not be re-opened.

88. The CHAIRMAN observed that when the report of the Rapporteur was presented to the Committee, members would have an opportunity to make additional comments and criticism.

The meeting rose at 5.10 p.m.

3/1 p.m.