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President: Mr. George F. DAVIDSON (Canada)

Present:

Representatives of the following States: Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Finland, France, Greece, Indonesia, Mexico, Netherlands, Pakistan, Poland, Sudan, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia.

Representatives of the following specialized agencies: International Labour Organisation, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, World Health Organization.

AGENDA ITEM 15

Non-governmental organizations

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS ON APPLICATIONS FOR HEARINGS (E/3145)

1. The PRESIDENT proposed that, if there were no objection, the report of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on applications for hearings (E/3145) should be regarded as approved.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 7

Report of the Statistical Commission

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE (E/3144)

2. The PRESIDENT drew attention to the two draft resolutions recommended by the Committee to the Council for adoption, contained in the report of the Economic Committee (E/3144) on the report of the Statistical Commission.

Draft resolution A was adopted unanimously.

Draft resolution B was adopted unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 18

Convention on the privileges and immunities of the specialized agencies: draft annex relating to the International Finance Corporation (E/L.796 and Corr.1)

3. The PRESIDENT invited comments on the draft resolution embodying a draft annex (relating to the International Finance Corporation) to the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies, to be found in the note by the Secretary-General (E/L.796 and Corr.1).

4. Mr. PHILLIPS (United States of America), supporting the draft resolution, pointed out that that should not be interpreted to mean that the United States would accede to the Convention on Privileges and Immunities. Privileges, immunities and exemptions necessary to the International Finance Corporation for the proper exercise of its functions had been accorded. Presidential Executive Order No. 10680 of 2 October 1956 placed the IFC in the same position as the United Nations and the other specialized agencies.

The draft resolution in the Secretary-General's note (E/L.796 and Corr.1) was adopted by 15 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

AGENDA ITEM 17

Co-operation between the United Nations and The Hague Conference on Private International Law and the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (E/3140; E/L.798)

5. The PRESIDENT invited comments on the explanatory memorandum by the Government of the Netherlands on co-operation between the United Nations and The Hague Conference on Private International Law and the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (E/3140) and the draft resolution on the same subject submitted by the delegations of France, Mexico, Netherlands and the United Kingdom (E/L.798).

6. Mr. SCHURMANN (Netherlands) recalled that at its twenty-fifth session the Council had unanimously adopted a proposal by the Netherlands delegation to place the item under discussion on the agenda for the present session (E/SR.1020). As mentioned in the memorandum presented by his government, the two organiza-

tions in question were institutions of long standing: The Hague Conference on Private International Law had been established in 1893, and the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law in 1926. The former body, which had a membership of nineteen countries, confined itself to promoting the progressive unification of the rules of private international law by the conclusion of treaties. The latter, with forty member States, endeavoured to establish uniformity in municipal legislation on certain subjects, and prepared drafts of international agreements in the field of private law. To that end it undertook studies of comparative law, organized conferences and published works on the subjects which it studied.

7. In the past, there had been a certain amount of informal co-operation between those two organizations and the United Nations. Certain conferences convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council had made use of the studies and drafts prepared by the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law, and representatives of the Conference on Private International Law had participated without voting rights in the debates of those conferences.

8. Although such incidental co-operation had proved of great value, there was a danger that if no more permanent and binding form of co-operation were established, the three organizations would conceive their work programmes independently, and consequently embark separately on work that could be better and more economically done in collaboration.

9. All that was proposed in the joint draft resolution was that a very simple form of official approval should be bestowed upon continued co-operation between the United Nations and the two legal institutions. The sponsors of the draft resolution were not seeking a formal agreement like those concluded by the United Nations with the specialized agencies, but merely a

request to the Secretary-General to arrange for the exchange of information and documentation on matters of common interest. The manner in which those arrangements might be made was left entirely to the Secretary-General, and in the view of the Netherlands delegation, nothing more would be required than an exchange of letters. The expense involved for the United Nations would consequently be negligible.

10. Mr. MURRAY (United Kingdom) said that his delegation had put its name to the draft resolution because it regarded co-operation with the legal institutions in question as an admirable means of carrying out the intentions of the Council as expressed in resolution 171 (VII), adopted on 29 August 1948, which called for an examination and consequent reduction of possible duplication or dispersion of effort between the United Nations and the specialized agencies on the one hand, and other existing intergovernmental organizations on the other.

11. He wished to make it clear that in his government's view any proposals for establishing similar relationships between the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations would have to be carefully examined on their merits, and that his delegation's sponsorship of the present draft resolution did not imply a general endorsement of similar action in the many other conceivable cases that might arise.

12. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the draft resolution *on co-operation between the United Nations and The Hague Conference on Private International Law and the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law*, submitted by France, Mexico, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom (E/L.798).

The draft resolution was adopted by 15 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

The meeting rose at 11.00 a.m.