

UNITED NATIONS

## ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

OFFICIAL RECORDS

ELEVENTH SESSION

3 JULY — 16 AUGUST 1950

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

#### INTRODUCTORY NOTE

These Official Records include the corrections to the provisional summary records which were requested by the delegations, and such drafting and editorial modifications as were considered necessary.

All United Nations documents are designated by symbols, i.e., capital letters, combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates reference to a United Nations document.

This volume contains a check list of all documents relating to the agenda of the Council; the check list indicates the publication in which each document appears.

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#### **DELEGATIONS**

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Dr. E. Ronald Walker, Economic Counsellor for Europe

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Mr. B. C. Ballard

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#### Secretary

Miss N. H. Bishop

#### BELGIUM

#### Representative

M. Fernand Dehousse, Professor at the University of Liège

#### Alternates

M. Louis-Ghislain Delhaye, Counsellor of Legation, Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

M. Joseph Van Tichelen, Director-General, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Professor at the University of Brussels

M. Omer de Raeymaeker, Professor at the University of Louvain

M. Albert Herment, Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

#### Advisers

M. Maurice Masoin, Economic Adviser, Office of the Prime Minister, Professor at the University of Louvain Baron de Kerchove d'Exaerde, Liaison Officer, European Office of the United Nations

M. Frédéric Blondeel

M. A. A. J. Vanistendael, Assistant Secretary-General, International Federation of Christian Trade Unions

#### Secretary-General

M. Pierre Brancart, Legation Attaché Secretary

Mlle Simone Herpels

#### BRAZIL

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S.E. M. Helio Lobo, Head of the Permanent delegation to the European Office of the United Nations

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S.E. M. Antonio Mendes Viana

M. Eurico Penteado, Commercial Counsellor

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M. Wladimir do Amaral Murtinho

M. Humberto Gomes

M. Eberaldo Abilio Telles Machado

M. Octavio de Souza Bandeira

#### Technical Advisers

M. Geraldo de Carvalho Silos

M. Jorge A. de Seixas Correa

#### Brazil (continued)

#### Secretaries

Mlle Alice Francesconi Faria

Mile Maria Amelia Neiva de Aguiar Nelson

Mlle Else Gomes

#### CANADA

#### Representative

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#### Alternates

Dr. G. F. Davidson, Deputy Minister, Department of National Health and Welfare

Mr. A. F. W. Plumptre, C.B.E.

#### Alternate and Chie/ Adviser

Mr. Arnold Smith

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Mr. N. F. H. Berlis, Secretary of Permanent Delegation to the European Office of the United Nations

Miss B. M. Meagher

Mr. J. G. H. Halstead

#### Adviser and Secretary

Mr. J. E. G. Hardy

#### CHILE

#### Representative

S.E. el Sr. Hernán Santa Cruz, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative to the United Nations

#### Alternates

S.E. el Sr. Oscar Schnake Vergara, Alternate Representative to the United Nations

S.E. el Sr. Enrique Bernstein, Counsellor, Embassy of Chile at Paris

Sr. Carlos Valenzuela, Counsellor, Permanent Delegation to the United Nations

#### Secretary-General

Sr. Râmon Rodriguez, Delegate to the European Office of the United Nations.

#### Secretary

Sr. Gofredo Bollo, Third Secretary, Embassy of Chile at Rome.

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#### Alternate

H.E. Dr. Yu Tsune-chi, Ambassador

#### Advisers

Dr. Molan Tuan, Minister

Mr. P. Y. Tsao

Dr. Hsiu Cha

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#### DENMARK

Representative

Mr. William Borberg, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, Permanent Delegate to the United Nations

Alternates

Dr. Carl L. Iversen, Professor at the University of Copenhagen

Mr. Finn T. B. Friis, Adviser on United Nations affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Jean J. Ricard, Head of Section, Ministry of Social Affairs

Adviser

Mr. Tyge Dahlgaard, Permanent Delegate to the European Office of the United Nations

Secretary

Mrs. Kate Lomholt

Secretary archivists

Mrs. Bodil Strandkjaar

Mrs. Bernth Pedersen

Miss Karen Tofte

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India

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Shri B. P. Adarkar

Secretary-General

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Advisers

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Shri M. A. Vellodi, I.F.S.

Administrative officer

Shri C. M. Sharma

INDIA (continued)

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Secretaries

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IRAN

Representative

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Dr. T. Nassr

Dr. K. Khosrovani

Dr. A. Khalatbary

Dr. H. Sotoudeh

Adviser

Dr. A. Esfandiary

MEXICO

Representative

S.E. el Dr. Pedro de Alba, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Representative to the International Labour Organisation

Alternates

S.E. el Dr. Raúl Noriega, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, Alternate Representative to the United Nations

S.E. el Dr. Raúl Martínez Ostos

Secretary-General

Sr. Emilio Calderón Puig, First Secretary, Attaché to the Delegation to the International Labour Organisation

Deputy Secretary

S.E. el Sr. Rubén González Sosa

PAKISTAN

Representative

The Honourable Mr. Nurul Amin, Prime Minister, East Bengal

Alternates

Mr. A. K. Brohi

Dr. Anwar Iqbal Qureshi

Dr. S. M. Akhtar

Mr. Mohammad Ali Rangoonwalla

Secretary

Mr. H. Haq

Peru

Representative

Sr. Teodosio Cabada, Minister Counsellor, Alternate Representative to the United Nations

Alternate

Sr. Jose A. Encinas, Secretary, Permanent Delegation

POLAND

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

#### United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Representative

Viscount Alexander of Hillsborough

Alternates

Mr. G. T. Corley Smith

Mr. H. T. N. Gaitskell

Advisors

Mr. S. Hoare

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Mr. L. A. Scopes

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#### **AGENDA**

#### Adopted by the Council on 3 July 1950

Document E/1680 19 May 1950 [Original: English]

- 1. Adoption of the agenda.
- 2. General Assembly resolution 266 (III): "Problems of economic development and social progress of the former Italian colonies".
- 3. Full employment:
  - (a) Report of the group of experts appointed by the Secretary-General under Council resolution 221 E (IX), on national and international measures for full employment;
  - (b) General Assembly resolution 308 (IV);
  - (c) Council resolution 267 B (X).
- 4. Organization of the Economic and Employment Commission and its two Sub-Commissions.
- 5. Technical assistance for economic development:
  - (a) Technical assistance for economic development under General Assembly resolution 200 (III):
    - (i) Report by the Secretary-General;
    - (ii) Eligibility of associate members of the regional economic commissions for technical assistance under General Assembly resolution 200 (III);
  - (b) Expanded programme of technical assistance for the economic development of underdeveloped countries.
- 6. Methods of financing economic development of under-developed countries, including consideration of the report of the Sub-Commission on Economic Development (fourth session).
- 7. General Assembly resolution 331 (IV): "International collaboration in regard to economic, social and educational conditions in Non-Self-Governing Territories".
- 8. Trusteeship Council resolution 110 (V): "Higher education in the Trust Territories in Africa".
- Report of the International Labour Organisation on training for apprentices and technical workers.
- 10. International Centre for Training in Public Administration.
- 11. Availability of insecticides for the control of malaria.
- 12. Annual report of the Economic Commission for Europe.
- 13. Annual report of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East.
- 14. Annual report of the Economic Commission for Latin America.
- 15. Report of the Transport and Communications Commission (fourth session).
- 16. Report of the Statistical Commission (fifth session).
- 17. Interim Co-ordinating Committee for International Commodity Arrangements: Review of International Commodity Problems, 1949.
- 18. Report of the Population Commission (fifth session).
- 19. Report of the Commission on Human Rights (sixth session).
- 20. Report of the Commission on the Status of Women (fourth session).
- 21. Report of the Sub-Commission on Freedom of Information and of the Press (fourth session).

- 22. Forced labour.
- 23. Trade-union rights: allegations regarding infringements of trade-union rights.1
- 24. Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Slavery (first session).
- 25. Report of the Social Commission (sixth session).2
- 26. Long-range activities for children.
- 27. Advisory social welfare service.
- 28. Social problems of the aboriginal populations and other under-developed social groups of the American Continent.
- 29. Procedure regarding the draft single convention on narcotic drugs.
- 30. Invitation to the United States of Indonesia to become a party to the Protocol of 19 November 1948 relating to narcotic drugs.
- 31. United Nations research laboratories.
- 32. Refugees and stateless persons:
  - (a) General Assembly resolution 319 A (IV);
  - (b) Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Statelessness.
- 33. Teaching of the purposes and principles, the structure and activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies in schools and other educational institutions of Member States.
- 34. Report of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund.
- 35. Report of the International Labour Organisation.
- 36. Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.
- 37. Report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.
- 38. Report of the World Health Organization.
- 39. Report of the International Civil Aviation Organization.
- 40. Report of the International Telecommunication Union.
- 41. Report of the Universal Postal Union.
- 42. Report of the International Refugee Organization.
- 43. Relations with and co-ordination of specialized agencies:
  - (a) Action taken in pursuance of the agreements between the United Nations and specialized agencies;
  - (b) Problem of the proliferation and overlapping of the programmes of the United Nations and specialized agencies;
  - (c) Report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination;
  - (d) Regional co-ordination;
  - (e) Report by the Secretary-General on particular co-ordination matters.
- 44. Inter-governmental organizations.
- 45. Non-governmental organizations:
  - (a) Hearings of non-governmental organizations;
  - (b) Review of non-governmental organizations in consultative status;
  - (c) Question of non-governmental organizations handbook.
- 46. Draft rules for the calling of non-governmental conferences.
- 47. Calendar of conferences for 1951.
- 48. Summary of financial implications of actions of the Council.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Referred to the International Labour Organisation.

Except parts covered by items 26 and 27.

- 49. Election of one-third of the members of the Economic and Employment, Transport and Communications, Fiscal, Statistical, Population, Social, Human Rights, and Status of Women Commissions.
- 50. Confirmation of members of functional commissions of the Council.
- 51. Arrangements regarding report of the Council to the General Assembly.

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The Council decided to include the following supplementary items in its agenda:

- 1. Report of the Interim Committee on Programme of Meetings on the sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and related meetings.<sup>3</sup>
- 2. Assistance for the Civil Population of Korea.4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Decision taken at the 376th meeting.

Decision taken at the 399th meeting.

## CHECK LIST OF DOCUMENTS OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (ELEVENTH SESSION)

(Documents in miscellaneous series, in series E/1659 to E/1849 and series E/L.47 to E/L.106, classified in numerical order with relevant Council agenda items, titles and information concerning their publicatiou in the Annex to the official records of the Council (eleventh session) or in other documents)

Document No.	t No. Item No. Title <sup>2</sup>		Observations and References to other sources 3
E/CN.1/80 (E/CN.1/Sub.3/29)	6	Report of the Sub-Commission on Economic Development (fourth session)	Mimeographed document only
E/CN.1/80/Add.1 (E/CN.1/Sub.3/29/Add.1	6	Note by the Secretary-General	Mimeographed document only
E/CN.2/68	15	Pollution of sea water by oil: note by the Secretary-General	
E/CN.11/224 E/CN.11/231	13	Resolutions adopted by the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East at its fifth session	See document E/1710
E/CN.11/238 and Corr.1	13	Report of the Committee on Industry and Trade (second session)	Mimeographed document only
E/CN.11/247 E/CN.11/257	13	Resolutions adopted by the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East at its sixth session	See document E/1710
E/CN.11/260	13	Economic Survey of Asia and the Far East 1949	United Nations Publications— Sales No.: 1950.II.F.1
E/CN.12/164	14	Economic Survey of Latin America 1949 *	
E/CN.12/165	14	Trade trends and policies of Latin-American countries	Mimeographed document only
E/CN.12/166 and Add.1 to 9	14	Economic and legal status of foreign investments in selected countries of Latin America	Mimeographed documents only
E/ECE/112 (E/ECE/Steel/42)	12	European Steel Trends in the Setting of the World Market	United Nations Publications— Sales No.: 1949.II.E.2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Documents with title in **bold type** are printed in the Annex to the officials records of the Council (eleventh session). The Annex is composed of separate fascicles, one for each agenda item, and each fascicle has a separate table of contents.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The titles given below are the specific titles of the documents. The text of the relevant agenda item is given in the Annex fascicule relating to that item.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> In this column will be found information concerning the documents which are not included in the Annex to the official records of the Council (eleventh session). Where a document has been incorporated in the text of a summary record of a meeting of the Council, the number of the meeting is given.

<sup>\*</sup> Not published at the date of issue of this check list.

Document No.	Item No.	Title	Observations and References to other sources
E/ECE/114/Rev.1	12	Report to the fifth session of the Economic Commission for Europe by the Executive Secretary on the future work of the Commission	United Nations, Economic Commission for Europe, Geneva, April 1950
E/ECE/116/Rev.1	12	Economic Survey of Europe in 1949	United Nations Publications— Sales No.: 1950.II.E.1
E/INF.37		Delegations	See Official Records of the Council, eleventh session, Delegations
E/TAC/R.3/Rev.1	5	Technical Assistance Committee: draft of first report	Re-issued as document E/1833
E/1327/Add.1	5	Technical Assistance for Economic Development: Report by the Secretary-General	United Nations Publications— Sales No.: 1949.II.B.1
E/1333	6	Methods of financing the Economic Develop- ment of Under-developed Countries	United Nations Publications— Sales No.: 1949.II.B.4
E/1353	11	Report by the Secretary-General	See Official Records of the Council, ninth session, Annex
E/1378	3	Report by the Secretary-General	See Official Records of the Council, ninth session, Annex
E/1562 and Corr.1 and 2	6	Methods of increasing domestic savings and of ensuring their most advantageous use for the purpose of economic development: study by the Secretary-General	Mimeographed document only
E/1578	13	Action arising out of resolutions adopted by the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East at its fifth session: report by the Secretary-General	See Official Records of the Council, tenth session, Annex
E/1581 and Corr.1	2	Note by the Secretary-General	
E/1584	3 (a) 6	National and International Measures for Full Employment: report by a group of experts appointed by the Secretary-General	United Nations Publications— Sales No.: 1949.II.A.3
E/1591	6	International investment and financing facilities: report of FAO	See Official Records of the Council, tenth session, Annex
E/1614/Rev.1	6	Survey of policies affecting private foreign investment: study prepared by the Secretariat	Mimeographed document only
E/1618 and Corr.1 (E/AC.32/5 and Corr.1)		Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Statelessness and Related Problems	
E/1636/Rev.1	22	Note by the Secretary-General	
E/1640	43	Proposed agreement between the Organization of American States and the International Labour Organisation	Mimeographed document only
E/1660	24	Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Slavery (first session)	
E/1660/Add.1	24	Statement of financial implications submitted by the Secretary-General	
E/1664	41	Report of the Universal Postal Union	International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union: Report on the Work of the Bureau, 1949

Observations

tion No. 23

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The report of the Food and Agriculture Organization comprises documents E/1676, E/1676/Add.1, 2, 3 and 4.

Document No.	Item No.	Title	Observations and References to other sources
E/1677/Add.2	38	Note by the Secretary-General	
E/1678 (E/CN.5/221)	25	Report of the Social Commission (sixth session)	See Official Records of the Council, eleventh session, Supplement No. 3
E/1678/Add.1/Rev.1	25	Statement of financial implications submitted by the Secretary-General	
E/1679	40	Annual report of the International Telecommunication Union	Mimeographed document only
E/ <b>1</b> 680	1	Provisional agenda	See Official Records of the Council, eleventh session, Resolutions, Appendix
E/1681 (E/CN.4/507) E/1681/Corr.1	19	Report of the Commission on Human Rights (sixth session)	See Official Records of the Council, eleventh session, Supplement No. 5
E/1681/Add.1	19	Statement of financial implications submitted by the Secretary-General on the establishment of a human rights committee	
E/1682	<b>4</b> 3 (c)	Seventh report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination	
E/1683	43 (b)	Report by the Secretary-General	
E/1683/Add.1	43 (b)	Communication from the Director-General of the World Health Organization	
E/1684	43 (e)	Report by the Secretary-General	Mimeographed document only
E/1685	43	Report by the Secretary-General	
E/1686	44	Note by the Secretary-General	
E/1687	44	List of inter-governmental organizations in the economic and social fields	
E/1688	37	Report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	Mimeographed document only
E/1688/Add.1	37	Addendum to the report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organiza- tion	Mimeographed document only
E/1689	30	Invitation to the United States of Indonesia to become a party to the Protocol bringing under international control drugs outside the scope of the Convention of 13 July 1931 for limiting the manufacture and regulating the distribution of narcotic drugs, as amended by the Protocol signed at Lake Success on 11 December 1946: item proposed by the Secretary-General	
E/1690	6	Note by the Secretary-General	Mimeographed document only
E/1691	28	Note by the Secretary-General	
E/1692	4	Note prepared by the Secretariat	Mimeographed document only
E/1693	49	Table: election of one-third of membership of functional commissions of the Council	Multigraphed document only

Document No.	Item No.	Title	Observations and References to other sources
E/1694	31	Report of the Committee of Scientific Experts on International Research Laboratories (part I)	
E/1694/Add.1	31	Report of the Committee of Scientific Experts on International Research Laboratories (part II)	Mimeographed document only
E/1694/Add.2	31	Statement of financial implications submitted by the Secretary-General	Mimeographed document only
E/1695	3	Views of certain non-governmental organizations on the experts' report on full employment (E/1584)	Mimeographed document only
E/1695/Add.1 to 4	3	Addenda to part II of document E/1695	Mimeographed documents only
E/1696 (E/CN.3/113)	16	Report of the Statistical Commission (fifth session)	See Official Records of the Council, eleventh session, Supplement No. 4
E/1696/Add.1	16	Statement of financial implications submitted by the Secretary-General	
E/1697 and $Add.1$	45 (b)	Report of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations	Mimeographed documents only
E/1698 and Corr.1	3	Measures taken by various countries for the purpose of achieving full employment during the six months ending 1 January 1950	Mimeographed document only
E/1698/Add.1 to 8	3	Addenda to document E/1698: replies from governments	Mimeographed documents only
E/1699/Rev.1	31	Second report by the Secretary-General on the question of establishing United Nations research laboratories	
E/1700	5 (a)	Fourth report by the Secretary-General on activities under General Assembly resolution 200 (III)	
E/1700/Add.1	5 (a)	Addendum to document E/1700	
E/1701 and Corr.1	25	Note by the Secretary-General on the possibility of drafting a general report on the world social and cultural situation	Mimeographed document only
E/1702	27	Report by the Secretary-General	
E/1702/Add.1	27	Statement of financial implications submitted by the Secretary-General	
E/1703	32 (b)	Comments of governments on the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Statelessness and Related Problems (E/1618)	Mimeographed document only
E/1703/Add.1	32 (b)	Communication from the Government of Poland on the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Statelessness and Related Problems (E/1618)	Mimeographed document only
E/1703/Add.2 to 7	32 (b)	Comments of governments on the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Statelessness and Related Problems (E/1618)	Mimeographed documents only
E/1704 and Corr.1 and 2	32 (b)	Comments of the specialized agencies on the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Statelessness and Related Problems (E/1618)	Mimeographed document only

Document No.

E/1705 and Add.1	9	Action taken by the ILO to facilitate the mission to the world's centres of training of candidates from countries which suffer from a lack of qualified personnel necessary to the development of their national economy	
E/1706	3	Unemployment and under-employment in under- developed countries: note by the Secretary- General	Mimeographed document only
E/1707	8	Note by the Secretary-General	
E/1708	10	Note by the Secretary-General	
E/1708/Add.1 and Corr.1	10	Addendum to the note by the Secretary-General	
E/1709 and Corr.1 and 2	11	Report by the Secretary-General	
E/1710 (E/CN.11/241/Rev.1)	13	Annual report of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East	See Official Records of the Council, eleventh session, Supplement No. 8
E/1710/Add.1	13	Statement of financial implications submitted by the Secretary-General	
E/1710/Add.2	13	Addendum to document E/1710: report of the Ad Hoc Sub-Committee of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East on the implementation of the recommendations of the Commission	Mimeographed document only
E/1711 (E/CN.9/62)	18	Report of the Population Commission (fifth session)	See Official Records of the Council, eleventh session, Supplement No. 7
E/1711/Add.1	18	Statement of financial implications submitted by the Secretary-General	
E/1712 and Corr.1 (E/CN.6/154)	20	Report of the Commission on the Status of Women (fourth session)	See Official Records of the Council, eleventh session, Supplement No. 6
E/1713	39	ICAO: Report of the Council to the Assembly on the activities of the Organization in 1949	DOC 6968, A4-P/1
E/1713/Add.1	39	ICAO: Budget estimates, 1951	DOC 6980, A4-AD/1
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#### UNITED NATIONS

# ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OFFICIAL RECORDS



## ELEVENTH SESSION, 375th (Opening) MEETING MONDAY, 3 JULY 1950, AT 11 A.M. PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

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#### President: Mr. Hernán Santa Cruz (Chile).

Present: Representatives of the following countries: Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Denmark, France, India, Iran, Mexico, Pakistan, Peru, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Representatives of the following specialized agencies:

International Labour Organisation, Food and Agriculture Organization, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, International Monetary Fund, International Telecommunication Union, World Health Organization, International Refugee Organization.

### Introductory statements by the President and the two Vice-Presidents

- 1. The PRESIDENT declared open the eleventh session of the Council.
- 2. After welcoming the delegations, he expressed his pleasure at being again in Europe and appreciation of the hospitality of the Swiss Confederation.
- 3. The session was opening at a time when the international situation was more difficult than it had ever been since the birth of the United Nations, and the danger of a general conflagration had never been nearer. The act of aggression against the Republic of Southern Korea was severely testing the whole machinery of the United Nations and was threatening its very existence.
- There were some who wanted the Organization to be liquidated; others asserted that it was sterile and useless. The latter might think that the fact that the Council was still trying to promote international collaboration on social and economic problems at a time when Korea had just become a battlefield only went to confirm their belief that the United Nations was only an idealistic, academic body without any contact with reality. But during the forthcoming session the Council could refute that argument by proving the value of the Organization's moral strength. The Security Council, in strict application of the relevant provisions in the Charter, had set in motion the machinery for preserving peace in order to combat the aggression in Korea. World democratic opinion supported the Security Council and, through it, the United Nations. The Economic and

Social Council should not start work on the agenda for the session without expressing its feeling of appreciation at the Security Council's praiseworthy efforts in the cause of peace.

- 5. However, as the Charter made clear, in order to establish peace it was not sufficient to halt aggression. It was significant that the conflict had begun in a region which was under-developed. Those who had designs on that region had exploited the nationalist sentiments and the confusion which miserable conditions of living always produced. To combat those evils, which also prevailed in other regions of the world, international collaboration on economic and social problems, as provided for in the Charter, was essential. The Economic and Social Council should do its utmost to promote such collaboration.
- 6. He was confident that peace would be re-established in Korea, but it was necessary to ensure, by means of international collaboration, economic and social progress in that and in other regions in order to prevent the recurrence of similar developments. To obtain positive results, such collaboration must be pressed forward at the same speed as that with which the aggressors were being repulsed in Korea. The current session afforded the Council an opportunity of going to the roots of the main economic problems which were preventing peaceful, stable and free international relations. The Council had already completed the first stage of its task of economic development with its programme of technical assistance, which was one of its most successful achievements. The future of both the under-developed and the highly developed countries of the world, and peace itself, would depend to a large extent on the measures which the Council took for financing plans of economic development and bringing about and maintaining full employment. Members of the Economic and Social Council, realizing their heavy responsibility, should multiply their efforts to give to humanity, which was still suffering from recent disasters and was at present threatened with new trials, grounds for hope in a better future.
- 7. Sir Ramaswami MUDALIAR (India) associated himself and his Government with the sentiments expressed by the President. The Council was meeting in the shadow of great trouble. No one who had taken part in the drafting of the Charter of the United Nations in

the calm atmosphere at San Francisco had foreseen all the difficulties which had arisen since the United Nations had come into being; no one had expected the reports of destruction which were echoing along diplomatic corridors. Members of the Council should, however, view the events in their proper perspective. There were many reasons for the fighting in Korea, but the principal one was the failure to satisfy the aspirations with which the Economic and Social Council was so closely associated. Members of the Council should never forget Article 55 of the Charter, the opening clauses of which read:

"With a view to the creation of conditions of stability and well-being which are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, the United Nations shall promote: a. higher standards of living, . . ."

- 8. As the President had said, there were two sets of people who were not amicably disposed towards the United Nations; those who wished to see the United Nations liquidated in order that their opportunities for spoliation might increase, and the sceptics and pessimists who thought that all the work done by the United Nations and the specialized agencies during the previous five years had been in vain. The Council must consolidate the hopes of its friends by pursuing its work and making it as effective as possible. Although it was wrong to suppose that most people in any given country of the world were pessimists, there were times such as those through which they were passing when the pessimists could hold the stage; but pessimists had never improved the well-being of mankind. The Council should therefore forget them and continue its constructive work.
- 9. He could see that his colleagues had come to the session with an added sense of responsibility and of the gravity of the situation. The task confronting the Council was more difficult than it had ever been before; but never had its completion been more urgently required. The Council's work was of the utmost importance; as he had remarked at a previous session, he looked forward to the time when the Security Council would meet very infrequently because there was little work for it to do, and when the Economic and Social Council would sit continuously to bring about and maintain adequate standards of living for all mankind. However, it could be asserted that the Council's work had never been interrupted, because, when it was not in session, other bodies, such as the specialized agencies, had been working for the attainment of its objectives. That work must be continued even during crises, of which there had already been many since the inception of the United Nations. The main cause of unrest in the world derived from the fact that the Council's objectives had not yet been attained; much injustice had not been righted, while in some areas human rights were not being respected and people were living under conditions which were not worthy of mankind.
- 10. The Council should rededicate itself to its task with a greater sense of the gravity and urgency of that task, which he was certain it could accomplish. If he thought it were not able to do so, he would despair of humanity. It was true that there were imponderable difficulties in

the way of accomplishment, but there was no reason for despair.

- 11. He hoped that every representative who had come to the session was determined that the Council should do all it could to improve the lot of mankind in a spirit of broad understanding and good-will, free from national prejudice. If his hopes were justified, it was still possible to overcome what appeared to be the beginning of a catastrophe, although the whole matter might prove to be merely an attempt by a small subversive group to upset the peace of mankind. Finally, he earnestly wished that the decisions to be taken at that session might be such as to convey to mankind a message of hope and peace.
- 12. Mr. DEHOUSSE (Belgium) said that he thought that the President had had an excellent idea in allowing the two Vice-Presidents of the Economic and Social Council, and any other members of the Council who wished to do so, to express their views on current events.
- 13. As in the case of the previous speaker, every time he returned to the Palais des Nations for a session of the Economic and Social Council or of one of its cominissions, he had the impression that the international situation had become more tense. In December 1947, the representatives who had met at Geneva for the second session of the Commission on Human Rights had just attended, at Lake Success, a particularly stormy session of the General Assembly, during which the question of war-mongering had constantly been raised. During the United Nations Conference on Freedom of Information, in March and April 1948, there had begun to develop, in the diplomatic sphere, those events which were to lead to the Berlin blockade. The ninth session of the Economic and Social Council, which had been held at Geneva in July and August 1949, had not been free from anxiety, and during its current session, the Council was unfortunately faced with definite facts which no one could ignore.
- 14. He certainly did not wish to imply by those remarks that there was a relationship of cause and effect between world events and the sessions of the Economic and Social Council. The Council only studied questions and made recommendations, and could hardly exercise a direct influence on events. But he wished to dissipate ideas which might prove harmful in existing circumstances. Certain people considered that, in view of the grave events which were taking place, it was no time to hold a session of the Economic and Social Council. Others, who were more sensitive, could not help feeling deep sorrow when they saw that the painful experience of two world wars had not made mankind any wiser.
- 15. He asked all those who, like himself, had placed all the ideals of their youth and all their hopes on the League of Nations, not to give way to bitter irony with regard to the work of the United Nations. He urged them, on the contrary, to remember that the task of the United Nations, which was the creation of a new world, was an enormous one, which might require many years of effort. Had it not taken centuries to build up, on solid legal foundations, such political regimes as the French monarchy? Rather than give way to sterile discouragement

or easy irony, it was better to believe in a sociological truth which should be carved on the façade of every international institution: "International co-operation means lasting patience".

- 16. That truth, which held good in every sphere, applied particularly to economic and social questions. Indeed, the remedies which the Economic and Social Council might have to contemplate and to apply could only give results over a long period. The Council must be careful not to entertain too many illusions, since that had undoubtedly caused the weakness of the League of Nations.
- 17. As Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar had pointed out, many crises were now due to the inadequate economic and social development of certain countries. The danger would not be removed by decrees or repression, but by a bold economic and social policy, in which the Economic and Social Council could take the initiative. Consequently, he hoped to see the Council continue its work in that spirit, without allowing itself to be impressed by an argument frequently advanced, namely, that of the validity of its work in the existing circumstances.
- 18. In that connexion he wished to repeat what he had already said during the tenth session of the Council at Lake Success: the Belgian delegation had no doubt as to the legal validity of the Council's work. To be con-

- vinced of that view, it was sufficient to read the Charter and the Council's rules of procedure, which stated that "decisions . . . shall be made by a majority of the members present and voting". As the French proverb had it, it was the absent who were in the wrong.
- 19. Perhaps that did not apply to the other organs of the United Nations, such as the Security Council. Nevertheless, he wondered whether a careful study of Article 27 of the Charter would not lead to the conclusion that the fact that decisions of the Security Council on all matters other than procedural questions must be made "by an affirmative vote of seven members including the concurring votes of the permanent members" constituted a legal obligation for the permanent members to be present, so that they could fulfil the task with which they had been entrusted. But as far as the Economic and Social Council was concerned, there was no possible doubt: the work it performed in existing circumstances was perfectly valid from the legal point of view.
- 20. The task devolving upon representatives was certainly difficult, but it was a great and noble task, the fulfilment of which all would have at heart if they remembered that they were the bearers of the best hopes of the best of maukind.

The meeting rose at 12.15 p.m.