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President: Mr. Raymond SCHEYVEN (Belgium).

Present:

The representatives of the following countries: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, China, Cuba, Egypt, France, India, Philippines, Poland, Sweden, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia.

Observers from the following countries: Chile, Denmark, Italy, Netherlands.

The representatives of the following specialized agencies: International Labour Organisation, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, World Health Organization.

**Report of the World Health Organization
(E/2416 and E/L.509/Rev.1) (continued)**

[Agenda item 2]

1. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to vote on the Indian revised draft resolution (E/L.509/Rev.1).

The Indian revised draft resolution was adopted by 16 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

**Report of the International Labour Organisation
(E/2462 and E/L.513)**

[Agenda item 22]

2. Mr. MORSE (Director-General of the International Labour Office), submitting his Organisation's report (E/2462) said he was convinced of the importance to the ILO of the Council's general co-ordinating functions and of the contributions that the ILO could make to the Council's work. The ILO welcomed constructive criticism and suggestions from Council members, and the report reflected comments made in previous years, particularly about priorities. As he saw it, the task before the Council was twofold. First, to see how the international effort in the economic and social field should be shaped in its broad outlines, and, second, to consider in general how limited international resources could most effectively meet those needs. The Council's general co-ordinating activities were essential for the success of international efforts to base peace on good economic and social conditions.

3. Large-scale international action in the social and economic field had undoubtedly been restricted during the past three years by political conditions. Nevertheless, progress had been made along certain lines—e.g., the Technical Assistance Programme and, in spite of obstacles a framework had been built up for a programme of action that could be put into operation to the full benefit of the world when more resources were made available for the purposes of peace.

4. He would remind the Council, however, that peace would have its own problems, and that its security would largely depend upon mankind's response to the challenge. There were three outstanding problems: unemployment; the development of world productivity as a means of improving living standards, particularly in the under-developed areas; and the ensuring of respect for human rights in all efforts for improvement in economic and social conditions. Those were the types of problem that could be profitably discussed by the Council, since they called for co-operative action.

5. As regards unemployment, he would repeat the statement he had made at the recent session of the International Labour Conference that it was essential to ensure that people should not have reason to associate the coming of peace with economic dislocation and unemployment. As an organization grouping representatives of workers and employers—those who would be most affected by unemployment—in addition to governments, the ILO had a vital interest in full employment policy and had acquired much experience in the field; it would continue to work with the United Nations and other agencies for the maintenance of a high level of employment.

6. The need for higher productivity, in both agriculture and industry, in order to improve living standards had been generally recognized. It was necessary to introduce not only techniques to raise productivity but also complementary measures to ensure that higher productivity resulted in better living standards. The ILO was concerned with both aspects of the problem.

7. In that connexion, he would invite the Council's attention to the conclusions of the Committee of Experts on Productivity in Manufacturing Industries to be found in the report. Those conclusions reflected fully the apprehensions of the different parties—workers, employers, independent persons and governments—upon whose co-operation increased productivity depended. The conclusions had been largely confirmed by the recently concluded International Labour Conference and would serve as a guide for future activities.

8. Technical assistance work was increasingly directed to raising productivity. As examples he described the work of the ILO productivity mission to India, and the

project for training Yugoslav workers. One of the main ideas behind such work was to initiate a project which would have a continuing cumulative effect in the country served.

9. He need hardly emphasize that international efforts to raise productivity, especially in under-developed areas, were the result of co-operation between international institutions. The report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination emphasized that almost all agencies could contribute to the productivity campaign. The Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance was in itself an outstanding example of co-ordination between the United Nations and the specialized agencies. One major achievement of co-ordinated international action was the project for improving living and working conditions among the indigenous populations living high up in the Andes. Governments of the Andean States were trying to integrate into the economic and social life of their countries some 10 million men and women living in deplorable conditions. By agreement, the ILO had assumed the direction of the project, in which the United Nations, UNESCO, WHO and FAO were also taking part. It offered an unprecedented opportunity for international agencies working jointly to contribute in a practical way towards bettering the lot of man.

10. As regards the third problem—the protection of and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms—freedom of association was fundamental to the ILO's own work. The report of the ILO included the reports made to the Governing Body by the Committee on Freedom of Association. A careful reading of those reports against the background of world conditions showed that the work of that Committee had resulted in some improvement of the situation as regards trade union rights in a number of different countries. There had been a large measure of co-operation from a number of governments. In certain cases the Committee had made recommendations for the consideration of the government concerned; several governments had spontaneously given effect, or expressed the intention of giving effect, to the recommendations made by the Committee. The very fact that a procedure had been established and an institution set up, recognized by governments represented both in the International Labour Conference and in the United Nations General Assembly, was in itself of the greatest importance and acted in some measure as a preventive to flagrant violations. At its next session the Governing Body would consider proposals for improvements in the procedure.

11. The ILO was also interested in the work of the United Nations in the whole field of human rights. Efforts in that field must be co-ordinated and he would therefore strongly urge the Council, when considering the draft covenants on human rights, to insert in the covenant dealing with the enforcement of civil and political rights a clause to obviate any overlapping between the responsibilities of the proposed Human Rights Committee, on the one hand, and of the ILO, on the other, in those matters for which the ILO had its own procedures and machinery.

12. International action for social progress worked slowly. Nevertheless, there was evidence that the work

of the International Labour Conference, for example, through its conventions and recommendations adopted over the past thirty-five years, had been the direct cause of much progress and of higher standards of work and living in many countries. Two recent additions to the record of the International Labour Conference were a recommendation on the minimum age of admission to employment in work underground in coal mines, and another concerning the protection of the health of workers in places of employment. Evidence of the slow but effective action of the ILO could also be found in the recently published report of the United Nations/ILO *Ad Hoc* Committee on Forced Labour, which showed that an initiative taken by the ILO a quarter of a century ago had resulted in some progress towards the elimination of systems of forced labour among indigenous populations.

13. Co-ordination should also be approached from a long-term viewpoint. *A priori* definitions of responsibility would not be the solution. A flexible machinery to deal with particular practical problems in an attitude of constructive co-operation was the real way towards solution. That machinery existed and worked when it was used. It made possible a positive approach towards co-ordination by joint or complementary action on a number of subjects of common interest and in certain assistance projects. One such example was a programme of concerted practical action in the social field which he hoped would lead to even greater constructive efforts by the United Nations and the specialized agencies.

14. Outstanding problems as regards co-ordinating machinery and procedure related mainly to co-ordination with regional organizations outside the United Nations. In that connexion, he would again stress the fact that, in the last resort, co-ordination between regional and international organizations depended upon governments themselves adopting co-ordinated policies in the different regional and international organizations of which they were members. As the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination had pointed out, urgent action was called for in order to make more effective arrangements for continuous co-operation between the international and regional organizations. In spite of difficulties, however, the ILO had made some progress, and he would instance the recent formal agreement concluded between the ILO and the High Authority of the European Coal and Steel Community and the concrete assistance being given by the ILO to that body.

15. In conclusion, he hoped that the annual discussions of ILO reports in the Council would reinforce the positive constructive approach towards joint action for economic and social betterment throughout the world. The Council could point to the world's social and economic needs; its responsibility was to arouse the necessary support for international efforts to meet those needs; and it could ensure that those efforts were well directed by insisting that co-ordination machinery was used as it should be. If the Council gave the lead, the different organizations together would be able to make an ever-greater contribution to universal and lasting peace.

16. Mr. MEADE (United Kingdom) congratulated the International Labour Organisation on its success, in

circumstances of financial stringency, in adapting its functions to the important tasks it had set itself—namely, the stimulation of productivity, the combating of unemployment and the promotion of economic development. His Government regarded it as an excellent example of an agency that was making a significant contribution towards realizing the ideals of the United Nations. He had already submitted a draft resolution taking note, with appreciation, of the ILO report, which he hoped would prove generally acceptable.

17. Mr. DE KINDER (Belgium) said that his delegation had been greatly interested in the ILO report, which gave a gratifying account of the Organisation's ever-expanding activities. The report was so comprehensive that a more concentrated form of presentation might perhaps make it easier to study.

18. He was glad to find that, in accordance with an earlier suggestion of his delegation, the report contained a special chapter on the effectiveness of international labour standards.

19. Since legislative action was still the ILO's main task, an analytical study showing how far Conventions which had been ratified were actually in application would give a clearer picture of the progress of international labour legislation. It would not, of course, have any absolute value, but it would indicate certain general trends.

20. By now, most matters of labour legislation were covered by the ILO Conventions, so that presumably the Organisation might well aim, henceforth, at consolidating the results achieved to date. The explanations called for by the Belgian delegation would be helpful in that respect by providing a general review.

21. The Belgian delegation valued the emphasis in the report on the problems of the guaranteed wage and human relations. In many countries the guaranteed wage, whether weekly or monthly, or covering a longer period, was receiving increasing attention as a factor in social progress and hence a vital security factor. The same question also affected social security, though the studies so far carried out by ILO were still fragmentary, and he wondered whether it would not be advisable in the near future to undertake a comprehensive study of the problem for subsequent examination at a session of the International Labour Conference. Hence, a report on the guaranteed wage might make a useful addition to the very valuable list of ILO publications.

22. The problem of human relations was a new one. Hitherto, the stress had been laid on the material side of labour conditions, but, as that problem had been largely solved in a great many countries, it was time to turn to the human values on which the relationship between employer and employee must be based. As a supplement to the somewhat spasmodic studies carried out so far by the ILO, it might be well to undertake a comprehensive inquiry into the question, especially in connexion with the problem of increased productivity.

23. With regard to the question of freedom of association, trade unionism had now won its spurs in all parts of the world. Belgium, by tradition a land of freedom, attached special importance to all matters relating to the organization and freedom of trade unions. For

that reason, the Belgian delegation was particularly interested in the activities of the Fact-finding and Conciliation Commission on Freedom of Association. There had plainly been a large measure of co-operation between governments and the Committee on Freedom of Association, as a result of which the Committee had been able to examine the complaints submitted to it with all the evidence to hand and with complete impartiality. It was noteworthy, incidentally, that all the Committee's reports had been adopted unanimously, and in view of its tripartite membership, that unanimity was clear evidence of the success of the system of partnership in consultation.

24. Regarding the examination of complaints submitted, in many cases the Committee had found that though the complaints did not call for action by the Fact-finding and Conciliation Commission they none the less raised serious doubts, and the Committee had accordingly had no hesitation in addressing recommendations to many countries in all such cases. He gave a number of examples showing that the Committee's recommendations had not been without effect on the development of the trade union situation in a number of countries. In one case, trade union leaders who had been arrested and exiled were at present sitting on government committees; in another, constitutional safeguards had been restored and trade union leaders released; in yet another case, the government had taken into account the Committee's suggestions when revising a law; while, in yet another, a government had replied that it was considering repealing a law to make possible the ratification of the Convention on freedom of association.

25. His delegation would heartily welcome a speeding-up of the Fact-finding Commission's procedure, as promised by the Governing Body, provided the legitimate rights of the defence were in no way prejudiced.

26. Lastly, he noted with pleasure that the Director-General had brought up the question of co-operation between specialized organizations at the regional level. He reminded the Council that a number of European inter-governmental organizations had had to deal, on the regional level, with numerous problems which were also being dealt with on a world scale by the United Nations and the specialized agencies. Closer co-ordination between the regional organizations on the one hand and the United Nations and the specialized agencies on the other was thus obviously necessary, in order to prevent confusion and overlapping. The report testified to considerable progress in that field, which was largely due to the work of the Economic and Social Council and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, as well as to the agreements concluded between the ILO and various regional organizations. Great advances would undoubtedly be made if practical steps could be taken to promote closer consultation and co-ordination of effort between the organizations mentioned.

27. He also thought that it would be preferable to keep to the arrangement under which the ILO submitted an annual report to the Economic and Social Council, in spite of any drawbacks involved in that system.

28. Mr. BAKER (United States of America), congratulating the International Labour Organisation, con-

sidered that the current report was the best that it had yet produced. The United States Government had frequently suggested in the ILO that the translation of programme proposals into budget terms would be facilitated by a comprehensive programme review, and he thought the information provided on that subject should be helpful, not only to the Council, but to the Governing Body of the ILO itself.

29. The appendices to the report contained much useful information, and the number of meetings was impressive, though he wondered whether there were not perhaps too many meetings. He thought more attention could be paid to the production of guides and manuals to be used by persons actually dealing directly with practical problems. He considered that the list of activities in the ILO account of "main emphases",¹ was rather too long to bring out the points of major emphasis. He would like rather sharper focus in future reports.

30. The United States had supported the increasing emphasis on practical operational and technical assistance activities, and he was gratified to note the efforts made in that direction.

31. The United States Government, approving the stress laid on the problem of productivity, was anxious that progress in connexion with the human aspect of the problem should be accelerated. He would be interested to know what steps were being taken by the ILO and FAO with regard to the problem of under-employment in agriculture. The summary of technical assistance was succinct and informative; but, given the limited funds available, he questioned whether the grant of a large number of fellowships was the most effective method that could be used.

32. The chapter on "The Role of the ILO in the General International Effort" would be of particular interest to the Council, but in the report as a whole a greater concentration of references was necessary to describe more effectively the extent and character of ILO co-operation with the United Nations and other specialized agencies.

33. He agreed with the analysis of the problem of co-ordination and with the shift of emphasis to the more positive aspect of joint co-operative action. The report had also indicated the close association which exists between the question of co-ordination and the questions of programme planning, the use of priorities and the adjustment of activities to available budgetary resources. Those were all matters that should be constantly kept in mind.

34. Mr. MONTOYA (Venezuela), associating himself with the previous speakers' congratulations, agreed with the United States representative that the report was the best that the International Labour Organisation had yet produced. As he had stated on a previous occasion, the ILO was faced with the difficult day-to-day problem of translating into concrete reality in the various countries the considerable amount of labour legislation involved in its numerous conventions. In that respect, he wished to record the value attached by his delegation to the

programme and work of the ILO in the field of technical assistance. There the Organisation was not only expounding the tenets of theoretical doctrine, but was giving practical, efficient and co-ordinated expression to the principles of labour legislation. Venezuela had from the outset taken a keen interest in technical assistance, and he would stress once again the needs of the under-developed countries, not only from the economic point of view, but also in the field of administering and implementing the provisions of international labour legislation.

35. Positive efforts had been made in the field of regional operations, but further efforts in practical orientation were required so as to ensure greater flexibility. He hoped that the programme of regional offices which it was proposed to set up would be further amplified. The ILO mission on manpower—to which the report made no reference because agreement had been reached only after publication—was of particular interest to his country, and it was significant to note that the study was being carried out in Venezuela as a result of recent immigration. The examination of the impact of migration on existing manpower should give interesting results.

36. It was true that the activities of international organizations had to conform to budgetary restrictions, but every effort should be made to implement the specific programmes already approved.

37. Mr. MATES (Yugoslavia), congratulating the International Labour Organisation on the report, associated the Yugoslav delegation with the tributes of previous speakers. The problem of the productivity of labour was presented as the key to the problem of raising the standards of living. He would limit himself to underlining the fact that the problem of the increased productivity of labour had been dealt with in detail and had dominated the discussions at the recent thirty-sixth session of the International Labour Conference.

38. There was no doubt that a substantial increase in productivity could be attained mainly through industrialized production, which required modern equipment. However, there were important subjective factors—the training of workers in the best use of their equipment, the development in the producers of professional skill, and the regulation of production relations in such a way that producers would not only acquire professional skill, but also take part in the organization and distribution of production. In that respect, the experience and resources of the ILO could make an important contribution to the technical and economic development of individual countries, and, indeed, successful results had already been achieved.

39. The technical assistance granted to under-developed countries had been of great importance: not only had highly qualified personnel and specialists been trained, but, through the ILO, workers from less developed countries had been sent to the more highly developed countries, so that technical knowledge and experience were being imparted at all levels of production.

40. Yugoslavia had received the direct benefits of that assistance, and he would emphasize the great advantage of the personal experience acquired by Yugoslav workers in foreign factories over any amount of abstract theore-

¹ *Seventh Report of the ILO to the United Nations, Chapter I.*

tical instruction. Technicians and workers from the more highly developed countries had also been sent to Yugoslavia in order to train local labour.

41. In conclusion, while it would be wrong to give the impression that there had been no difficulties or shortcomings in the work, he wished to stress one point that was outside the ILO's control—namely, the danger of the reduction of material resources for the concrete operations undertaken by the Organisation. The Yugoslav delegation considered those activities so important and so inseparable from other economic action aiming at the assistance of under-developed countries, that any reduction of the ILO budget for technical assistance would cause great material and political harm and was to be deplored. He urged that concentrated efforts should be made in order to enable the Organisation to continue and to extend these activities, which it had so successfully begun.

42. His delegation warmly supported the United Kingdom draft resolution (E/L.513).

43. Mr. KATZ-SUCHY (Poland) said that, although his delegation had read the ILO report with interest, it believed that the Economic and Social Council should not deal with the details, but should rather take a broader view and see whether the ILO was, in practice, fulfilling its aims and carrying out its tasks correctly. Unfortunately, the report showed that that agency's achievements were far from satisfactory. Vitally important problems had not been touched, or, when they had been, only superficially. The Council should realize that the success of the ILO depended mainly upon the maintenance of peace, as the Director-General himself had stated at the recent session of the International Labour Conference. The Director-General had referred to the fact that expenditure for defence purposes greatly reduced the funds available for production and improvement of living standards; but he had gone on to say that the ILO could merely note that fact. That attitude was unsatisfactory; a great deal more could be done. All the ILO's activities must be influenced by the thought that the main method of solving social and economic problems was the maintenance of peace and the removal of international tensions by friendly co-operation among nations.

44. The situation with regard to labour relations was equally unsatisfactory. In many countries, although attacks on the workers' organizations had continued and trade union rights had been violated, the ILO had done very little; it should have acted rather than merely registering the facts. If that agency's work was to be at all effective, it should put the main emphasis on the interests of the workers and on world peace. It should refrain from activities which constituted propaganda against certain countries rather than attempts to raise living standards, and from working with organizations whose aims were not those of the United Nations.

45. In order properly to fulfil its obligations to the United Nations, the ILO must change its structure and methods. It must try to deal in a practical way with the basic economic and social problems. The influence and representation of labour should be increased, and more emphasis should be given to the views of the workers, who had the greatest need of international

co-operation. In particular, the ILO should establish much closer ties with the trade unions and the workers' organizations and thus become more closely acquainted with the real needs of the working masses.

46. The Polish delegation to the sessions of the International Labour Conference had expressed the view that the co-operation of all States, regardless of their political structure, was essential. The ILO should add its efforts to those of the nations and organizations endeavouring to remove the obstacles to the maintenance of peace. He could assure the Director-General that such activities would meet with general support, not least with that of his delegation.

47. Mr. MUÑOZ (Argentina), while regretting that his delegation had not been able to study in detail the very voluminous report of the ILO, had been favourably impressed by it and by the Director-General's statement. He was well aware that the ILO's task was far from easy, but he must express disappointment that despite the ILO's endeavours, good relations between capital and labour were still far from achievement. After so many years devoted to that object, the ILO should be better equipped to cope with an increasingly complex problem. There was now an almost infinite variety of social and economic systems, with which it should be possible to co-operate harmoniously. He had no doubt that the ILO and its Director-General were technically equipped to do so. He would therefore vote for the United Kingdom draft resolution (E/L.513).

48. He must, however, take strong exception to the recommendations in appendix V, paragraph 322, of the report of the Governing Body Committee on Freedom of Association. First, the distinction made in Argentina between recognized trade unions and other trade union organizations did not violate any ILO Convention. Trade unions were recognized if they grouped a sufficient proportion of the workers engaged in a trade to warrant their being regarded as representative of the whole trade. Recognition in itself did not in any way affect the safeguarding and enjoyment of the right of association.

49. The Committee's second suggestion was uncalled for; the freedom of workers to organize and to protect their organizations against any pressure exerted by rival organizations or third parties was fully safeguarded by the revised constitution, under which workers were guaranteed the right to form trade unions and to participate in all legitimate activities in defence of their interests, and the Government was bound to prevent any interference with the exercise of that right. In Argentina due constitutional process existed for remedy in any case of violation; thus, there was no need for any appropriate measures to ensure the free exercise of the right to organize.

50. The Committee's third recommendation seemed to assume—contrary to the facts—that the laws respecting public security had been misapplied. That suggestion was untenable. Even if such a thing had in fact occurred, the State would have moved promptly to check and punish any violation of the law.

51. Mr. ADARKAR (India) said that the ILO report brought out the essential fact that the United Nations

was a co-ordinating body. The Council should focus its attention on that aspect of the report; it was not called upon to sit in judgment on what the ILO did or did not do, but rather to concentrate on the question of co-ordination between the United Nations and the specialized agencies. Some delegations had gone into details which did not really concern the Council, but rather the International Labour Conference. Such subjects as the reports of the Governing Body Committee on Freedom of Association in appendix V might have been better left to the Commission on Human Rights. A distinction should be made between problems that were purely internal to the specialized agencies and external matters such as their relations with the United Nations.

52. He agreed with the Venezuelan representative that the financial limitations mentioned on page 2 of the report should not be allowed to hamper any necessary international activities. Such limitations should mainly be devoted to the avoidance of duplication and waste. Thus, the primary consideration should be the determination of priorities. Much useful work had been done in that connexion under the auspices of the United Nations, and yet the field was so wide that it was difficult to set rigid bounds; concerted action was as important as the fixing of priorities.

53. The ILO's activities in connexion with migration seemed somewhat unbalanced. Hitherto they had been confined mainly to migration from Europe to Latin America, with insufficient attention to Asia, despite the latter continent's immense over-population and the unemployment and under-employment rife in it.

54. He welcomed chapter V,² which gave for the first time a comprehensive view of concerted action by the ILO and the United Nations. Some progress had been achieved in the perpetual problem of co-ordinating budgets and staffs.

55. The report was open to criticism on the score of bulk; the appendices, in particular, were too copious, and chapter IV³ might have been further summarized by references to other ILO reports where necessary. Any effort to lighten the burden on delegations would be welcome, provided that due emphasis was maintained on the subject of co-ordination. Nevertheless, his delegation highly appreciated the report and the Director-General's supplementary statement and believed that the ILO was discharging its duties in full accord with the wishes of the Economic and Social Council.

56. Mr. JOBERT (France) observed that the ILO seventh report indicated some modernization of the Organisation's methods—a gradual increase in the number of ratifications of the labour Conventions being the accompaniment of the inquiry into the application of Conventions and Recommendations carried out by the Committee on Standing Orders and Application of Conventions and Recommendations, a body empowered to study the reports of governments on legislation and national practice designed to give effect to unratified Conventions and Recommendations. The agenda of the

thirty-sixth session of the International Labour Conference had included a study of the organization of national labour services, an item of particular importance for the effective application of international labour standards.

57. The provision for progressive ratification would make it possible henceforward for countries at widely different stages of development to be associated in one and the same Convention—e.g., the Minimum Standards of Social Security Convention (No. 102).

58. The ILO had made great efforts in the direction of decentralization. For example, changes had been made in the work of the vocational training centres, so that in addition to manpower questions, they now dealt with all forms of technical assistance in each region. He noted also that two new centres had been set up.

59. The report very properly laid great stress on the necessity for co-ordination between the ILO and the other United Nations bodies. Moreover, some of the labour Conventions were closely linked to questions of technical assistance, since some of the governments had felt the need to apply for technical assistance in order to enable them to apply certain Conventions. At the same time, it would be useful if in one of the next reports the chapter on Regional and Operational Activities could indicate the results of the co-ordination between the various United Nations bodies, which was by now an established fact.

60. It might also be useful if information could be given on the results of the ILO's inquiries into the new labour and social security standards, following the agreement concluded between it and the High Authority of the European Coal and Steel Community. In that field, the ILO might usefully suggest new ways and means of bringing different systems into line.

61. One of the important sections of the report was that dealing with productivity, though an extremely important study was to be published in due course on the contribution by wage-earners to higher productivity. Experience in France in that field showed that a productivity campaign was futile unless accompanied by the whole-hearted co-operation of all concerned.

62. He referred, finally, to the judicious manner in which the funds made available to the ILO under the heading of technical assistance had been administered, without upsetting the general pattern of the programmes. He also noted with satisfaction that the ILO budget had been kept at more or less the same level since 1950.

63. Mr. EL TANAMLI (Egypt) said that unfortunately he was not in a position to comment adequately on the ILO report, since he had not been able to study it until that morning.

64. It was, however, clear from the Director-General's statement that the Organisation attached great value to the question of productivity, a matter of vital importance to countries such as Egypt, which were over-populated and lacked capital and whose economy was essentially agricultural. In such circumstances efforts to increase productivity might give rise to unemployment.

65. He expressed his delegation's gratitude for the ILO's constant assistance to Egypt, and mentioned in

² "The Role of the ILO in the General International Effort."

³ "The Effectiveness of International Labour Standards."

that connexion that an agreement had been signed between his country and the Organisation for the despatch of productivity experts to Egypt.

66. As a token of its satisfaction, the Egyptian delegation would vote for the United Kingdom draft resolution (E/L.513).

67. Mr. KURAL (Turkey) also thanked the Director-General of the ILO for his interesting statement and congratulated the Organisation on its lucid and constructive report.

68. Turkey was in constant contact with the ILO, as a result of both its membership in the Organisation and of the relations arising out of the Manpower Centre set up in Istanbul and of the technical assistance programmes. He was confident that those relations would develop satisfactorily. In conclusion, he expressed the hope that the ILO would continue to attach importance to the question of priorities.

69. Mr. LOPEZ (Philippines) said that the ILO's very comprehensive report and the Director-General's statement gave a hopeful picture of the way in which an international organization older than the United Nations itself was not only pursuing its traditional objectives but was co-ordinating its activities with those of the United Nations. He welcomed its readiness to assume its proper place in the international constellation by adopting the United Nations priority programmes. There had been a change of emphasis for that reason and also owing to budgetary limitations. These limitations were regrettable, and it was to be hoped that they would be temporary. Particularly welcome was the way in which the ILO had accepted the principle laid down by the Economic and Social Council that the economic development of under-developed countries should be the overriding concern; that point was very well described in chapter II.⁴ It was to be hoped that the Organisation would continue to place stress on the needs of the under-developed countries, because it was chiefly in them that the problem of low productivity could best be solved by the proper use of manpower. The economies of the more advanced countries were often influenced by other factors; the standard of living in the under-developed countries was so low that it could hardly be affected by economic crises of the type to which the more developed countries were vulnerable. Thus the activities of the ILO in connexion with expanding productivity, and with such matters as social security, land reform and labour legislation could have an almost miraculous effect in relation to countries suffering from poverty of such long standing. While commending the ILO's efforts on behalf of the under-developed countries, he hoped that in future the ILO would be able to report more progress in its efforts to assist the inhabitants of the Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories.

70. Mr. MICHANEK (Sweden) observed that the work of the ILO in the field of productivity was particularly satisfactory. He had also appreciated the Director-General's statement that the efforts of the ILO had led to some improvement with regard to the freedom of association, but he agreed with him that improvements

in the procedural work in that connexion would always be possible, and he was glad to hear that the Governing Body was to continue its inquiries into that matter. The tripartite structure was undoubtedly the best for dealing with that problem.

71. He would support the United Kingdom draft resolution (E/L.513).

72. The PRESIDENT having called on the representative of China to address the Council, Mr. KATZ-SUCHY (Poland), speaking on a point of order, asked whether the gentleman upon whom the President had called had submitted his credentials in due form.

73. The PRESIDENT said that he was informed that the credentials had been presented.

74. Mr. KATZ-SUCHY (Poland) asked that it might be stated in the records that his Government could recognize as the representative of China only a person having credentials signed and delivered by the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China but not any person coming before the Council with credentials not in due form.

75. Mr. ARUTYUNYAN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) remarked that his delegation was unable to acquiesce in the President's reply to the question asked by the Polish representative. The person who had asked for the floor as representative of China certainly had no credentials entitling him to act in that capacity. He could not represent the people of China because the only legitimate representative would be a person in receipt of powers from the lawful government of China—the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China.

76. Mr. NUÑEZ PORTUONDO (Cuba) observed that the gentleman who had asked for the floor had spoken at previous meetings as the representative of China without any protest from the other delegations.

77. Mr. HSIA (China) said that he would have expected the objection to have been raised at a previous meeting. He did not understand why it had been raised at that stage. He could merely record his own opinion that his credentials as representative of China were as good as those of the Polish or the Soviet Union representatives. Since the President had declared that his credentials were in order he would say no more on the subject.

78. Mr. ADARKAR (India) said that his delegation wished to associate itself with the objection raised by the Soviet Union and Polish representatives. He was doubtful whether the gentleman wishing to speak for China should have been permitted to do so unchallenged at previous meetings.

79. The PRESIDENT suggested that the incident be regarded as closed.

80. Mr. ARUTYUNYAN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the question was not closed so far as the Economic and Social Council was concerned. A country could be represented only by a person empowered by its legal government. The sooner the Council realized the true state of affairs, the easier it would be for it to achieve real international co-operation;

⁴ "Regional and Operational Activities."

it could not do effective work so long as persons whose credentials were open to criticism were permitted to sit as members.

81. Mr. HSIA (China) observed that the Soviet Union representative was no longer criticizing his credentials, but the status of his Government; the question had therefore ceased to be one of procedure and had become one of substance. The Council, however, had no power to deal with issues of that kind. On 25 October 1952 the General Assembly had decided that the question should not be discussed during its seventh session. The Soviet Union representative wished the Council to believe that the Government of the Republic of China did not represent China. That was not a question that it could properly take up or usefully discuss. It was ironical that it should be the Soviet Union that questioned the right of his Government to represent China. It was the consensus of opinion throughout the civilized world that the USSR was the disturber of peace in the post-war world and an instigator of aggression.

82. Mr. ARUTYUNYAN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) interposed to ask the President to call to order the representative of the Kuomintang clique, who was improperly launching into political polemics. If the discussion was to proceed along those lines, the USSR delegation would certainly not be found wanting;

but neither the place nor the time were suitable for political polemics.

83. Mr. HSIA (China) said that he had merely wished to congratulate the Director-General of the ILO on his interesting statement supplementing his Organisation's report. That the ILO had made a distinct contribution to the solution of economic and social problems was generally recognized, and it was encouraging to see that it was not content to rest on its laurels.

84. He would support the United Kingdom draft resolution (E/L.513).

85. Mr. KATZ-SUCHY (Poland) said that he had raised his point of order with the object of placing on record his delegation's position with regard to the credentials of the gentleman who had spoken when the President had called upon the representative of China. The incident which had taken place clearly showed the danger to the Council's work that arose when a person who represented only a private group took part in it.

86. The PRESIDENT proposed that the incident should be considered closed, on the understanding that the different views expressed were placed on record.

It was so agreed.

The meeting rose at 1.05 p.m.