



UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

OFFICIAL RECORDS

RESUMED SIXTEENTH SESSION

30 November–7 December 1953

NEW YORK

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

The *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council (resumed sixteenth session)* include the corrections to the provisional summary records which were requested by the delegations, and such drafting and editorial modifications as were considered necessary.

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document. Symbols referring to resolutions of the Council consist of an arabic numeral indicating the number of the resolution and a roman numeral indicating the number of the session. The resolutions for each session are printed in a separate volume as a supplement to the *Official Records* of the relevant session of the Council.

Certain documents relating to each agenda item are published as annexes. These annexes are printed in separate fascicules, one to each agenda item.

A check list of documents relating to the agenda of the resumed sixteenth session of the Council will be found on page vii; the check list indicates the publication in which each document appears.

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DELEGATIONS

Members of the Council

ARGENTINA

H.E. Dr. Rodolfo Muñoz, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative to the United Nations
Mr. Cecilio José Morales, Economic Counsellor, Permanent Delegation to the United Nations

AUSTRALIA

H.E. Sir Douglas Copland, K.B.E., C.M.G., High Commissioner to Canada
Mr. Keith Gabriel Brennan, First Secretary, Permanent Mission to the United Nations

BELGIUM

Mr. Robert Fenaux, Counsellor of Legation, Permanent Delegation to the United Nations
Mr. Paul Bihin, Counsellor of Legation

CHINA

H.E. Dr. C. L. Hsia, Ambassador, Permanent Delegation to the United Nations
Mr. Cheng Paonan, Adviser, Permanent Delegation to the United Nations

CUBA

Mr. José Miguel Ribas, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, Alternate Representative to the United Nations

EGYPT

Dr. Abdel Moneim El-Tanamli, Counsellor, Permanent Delegation to the United Nations

FRANCE

Mr. Philippe de Seynes, Counsellor of Embassy, Permanent Delegation to the United Nations

INDIA

H.E. Nawab Ali Yawar Jung, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Argentina
Mr. P. K. Banerjee, First Secretary, Permanent Delegation to the United Nations

PHILIPPINES

Mr. Narciso G. Reyes, Adviser, Permanent Mission to the United Nations

POLAND

Mr. Henryk Birecki, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative to the United Nations

SWEDEN

Baron Göran F. von Otter, Counsellor of Legation, Secretary-General of the Permanent Delegation to the United Nations
Mr. Lennart Westerberg, Second Secretary of Legation, Permanent Delegation to the United Nations

TURKEY

Dr. Hamdi Özgürel, Adviser on Economic Affairs, Permanent Delegation to the United Nations
Mr. Necmettin Tuncel, Counsellor of Legation, Representative to the European Office, Geneva

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Mr. Georgi Petrovich Arkadyev, Envoy Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

Mr. G. A. G. Meade, C.M.G., Minister, Permanent Delegation to the United Nations

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

H.E. Mr. James J. Wadsworth, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Deputy Representative to the United Nations

URUGUAY

H.E. Professor Enrique Rodríguez Fabregat, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative to the United Nations

VENEZUELA

H.E. Dr. Victor Manuel Pérez Perozo, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Alternate Representative to the United Nations
Mr. Juan Alvarado, Chief of the Commercial Section, Ministry of External Relations

YUGOSLAVIA

H.E. Mr. Leo Mates, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative to the United Nations
Dr. Franc Kos, Counsellor, Permanent Delegation to the United Nations

Members of the United Nations represented by Observers

CHILE

Mr. Carlos García de la Huerta, Minister Counsellor,
Permanent Delegation to the United Nations

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

H.E. Mr. Jiří Nosek, Ambassador Extraordinary and
Plenipotentiary, Acting Permanent Representative
to the United Nations

NORWAY

H.E. Mr. Hans Engen, Ambassador Extraordinary and
Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative to the
United Nations

Mr. Erik Dons, Counsellor of Embassy, Deputy Per-
manent Representative to the United Nations

Specialized Agencies

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION

Dr. R. A. Metall

FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Miss A. Baños

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

Mr. Solomon V. Arnaldo

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

Mr. E. López Herrarte

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

Mr. Gordon Williams

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Dr. R. L. Coigny

Non-Governmental Organizations

Category A

INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Mrs. Roberta M. Lusardi

INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS

Miss Toni Sender

Mr. Martin Wagner

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE

Mr. Leslie F. Woodcock

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF CHRISTIAN TRADE UNIONS

Mr. Gaston Tessier

WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS

Miss Elinor Kahn

WORLD FEDERATION OF UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATIONS

Mrs. C. Beresford Fox

A G E N D A
for the resumed sixteenth session of the Council

Document E/L.570
13 November 1953
[*Original text: English*]

[*Note:* The numbers in brackets following the titles indicate the item numbers on the agenda of the sixteenth session of the Council (E/2472)].

1. Work of the Council in 1954 [40]:
 - (a) Basic programme for 1954;
 - (b) Provisional agenda for the seventeenth regular session of the Council and fixing of dates for commencement of discussion of groups of related items.
2. Calendar of Conferences for 1954 [35]: Argentine proposal that one of the sessions of the Council be held in Buenos Aires in 1954.
3. Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance: report of the Technical Assistance Committee under paragraph 7 of Council resolution 492 C II (XVI) [8c].

CHECK LIST OF DOCUMENTS PERTAINING TO THE RESUMED SIXTEENTH SESSION OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Note: The documents listed below by number and title are those pertaining to the items on the agenda of the sixteenth session which were considered by the Council when that session was resumed. This check list indicates the agenda item to which each document pertains. Documents with title in **boldface type** are printed in the annex fascicule relating to the agenda item indicated in the third column.

<i>Document No.</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Observations and references</i>
E/2472	Agenda for the sixteenth session of the Economic and Social Council		<i>Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixteenth Session, Prefatory fascicule and Supplement No. 1, Appendix</i>
E/2513	Note by the Secretary-General	40	
E/2513/Add.1	Note by the Secretary-General	40	
E/2514	World Calendar Reform: communication dated 28 October 1953 from the Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations to the Secretary-General		Mimeographed document only
E/2521	Note by the Secretary-General	37	<i>Idem</i>
E/2521/Add.1	Note by the Secretary-General	37	<i>Idem</i>
E/2521/Add.2	Note by the Secretary-General	37	<i>Idem</i>
E/L.570	Agenda for the resumed sixteenth session		See page vi of this fascicule
E/L.571/Rev.1 and Corr.1	Note by the Secretary-General	40	Mimeographed document only
E/L.571/Rev.1/Add.1	Note by the Secretary-General	40	<i>Idem</i>
E/L.571/Rev.2	Note by the Secretary-General	40	<i>Idem</i>
E/L.572	Working paper prepared by the Secretary-General	40	
E/L.573	Argentina: draft resolution	40	Adopted without change. For the final text, see <i>Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Resumed Sixteenth Session, Supplement No. 1A</i> , resolution 511 (XVI)
E/L.574	Note by the Secretary-General	40	
E/RESOLUTION (XVI)/32	Transmission of General Assembly resolutions 737 (VIII), 738 (VIII) and 739 (VIII) to the Commission on Human Rights: resolution adopted by the Council at its 754th meeting, on 7 December 1953		<i>Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Resumed Sixteenth Session, Supplement No. 1A</i> , resolution 510 (XVI)
E/RESOLUTION (XVI)/33	Programme of concerted practical action in the social field of the United Nations and the specialized agencies: resolution adopted by the Council at its 754th meeting, on 7 December 1953		<i>Ibid.</i> , resolution 511 (XVI)



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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, Czechoslovakia, Norway.

The representatives of the following specialized agencies: International Labour Organisation, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, International Monetary Fund, World Health Organization.

Work of the Council in 1954 (E/2513 and Add.1, E/L.571/Rev.1):

- (a) Basic programme for 1954;
- (b) Provisional agenda for the seventeenth regular session of the Council and fixing of dates for commencement of discussion of groups of related items

[Agenda item 40]

1. The PRESIDENT declared open the resumed sixteenth session of the Economic and Social Council.
2. He invited members of the Council to consider the note by the Secretary-General (E/2513 and Add.1) relating to the Council's basic programme for 1954.
3. Mr. MEADE (United Kingdom) pointed out that some items were included in the list of items of both the seventeenth and the eighteenth sessions; it might therefore simplify the Council's work to group such items together so that they appeared in the list of items of one session only.

4. Item 3¹ and items 5 (a)² and 5 (b)³ on the list of items proposed for the seventeenth session, might be grouped with item 2⁴ on the list for the eighteenth session for consideration by the Council at its eighteenth session under the general heading "World economic situation".

5. Item 5 (c)⁵ of the list of items for the seventeenth session could be considered at the same time as item 4,⁶ since reports by the International Monetary Fund were involved in both cases.

6. Mr. MATES (Yugoslavia) supported the United Kingdom representative's proposal in principle.

7. Certain items should normally be grouped together, particularly those relating to the world economic situation. In addition to a report by the Secretary-General on the world economic situation, the Council had before it the reports submitted by the regional commissions. Although all those documents were of great interest, they did to some extent cover the same ground and, in his opinion, the Council would gain by considering them simultaneously. While the regional commissions studied the situation in a particular area, they did so against the background of the world economic situation. It might be possible for the Secretary-General to submit a report made up of the reports of the three regional commissions preceded by a general introduction containing observations not included in the regional reports. He might perhaps also include a study of areas not covered by the regional reports. The Council would then be in a position to consider the world economic situation as a whole and could examine the question of full employment under the same heading, as the United Kingdom representative had proposed. The general debate would only be possible at the summer session. That procedure would eliminate any overlapping between the reports of the commissions and of the Secretary-General.

8. Although that procedure could not be adopted by the Council in 1954, it might be advisable to consider using it for the future. He would emphasize that he was merely putting forward a suggestion, on which he would be glad to have the views of members of the Council.

9. Mr. DE SEYNES (France) said that his delegation had on several occasions advocated the grouping of related agenda items and would therefore have no difficulty in agreeing with the Yugoslav delegation on the principle of the matter. In practice, however, it would probably not be possible to adopt the procedure suggested by the Yugoslav representative immediately, and transitional measures would be required. There

¹ World economic situation.

² Full employment: measures to prevent possible inflation at high levels of economic activity.

³ Full employment: reconversion after the re-armament period.

⁴ Full employment: consideration of replies from governments to the questionnaire on full employment.

⁵ Full employment: report of the International Monetary Fund under Council resolution 483 C (XVI).

⁶ Report of the International Monetary Fund.

seemed to be difficulties in putting even the United Kingdom proposal into effect.

10. The Council's debates on the world economic situation, full employment or the reports of the regional commissions were of little value unless they were based on information which was reasonably up to date. If the Council postponed its study of the world economic situation until July, it would be discussing information which probably dated back to October 1953. For the French delegation, that consideration was decisive. There were obvious advantages in considering full employment and the world economic situation at the same time. If full employment was to be dealt with at the spring session, the period covered by the questionnaire would have to be altered, which could not be done in the current year. Provision would therefore have to be made for a transitional period, for example, a year in which the questionnaire would cover a period of more or less than twelve months.

11. The United Kingdom proposal did not therefore seem to be a practical proposition at the present time, but its adoption might be considered at a later stage.

12. The Yugoslav delegation's proposal that the reports of the regional commissions and the Secretary-General's conclusions should be brought together in a single document would facilitate discussion. To impose too rigid limits upon the Secretary-General and to prescribe a specific procedure for dealing with the problem would, however, seriously restrict his freedom of action in preparing a review of the world economic situation. The possibility of approaching a problem from different angles had its advantages, even if it resulted in duplication and overlapping. In any event, the Yugoslav delegation's proposal did not apply to 1954. The French delegation was prepared to consider it with due regard for the calendar of conferences and the need for a transitional period.

13. Mr. MEADE (United Kingdom) inquired when the report on the world economic situation would be ready.

14. Mr. GEORGES-PICOT (Assistant Secretary-General in charge of the Departments of Economic Affairs and of Social Affairs) replied that the report would be ready at approximately the same date as in previous years, i.e. early in March. The translations would be issued by the opening of the Council session.

15. Mr. WADSWORTH (United States of America) said that the Yugoslav representative's suggestion was an interesting one, which the Council might profitably consider under item 26⁷ of the list of items for the eighteenth session. For the present, he was prepared to support the United Kingdom representative's proposal, which was confined to grouping a few items of the agenda.

16. The agenda of the two Council sessions should, however, be evenly balanced, and he wondered whether the United Kingdom representative was proposing to transfer some items from the eighteenth to the seventeenth session in order to restore the balance.

17. Mr. MATES (Yugoslavia) repeated that he had merely put forward a suggestion. As the United States representative had pointed out, his delegation could make a formal proposal along the same lines when the organization and operation of the Council were under

consideration. He had, however, thought it would be useful to make his suggestion at the present stage, though well aware that it needed more thorough examination.

18. For the present, his delegation supported the United Kingdom proposal.

19. Mr. FENAUX (Belgium) appreciated the point the United Kingdom representative had in mind and agreed that lengthy discussions on the same subject at two successive sessions should be avoided. Like the French delegation, however, his delegation thought that some flexibility should be permitted in the preparation of the various reports and that care should be taken to avoid discussing information which was not up to date. Furthermore, the United Kingdom proposal would have the effect of removing a considerable number of important items from the seventeenth session and of overloading the summer session.

20. Mr. EL-TANAMLI (Egypt) said that the Yugoslav proposal, whereby a number of reports dealing with the same subject would be covered by a single debate, was extremely useful.

21. His delegation had already had occasion to draw attention to the close connexion between the report on the world economic situation and the reports of the Fund and the Bank. The two latter agencies were seeking to rectify the disequilibrium of the world economy, while the report on the world economic situation was not confined to a statement of the facts but emphasized the causes of that economic disequilibrium. When the latter report was being studied, it would therefore be useful to have information on the operations of the Bank and of the Fund.

22. As an amendment to the United Kingdom proposal, his delegation accordingly proposed that the report of the Fund (items 4 and 5 (c)) and the report of the Bank (item 6) should be considered at the eighteenth session at the same time as the report on the world economic situation, provided that that procedure did not destroy the balance between the respective agenda of the seventeenth and eighteenth sessions.

23. Mr. ARKADYEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) could not approve of the tendency to group separate problems. Like the representative of France, he doubted the logic of going too far in that direction, because the result would be that the agenda would soon consist of only two items relating to (a) economic questions and (b) social questions, and anyone could say what he pleased concerning those two general items. The process could even be carried further, for in view of the interdependence of economic and social questions, the Council would have only one item to consider. That would be the ultimate result of the exaggerated tendency to combine items. The Council, however, was a special organ responsible for making a detailed study of the various matters within its competence, and it must take into consideration the specific character of each problem in the various geographical areas. The work of the regional commissions very often concerned one particular aspect of a problem. Repetition was possible and even unavoidable but should not be cause for alarm, since it would bring out more clearly the complexity of the various economic problems which were all closely interconnected.

24. He shared the view of the French delegation with regard to the United Kingdom proposal. The Council's discussions should be based on the most recent docu-

⁷ Organization and operation of the Council and its commissions.

ments available, for if the Council considered outdated information, it would be behind the times. It was not, in fact, clear to him why the United Kingdom delegation wished to postpone certain items from the seventeenth to the eighteenth session.

25. Mr. PEREZ PEROZO (Venezuela) shared the concern of the Yugoslav delegation and would like the Council's proceedings to be made simpler and more orderly. Nevertheless, the matter was more complicated than appeared at first sight, for while the reports of the regional economic commissions could without any difficulty be considered together with the world economic situation and full employment, those reports were also concerned to a large extent with development programmes in the various regions and were thus closely related to the question of the development of under-developed countries.

26. His delegation was nevertheless inclined to support the United Kingdom proposal as amended by Egypt, because it considered that the list of items for the seventeenth session was heavier than that for the eighteenth session, owing to the inclusion of such important matters as those to which items 3, 5, 7 and 8 related.

27. Mr. MUÑOZ (Argentina) was also in general agreement with the proposal to defer consideration of the items which the representatives of Egypt and the United Kingdom had asked to be postponed to the eighteenth session. To do so would balance the agenda for the two sessions scheduled for 1954.

28. In reply to the French representative's argument that if that proposal were adopted, the Council would be called upon to consider documents which were out of date, he said that the Secretariat could be requested to supplement its reports with such information as it might assemble between the seventeenth and the eighteenth sessions. Generally speaking, the Council would do well to consider the world economic situation at the session closest to the annual session of the General Assembly. It should not be forgotten that the Council considered problems and made recommendations for the benefit of the General Assembly and that, in the final analysis, it was more important that the Council's views should be up to date than the reports submitted for its consideration.

29. It should also be remembered that governments must receive the reports in time to become completely familiar with them before the Council session. The Council had in the past been compelled to defer consideration of important items because it had proved impossible to observe the six-week time-limit provided for in the rules of procedure. Such a situation would be less likely to recur in the case of the report on the world economic situation if consideration of that item were regularly deferred to the summer session.

30. Mr. DE SEYNES (France) observed that the Egyptian amendment made the original proposal by the United Kingdom even less acceptable. The Egyptian representative was correct in affirming that the work of the Fund and the Bank affected the world economic situation to some extent and that their reports were in some measure reports on business conditions. That very fact, however, made it more obvious than ever that those reports should be as up to date as possible, but if the Egyptian proposal were adopted, a report prepared in June 1953 on the basis of statistics for April 1953 would not be discussed by the Council until July 1954.

31. He said that there would be fewer disadvantages in contemplating the proposals before the Council if he were assured that the Secretariats of the United Nations, the Fund and the International Bank were, as the Argentine representative believed, actually in a position to bring their reports up to date. However, he himself had some doubt of that.

32. Mr. EL-TANAMLI (Egypt) pointed out that the reports of the Fund and of the Bank generally consisted of two parts, the first containing an analysis of the world economic situation, and the second describing the actual work of the two agencies. The second part was the one which related more especially to current events and it could be brought up to date before the Council's summer session: the Bank had done so in 1953 by submitting a short supplementary report to the Council at its fifteenth session.

33. He agreed with the Argentine representative that the world economic situation should be considered by the Council as close as possible to the opening date of the General Assembly's annual session. Moreover, the Egyptian amendment would not disturb the balance of the two sessions, since in the preceding year the Council had been able to deal with the two reports of the Fund and the Bank in two days and would very possibly need no more than one day for that purpose in 1954, if those reports were considered in connexion with the general debate on the world economic situation.

34. Mr. MATES (Yugoslavia) observed that a period of six months inevitably elapsed between the collection of the information necessary for preparing the world economic report and the submission of the report to the Council. The report was thus ordinarily based on information for the first half of the year in question and was supplemented at the last minute by data for the third quarter. As a rule, there was little or no information for the fourth quarter. Since the content of the report depended upon the date when the information to appear in the report was received and that date was in turn determined by the date on which the Secretariat was required to submit its report to the Council, there would appear to be no reason why the documents should become less up to date if the debate on the world economic situation were thenceforward to take place at the summer session.

35. He felt, moreover, that the question of documents being up to date appeared to be receiving more attention than it deserved. The Council's function was not to tell governments what economic policy to pursue, but rather to review the course and trend of the world situation objectively and scientifically so as to be able to draw the appropriate conclusions: for that purpose, a certain time lapse was more helpful than harmful.

36. His delegation would therefore vote for the United Kingdom proposal and the Egyptian amendment.

37. Mr. RODRIGUEZ FABREGAT (Uruguay) agreed that efforts should be made to avoid overlapping and duplication, to introduce balance into the two annual sessions of the Council, and to co-ordinate the work of the Council with that of the General Assembly. The Council must, however, avoid segregating the various items too rigidly or specifying that certain problems should be considered in the spring and others in the summer. In particular, it must not refuse to recognize the interdependence of the questions before it and seek to divorce economic from

social or humanitarian matters. The Council must not, after all, forget that its function was to alleviate the hardships of mankind and that it must, through positive action based on circumstances as they were, fulfil the great hopes placed in the United Nations.

38. He also stressed the importance his delegation attached to the proper observance of the provisions of the rules of procedure relating to the publication of documents in the three working languages of the Council.

39. His delegation would be guided by all those considerations in deciding at the time of voting what position it would take with regard to the organization of the Council's work in 1954.

40. Mr. GEORGES-PICOT (Assistant Secretary-General in charge of the Departments of Economic Affairs and of Social Affairs) said that the Secretary-General fully shared the concern of those who wished the Council to group certain agenda items together so as to avoid unnecessary debate or the repetition of similar discussions, but that he was favourable to the idea only if it could be carried out without disrupting the balance of the sessions or the proper conduct of its work.

41. The world economic report was based on statistics relating to the whole of the year under consideration, including the last quarter. That explained why it could not be completed before the end of February at the earliest.

42. As to the possibility of providing the Council with more complete documentation at its summer session, he pointed out that in the interval between the two sessions the Secretariat departments concerned were generally engaged in preparing the documentation relating to full employment. Furthermore, the Secretariat could not bring the world economic report up to date or publish a supplementary report until it had received the data for the first quarter of the year and as a result it might not be able to complete its compilation and analysis in time. Besides, all governments did not publish quarterly statistics. A solution that the Council might consider was to ask the Secretariat to submit orally such comments based on additional information received in the interval as was necessary to bring its report up to date.

43. Mr. LOPEZ HERRARTE (International Bank for Reconstruction and Development) said that the Bank had always tried to provide the Council with the fullest and most recent information available. It could do that for the spring session, because between October and April or May of the following year it could readily spare the staff required to prepare the report and keep it up to date. After that date, however, all the Bank's services were engaged in preparing for its annual meeting. In addition, the Bank was very anxious for its President to attend the discussion of its report by the Economic and Social Council, but it would be extremely difficult for him to leave Washington in the summer because the annual meeting took place in September.

44. Before concluding his remarks, he recalled that when the report of the Bank had been discussed at a summer session four or five years previously, all the members of the Council had agreed that it was a waste of time to discuss a situation that was more than a year old.

45. Mr. REYES (Philippines) would vote for the United Kingdom and Egyptian proposals provided,

firstly, that they were designed to shorten the agenda of the seventeenth session and thereby enable the Council to deal at that session with the important items, including freedom of information, consideration of which had been postponed from the sixteenth session; and, secondly, that any decisions taken would apply only to the year 1954 and would not establish a precedent for deferring consideration of the world economic situation to the summer session in the future.

46. Mr. DE SEYNES (France) wondered why those in favour of "grouping" did not think of taking up the question of full employment at the seventeenth session rather than deferring to the eighteenth session six items at present included in the list of items for the spring session.

47. Mr. MEADE (United Kingdom) did not think that an earlier date could be set for the discussion of full employment, because the Secretariat could not receive the replies of governments to the questionnaire in time to analyse them and submit a detailed report. The United Kingdom attached great importance to the question of full employment, and its representative would refuse to deal with such a highly technical matter in the absence of precise instructions from his Government.

48. He regarded the Philippine representative's reservations as perfectly justified, and it was with such considerations in mind that the United Kingdom delegation had submitted its proposal.

49. The PRESIDENT asked whether there were any other proposals concerning the list of items for the seventeenth and eighteenth sessions.

50. Mr. MEADE (United Kingdom) considered that a single debate on allegations regarding infringements of trade union rights would be sufficient for 1954, and proposed that that question, which constituted item 17 of the list of items for the seventeenth session and item 12 of that for the eighteenth session, should be considered in the spring.

51. He also proposed that item 4⁸ of the list of items for the eighteenth session should be considered in conjunction with item 16⁹ of the list for the seventeenth session, and that item 23¹⁰ of the list for the seventeenth session and item 9¹¹ of that for the eighteenth session, both relating to the United Nations Children's Fund, should be taken together.

52. It might also be well to group together all the questions relating to technical assistance.

53. Mr. DE SEYNES (France) said that the French delegation, assuming that economic problems would be examined at the seventeenth session, had contemplated proposing, in order to restore the balance between the two sessions, that consideration of items 15, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26 and 27¹² of the present list of items for the seventeenth session should be deferred until the eighteenth session.

⁸ Production and distribution of newsprint and printing paper.

⁹ Freedom of information.

¹⁰ Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund.

¹¹ United Nations Children's Fund.

¹² Prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities (15); Slavery (19); Draft convention on the nationality of married women (20); Statelessness (21); Narcotic drugs: problem of the coca leaf (24); Report of UNESCO (25); Report of the International Telecommunication Union (26); Form of reports of specialized agencies (27).

54. After a brief exchange of views, the PRESIDENT proposed that the Council should first vote in the original United Kingdom proposal and the Egyptian amendment. In that way the Council would clarify its position of principle. He would then request the Secretariat to prepare a brief working paper recapitulating the other proposals before the Council and indicating how they would affect the length of the two sessions.

It was so decided.

55. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the Egyptian amendment proposing that consideration of items 4,¹³ 5 (c)¹⁴ and 6¹⁵ of the list of items for the seventeenth session be deferred until the eighteenth session.

The Egyptian amendment was adopted by 10 votes to 5, with 3 abstentions.

56. The PRESIDENT then called for a vote on the United Kingdom proposal that consideration of items 3,¹⁶ 5 (a)¹⁷ and 5 (b)¹⁸ of the list of items for the seventeenth session be deferred until the eighteenth session, on the understanding that all those items (including those proposed by the Egyptian delegation) would be discussed under the item entitled "World economic situation".

The United Kingdom proposal was adopted by 12 votes to 1, with 5 abstentions.

57. The PRESIDENT pointed out that that vote represented a preliminary decision which the Council would have to confirm at a later stage.

58. Mr. FENAUX (Belgium) said that he had abstained because he had considered that no more than the adoption of a preliminary proposal was involved. He reserved his delegation's right to modify its position when the final vote was taken.

59. Mr. WADSWORTH (United States of America) said that he had abstained because he did not consider it desirable to defer consideration of the reports of the Bank and of the Fund to the Council's eighteenth session, especially after the statement made by the representative of the Bank.

60. Mr. BRENNAN (Australia) considered that the Council's decision meant that the item on the agenda for the eighteenth session concerning the world economic situation would have a number of subdivisions.

61. For the sake of clearness, he thought it would be desirable to consider the reports of the Bank and the Fund separately.

62. Mr. DE SEYNES (France) recalled that resolution 414 (XIII) concerning the organization of the Council provided, in paragraph 8 (d), that at its first regular session of the year the Council should, as far as possible, deal with major economic items, together with related items. That recommendation still held good and he had felt bound to comply with it by voting against the United Kingdom proposal and the Egyptian representative's amendment.

63. Mr. MUÑOZ (Argentina) had voted for the United Kingdom proposal and the Egyptian amendment because he considered it essential to deal with the problems under consideration as part of the general question of full employment.

64. Mr. MATES (Yugoslavia) said that while he had voted in favour of the United Kingdom and Egyptian proposals, he wished to reserve his delegation's position. The latter would be unable to reach a decision until it had studied whatever proposals might be submitted to the Council.

65. In reply to the argument advanced by the French representative, he pointed out that the provisions of resolution 414 (XIII) to which the latter had referred had in fact never been applied by the Council.

66. The PRESIDENT announced that the Secretariat would prepare a working paper setting out the proposals which the Council had just adopted, together with those submitted by the French representative.

67. In reply to questions by Mr. MUÑOZ (Argentina) and Mr. WADSWORTH (United States of America), Mr. VAKIL (Secretary of the Council) gave the following explanations:

68. Firstly, item 7 (d) (Report of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development on the question of creating an international finance corporation) was included in the list of items for the seventeenth session in accordance with paragraph 3 of Council resolution 482 B (XVI). In the interim, the Second Committee had recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution in accordance with which the General Assembly would request the Bank to report to the Council at its eighteenth session,¹⁹ but the General Assembly had not yet taken a decision. The Council's agenda would be amended if necessary.

69. Secondly, the item entitled "Relief and rehabilitation of Korea" had appeared regularly on the Council's agenda since its resumed eleventh session, but consideration of it had been deferred since the fourteenth session from one session to another. At its 750th meeting, the Council had decided to defer consideration of the item "to a future session".²⁰ It was for the Council to decide whether it wished to place the item on the agenda for its eighteenth session.

Calendar of conferences for 1954: Argentine proposal that one of the sessions of the Council be held at Buenos Aires in 1954

[Agenda item 35*]

70. Mr. MUÑOZ (Argentina) recalled that when the Council was preparing its programme for 1954 his delegation, on behalf of the Argentine Government, had invited the Council to hold one of its two 1954 sessions at Buenos Aires.²¹ Between the end of the first part of the sixteenth session and the resumption of the current session, the Argentine delegation had consulted

¹³ Report of the International Monetary Fund.

¹⁴ Full employment: report of the International Monetary Fund under Council resolution 483 C (XVI).

¹⁵ Report of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

¹⁶ World economic situation.

¹⁷ Full employment: measures to prevent possible inflation at high levels of economic activity.

¹⁸ Full employment: reconversion after the re-armament period.

* Continued from the 749th meeting.

¹⁹ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 26, document A/2590, draft resolution C.I.

²⁰ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixteenth Session*, 750th meeting, para. 7.

²¹ *Ibid.*, 749th meeting, para. 77.

the various delegations represented in the Council, and had found that a number of them were very attached to the tradition of holding the summer session at the European Office, at Geneva. The Argentine Government's intention had therefore been to invite the Economic and Social Council to Buenos Aires for the April 1954 session. Two or three governments, prompted by their traditional desire for economy, had declined the offer, while two others had been unable to give a definite reply; on the other hand, the delegations of Belgium, China, Cuba, Egypt, France, India, Poland, the Philippines, Turkey, the Soviet Union, Venezuela and Yugoslavia had welcomed the Argentine Government's proposal. He wished to express to those delegations his Government's warm appreciation.

71. The Argentine Government would have liked to be host to the Economic and Social Council and to provide all the necessary services and facilities. In view, however, of the imminence of the Council's meeting and owing to a number of unforeseen contingencies, it did not appear possible to complete the necessary arrangements in time. Accordingly, after duly considering all aspects of the matter, the Argentine Government had felt obliged to withdraw its invitation.

72. The PRESIDENT expressed to the Argentine representative the Council's thanks and regrets.

**Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance:
report of the Technical Assistance Committee
under paragraph 7 of Council resolution 492 C
II (XVI)**

[Agenda item 8 (c)]

73. Mr. DE SEYNES (France), Chairman of the Technical Assistance Committee, recalled that the Technical Assistance Committee had been instructed to submit to the Council recommendations concerning the financial arrangements for the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance.

74. A working party had been set up which, after a week of fruitful discussion, had decided to refer the question to the Technical Assistance Board, which was due to meet in December 1953. The Technical Assistance Committee had therefore not received any specific proposals and it had instructed its Chairman to inform the Economic and Social Council accordingly.

The meeting rose at 5.30 p.m.