



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Monday, 8 May 1967,
at 11.40 a.m.

Forty-second Session
OFFICIAL RECORDS

NEW YORK

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Acting President: Mr. Jorge Pablo FERNANDINI (Peru).

President: Mr. Milan KLUSÁK (Czechoslovakia).

Present:

Representatives of the following States, members of the Council: Belgium, Cameroon, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, France, Gabon, Guatemala, India, Iran, Kuwait, Libya, Mexico, Morocco, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Romania, Sierra Leone, Sweden, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Venezuela.

Observers for the following Member States: Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, China, Ghana, Hungary, Iraq, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Mauritania, Netherlands, Nigeria, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, United Arab Republic, Yugoslavia.

The observer for the following non-member States: Federal Republic of Germany, Switzerland.

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

Opening of the session

1. The ACTING PRESIDENT declared open the forty-second session of the Economic and Social Council.

AGENDA ITEM 1

Election of President and Vice-Presidents for 1967

2. The ACTING PRESIDENT invited nominations for the office of President of the Economic and Social Council for 1967 in accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure, as amended by Economic and Social Council resolution 1193 (XLI) of 20 December 1966.

3. Mr. SEYDOUX (France) nominated Mr. Milan Klusák (Czechoslovakia).

4. Mr. PARTHASARATHI (India), Mr. COSIO VILLEGAS (Mexico) and Mr. DIACONESCU (Romania) supported the nomination.

5. Mr. WALDRON-RAMSEY (United Republic of Tanzania), also supporting the nomination, pointed out that the election of Mr. Klusák would help to establish a more equitable distribution of offices among member States.

Mr. Klusák (Czechoslovakia) was elected President for 1967 by acclamation.

Mr. Klusák took the Chair.

6. The PRESIDENT thanked the members of the Council for the honour they had done him and his country by electing him unanimously. It indicated recognition of the constructive role which Czechoslovakia and the other socialist countries of Eastern Europe were playing in the United Nations in the discussion of economic and social questions.

7. Every effort should be made to promote the economic and social progress of the whole world and to strengthen fundamental human rights and freedoms. It was important to find a solution even to difficult problems, especially where economic and political crises existed. The international community must take every opportunity to promote peaceful development and, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples. The agenda covered a wide variety of subjects and the close attention and understanding of members would be required if the Council was to carry out its task successfully. He himself would make every effort to ensure that it did so. He was sure he could count on the same co-operation which members had given to the previous President. He warmly welcomed those members who had been newly elected to the Council as well as those who had been re-elected.

8. He invited nominations for the three posts of Vice-President and pointed out that, in accordance with the annex to the Council's resolution 1193 (XLI), they should be elected on the basis of equitable geographical distribution from the regional groups other than the one to which the President belonged.

9. Mr. FERNANDINI (Peru) nominated Mr. Manuel Varela (Panama) for one of the posts of Vice-President.

10. Mr. NAVA CARRILLO (Venezuela), Mr. SHAHI (Pakistan) and Mr. CUHRUK (Turkey) supported the nomination.

Mr. Varela (Panama) was elected a Vice-President by acclamation.

11. Mr. OWONO (Cameroon) nominated Mr. Maxime-Léopold Zollner (Dahomey) for the second post of Vice-President.

12. Mr. TREMBLAY (Canada) and Mr. LOPEZ (Philippines) supported the nomination.

Mr. Zollner (Dahomey) was elected a Vice-President by acclamation.

13. Mr. SHAHI (Pakistan), indicating that he spoke with the agreement of the Western European group, nominated Mr. Májid Rahnema (Iran) for the third post of Vice-President.

14. Mr. GOLDSCHMIDT (United States of America), Mr. WALDRON-RAMSEY (United Republic of Tanzania), Mr. DIACONESCU (Romania) and Mr. VARELA (Panama) supported the nomination.

Mr. Rahnema (Iran) was elected a Vice-President by acclamation.

15. The PRESIDENT pointed out that, in accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure, as amended by Council resolution 1193 (XLI), each of the Vice-Presidents should be Chairman of one of the sessional Committees and the Council, upon the recommendation of the President, should decide over which sessional Committee each Vice-President should preside. Following consultations, he suggested that Mr. Varela (Panama) should be Chairman of the Economic Committee, Mr. Zollner (Dahomey) should be Chairman of the Social Committee and Mr. Rahnema (Iran) should be Chairman of the Co-ordination Committee.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 2

Adoption of the agenda (E/4295 and Add.1-3)

16. The PRESIDENT drew attention to the Secretary-General's proposals that two additional items should be included in the agenda (E/4295/Add.1 and 2) and that the Council should defer consideration of item 19 entitled: "Transfer to the United Nations of the responsibilities and assets of the International Relief Union" until the forty-third session (E/4295/Add.3).

17. If there were no objections, he would take it that the Council agreed to adopt the agenda together with the Secretary-General's proposals (E/4295 and Add.1-3).

It was so decided.

18. Mr. VIAUD (France) said that his delegation had no objection to accepting the Secretary-General's proposals. However, he regretted that the Secretariat had not yet prepared the documents relating to item 19, especially since the question had first been raised one year previously. In any case, delegations must receive the documents, in all the working languages, at least one month before the opening of the forty-third session, so that Governments would be able to consider the legal problems; only then could they be carefully studied.

19. The PRESIDENT assured the French representative that the Secretariat would take note of his remarks.

Organization of work (E/L.1152)

20. The PRESIDENT said that he would like to suggest one change with regard to the organization of work proposed by the Secretary-General (E/L.1152). In view of the need to provide for more meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination during the first and second week of the session than had been originally anticipated, it would be advisable to postpone until later in the session the discussion in plenary of item 23 entitled: "Implementation of the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies". The next plenary meeting of the Council would then take place on Wednesday, 10 May. On Tuesday, 9 May, the Social Committee could hold two meetings and the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination two meetings. Some further minor adjustment in the time-table might be required as the session progressed, in order to accommodate additional meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination. He would suggest, however, that the Council should consider such adjustments as and when the need for them arose. If there was no objection, the Council might give its general endorsement to the arrangement of business proposed in document E/L.1152, on the understanding that item 23 would be taken up later in the session.

21. Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) suggested that the Council should consider the report of the Commission on Human Rights (item 11) during the second week of the current session and the report of the Commission for Social Development (item 10) during the third week. The examination of the report of the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development (item 5 (a)) should be advanced to the third week of the session, provided that that did not give rise to any difficulties in the preparation of documents.

22. Mr. TREMBLAY (Canada) said that his delegation regretted that the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination had been unable to meet before the opening of the current session. The Committee could perform a useful function in expediting the Council's work. He therefore suggested that items 5 (Application of science and technology to development), 21 (Review and reappraisal of the Council's role and functions), 22 (Documentation of the Council) and 24 (Work programme of the United Nations in the economic, social and human rights field and its budgetary requirements) as well as item 23 should be deferred until the third week of the session so that the Council might benefit from the Committee's comments. In addition, it would be preferable for items 3 (c) (Five-year survey programme), 4 (Transport development) and 8 (Land reform) to be discussed first in the Economic Committee so that delegations could examine them in detail before they would be discussed in plenary meetings.

23. Sir Edward WARNER (United Kingdom) supported the Canadian representative's proposal concerning items 3 (c), 4 and 8.

24. Mr. LOPEZ (Philippines) said that his delegation favoured early discussion of items 10 and 11 because

of the importance of the conclusions embodied in the relevant reports, which the Council should consider as soon as possible.

25. Mr. VIAUD (France) agreed that items 10 and 11 should be considered as quickly as possible. However, if the order of items were changed, delegations might have difficulty in meeting the new schedule, since they had made arrangements for the participation of their specialists on the basis of the time-table prepared by the Secretariat.

26. The PRESIDENT said that he would work out in consultation with the other officers of the Council

and the Secretariat a revised time-table which took account of the suggestions made and which would be submitted to the Council for its approval.

27. He announced that, in accordance with rule 85 of the rules of procedure, non-governmental organizations in categories A and B desiring consultations on agenda items should submit their requests to the Secretariat in writing as soon as possible and, in any case, within the following forty-eight hours.

The meeting rose at 1.25 p.m.

