



**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

Monday, 18 December 1967,  
at 11 a.m.

*Resumed Forty-third Session*  
**OFFICIAL RECORDS**

**NEW YORK**

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*President:* Mr. Milan KLUSÁK  
(Czechoslovakia).

*Present:*

Representatives of the following States, members of the Council: Belgium, Cameroon, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, France, 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: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Spain, Tunisia, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Yugoslavia.

Observer for the following non-member State: Switzerland.

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

The representative of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Adoption of the agenda (concluded)

**INCLUSION OF ADDITIONAL ITEMS IN THE AGENDA (E/L.1191/Add.1/Rev.1)**

1. The PRESIDENT drew the attention of the Council members to paragraph 1 of the note by the Secretary-General (E/L.1191/Add.1/Rev.1) concerning two new items to be included in the agenda, of which one was

proposed by the United Republic of Tanzania (E/4445) and entitled "Expansion by one of the African membership of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees" and the other was proposed by the Secretary-General (E/4441) and entitled "Replacement of a Vice-President of the Council". He proposed that the Council should include those two new items in the agenda.

*It was so decided.*

Organization of work (concluded) (E/L.1191/Add.1/Rev.1)

2. The PRESIDENT proposed that the Council should adopt the order for the consideration of the items on the agenda suggested by the Secretary-General in his note (E/L.1191/Add.1/Rev.1), reversing the order of items 9 and 12.

*It was so decided.*

**AGENDA ITEM 3**

**Survey Programme for the Development of Natural Resources (E/4443)**

3. The PRESIDENT called the Council's attention to the first report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Survey Programme for the Development of Natural Resources (E/4443), and especially to the draft resolution, contained in paragraph 9 of that report, which the Committee had unanimously decided to recommend the Council to adopt.

4. Mr. COSIO VILLEGAS (Mexico) said that the draft resolution adopted by the Ad Hoc Committee did not truly reflect all the important items included in its own report. Paragraph 7 of the report referred to the declared intention of some Governments to make contributions in kind or laboratory services, whilst in operative paragraph 3 of its draft resolution, the Ad Hoc Committee merely noted with appreciation the voluntary contributions in cash or in kind which Member States had pledged, without alluding to the group of States which had indicated their intention of contributing to the programme. Furthermore, the draft resolution contained no mention of the administration of the programme, while paragraph 8 of the report stated that: "The Committee noted with interest the statement made by the Administrator of UNDP that he envisaged 'that preliminary survey work might start early in 1968 with an allocation for preliminary operations'."

5. His delegation did not wish to submit an amendment to the draft resolution but would like its reservations to be recorded.

6. Mr. FERNANDINI (Peru) observed that the Ad Hoc Committee, of which he had been Chairman, had devoted eight meetings to the consideration of various questions and had given special attention to the lack

of funds for the programme. However, it had noted that there would be real possibilities of obtaining them in 1968. That was why it had come to a unanimous agreement on the text of a draft resolution which had originally had only two sponsors.

7. The opinion expressed by the representative of Mexico was valid but was based on different criteria from those applied by the Ad Hoc Committee. The Committee had deliberately refrained from mentioning in the draft resolution information which was at best semi-official. Moreover, paragraph 8 of the Ad Hoc Committee's report (see (E/4443) stated that the intentions expressed by the Administrator of UNDP had to be approved by the Governing Council at its session in January 1968. Therefore it would have been premature for the Committee to include a provision to that effect in its draft resolution.

8. The report of the Ad Hoc Committee and the draft resolution contained in it formed a whole that the Council should adopt without delay. The draft resolution indicated ways of undertaking work that was extremely important for the developing countries. Even if the work was started with a modest budget, the interest which it would arouse would make it possible to enlarge the scope of the proposed survey.

9. Mr. VIAUD (France) said that his delegation was ready to come to an agreement on the draft resolution submitted by the Ad Hoc Committee so that the Organization might start on the programme for the development of natural resources. However, it could not help feeling that the text had been submitted for the approval of the Council in a rather precipitate fashion. It had no specific objection to make, but was not sure that it was the best text that could be submitted, especially at a resumed session. Operative paragraph 4 could be interpreted as an attempt to perpetuate the Ad Hoc Committee's existence. However, his delegation would concede that Council resolution 1218 (XLII) was itself somewhat ambiguous in that connexion. Furthermore, the adoption of the draft resolution would not change the fact that the budgetary limits set for the survey remained the same. The draft resolution could thus have no budgetary implications. During the General Assembly's twenty-second session, the Council's resumed forty-third session was divided into three parts, of which two had met for specific purposes. The resumed session should in fact be concerned with purely administrative matters—preparations for the following year's work, elections, etc.—but not with the substantive work of the Council. Normally the draft resolution should have been submitted at the Council's forty-fourth session. Perhaps some delegations had particular reasons for wanting it adopted immediately, but it was nevertheless true that the procedure was entirely irregular.

10. Mr. VARELA (Panama) observed that there did not seem to be any great divergence between the opinions expressed by the representatives of Mexico and Peru. As for the remarks made by the representative of France they were well founded: the Council's resumed sessions should be devoted above all to administrative questions. However, he considered that it would be advisable to vote immediately on the draft resolution so that the Ad Hoc Committee

could start its programme of work at the beginning of 1968. His delegation would vote in favour of the draft resolution.

11. Mr. ATTIGA (Libya) said that he was pleasantly surprised at the results achieved by the Ad Hoc Committee in spite of the difficulties it had encountered. Under the circumstances, the draft resolution was the best possible. It would be advisable to adopt it immediately in the hope that the situation would be clearer in a year's time.

12. The CHAIRMAN declared the debate on the item closed. The reservations expressed by various delegations would be noted in the record. He put the draft resolution contained in the Ad Hoc Committee's report (see E/4443, para. 9) to the vote.

*The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.*

#### AGENDA ITEM 12

Expansion by one of the African membership of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (E/4445, E/L.1197)

13. Mr. FOUM (United Republic of Tanzania) said that the refugee problem had become considerably more acute during recent months, especially in East Africa, where the deterioration in the situation was attributable to the criminal policies of Portugal. The expansion of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees was therefore a matter of urgency, and Uganda was a highly suitable candidate. That country was doing everything it could to resolve the distressing problem of refugees, and the High Commissioner had recently paid a tribute to its efforts at both the national and the international levels. After reading out draft resolution E/L.1197, he expressed the hope that it would be adopted unanimously.

14. Mr. ZOLLNER (Bahomey) agreed with the remarks of the previous speaker and suggested that the new member of the Executive Committee should be elected immediately.

15. Mr. ATTIGA (Libya) supported the suggestions made by the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania and pointed out that the High Commissioner had drawn attention at the Council's forty-third session (see 1501st meeting) to the gravity of the refugee problem in Africa.

16. The PRESIDENT put to the vote draft resolution E/L.1197.

*The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.*

*Uganda was elected a member of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees by acclamation.*

#### AGENDA ITEM 9

Basic programme of work of the Council in 1968 and consideration of the provisional agenda for the forty-fourth session (E/L.1194 and Add.1 and 2, E/L.1195)

17. Mr. FORSHELL (Sweden), referring to paragraph 5 of the draft programme of work of the Council

for 1968, prepared by the Secretary-General (E/L.1194), said that the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, at its meeting of 17 November, had felt that the Council, in adopting resolution 1225 (XLII), had implicitly expressed doubts as to the suitability of Council resolution 288 B (X) of 27 February 1950 to serve as a basis for consultative arrangements in the future. The Committee had therefore decided to postpone any consideration of applications for consultative status until the Council, at its forty-fourth session, had drawn up new criteria for admission. The Committee had also dealt with the preparation of the questionnaire to be sent to non-governmental organizations in accordance with paragraph 1 (e) of Council resolution 1225 (XLII). The representative of the United Republic of Tanzania had submitted a draft questionnaire which had been considered of great interest. As it had not been possible to translate and circulate the working documents in time, the Committee had not been able to meet again to consider the matter. It nevertheless intended to deal with it in the near future.

18. He further referred to the possibility that the General Assembly might ask the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Human Rights to consider a great number of requests for participation from non-governmental organizations at present in consultative status. That task would involve such a strain on delegations and the Secretariat that it was difficult to see how in that case the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations could complete in time the task entrusted to it in Council resolution 1225 (XLII).

19. Mr. ATTIGA (Libya) pointed out that the draft list of agenda items to be considered at the forty-fourth session (E/L.1194) did not include desalination of sea water in item 3 (development of natural resources). He wished to know when that question would again appear on the Council's agenda. He also wondered what effect the recent establishment by the General Assembly in its resolution 2340 (XXII) of an Ad Hoc Committee to Study the Peaceful Uses of the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor beyond the Limits of National Jurisdiction to consider the question of the resources of the sea would have on the Council's work.

20. Sir Edward WARNER (United Kingdom) wondered whether it might not be advisable for the Council to consider all aspects of the question of the resources of the sea at its forty-fourth session, thereby avoiding any unnecessary overburdening of the agenda for the forty-fifth session.

21. Mr. DE SEYNES (Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs) said that the Ad Hoc Committee referred to by the representative of Libya would have before it all the reports relating to the resources of the sea. The action to be taken on them would be a matter for the committee to decide. Whatever action was taken, the co-ordination of its activities with those of the Council seemed relatively simple. At its forty-fourth session, the Council would have before it only the report on the present state of knowledge on the resources of the sea, beyond the continental shelf, whereas at its forty-fifth session it would have to

examine a comprehensive survey of activities in marine science and technology. The state of work on the relevant documents meant that the question of the resources of the sea would have to be included on the agenda of two successive Council sessions.

22. With regard to the desalination of sea water, any delegation that wished to raise the matter could do so under item 3 (a) of the draft list of agenda items for the forty-fourth session (see E/L.1194).

23. The PRESIDENT said that, if there were no objections, he would assume that the Council had adopted the draft list of items contained in the first part of document E/L.1194 as the provisional agenda for its forty-fourth session and that it had also approved the list of items to be considered at its forty-fifth session contained in the second part of that document, subject, in both cases, to any amendments which might result from consideration of the note by the Secretary-General on the disposal of items arising out of the twenty-second regular session of the General Assembly (E/L.1195).

*It was so decided.*

24. Mr. KASSUM (Secretary of the Council), introducing document E/L.1195, said that the Fifth Committee had proposed that the question of Chinese language services for the United Nations Conference on Road Traffic, referred to in paragraph 2 of that document, should be considered by the Council at its forty-fourth session.<sup>1/</sup>

25. Mr. MARTIN-WITKOWSKI (France), referring to General Assembly resolution 2293 (XXII) on the world social situation, asked when the Secretary-General's report mentioned in operative paragraph 5 of that resolution would be available in all the Council's working languages.

26. Mr. KASSUM (Secretary of the Council) replied that the report was about to be published in all the working languages.

27. The PRESIDENT said that, if there were no objections, he would assume that the Council had taken note of document E/L.1195 and adopted the proposals contained therein.

*It was so decided.*

28. Mr. KASSUM (Secretary of the Council) drew the Council's attention to the fact that the report of the Third Committee of the General Assembly,<sup>2/</sup> it had been recommended that the Commission on Human Rights continue to give consideration, as a matter of priority, to measures for the speedy implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and that it report, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its twenty-third session. He suggested that the Council might wish to transmit that resolution to the Commission on Human Rights.

<sup>1/</sup> See Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-second Session, Fifth Committee, 1224th meeting.

<sup>2/</sup> *Ibid.*, Twenty-second Session, Annexes, agenda items 55 and 56, document A/6992, para. 9.

29. Sir Edward WARNER (United Kingdom), referring the addendum to the Council's draft programme of work for 1968 prepared by the Secretary-General (E/L.1194/Add.1), said that in view of the importance of the question entitled "Population and its relation to economic and social development", it should be included forthwith on the agenda of the forty-fifth session.

30. Mr. ATTIGA (Libya) hoped that the documents relating to that question would be circulated as soon as a decision had been taken regarding its consideration.

31. Mr. AHMED (Pakistan) said that his delegation was in favour of a study in depth of the two topics referred to in document E/L.1194/Add.1, namely, population and its relation to economic and social development, and the preparation of guide lines and proposals for the economic growth and social development of developing countries in the 1970's (development decade). With regard to the latter question, his delegation felt that thorough preparatory work was necessary to ensure the success of the next development decade. So far as the first question was concerned, it proposed that an item entitled "Population and its relation to economic and social development" should be added to the provisional list of items to be considered at the forty-fifth session.

32. The PRESIDENT said that in the absence of any objection, he would assume that the Council wished to accept the Pakistan proposal.

*It was so decided.*

33. The PRESIDENT suggested that the proposals contained in document E/L.1194/Add.1 should be approved.

*It was so decided.*

34. The PRESIDENT said that in the absence of any objection to its contents, he would assume that the Council took note of the Secretary-General's note on documentation for the forty-fourth session of the Council (E/L.1194/Add.2).

*It was so decided.*

35. The PRESIDENT noted that, in accordance with rules 9 and 11 of its rules of procedure, the Council had just established its basic work programme for 1968. With regard to the organization of work at the forty-fourth session, he suggested that the Secretariat should be asked, after consultation with delegations, to prepare a document indicating as far as possible in what order and on what dates the Council could consider the items on its provisional agenda.

*It was so decided.*

*The meeting rose at 12.50 p.m.*