

65. Mr. LEHTIHET (Algeria) said his delegation fully agreed with the views expressed by the representatives of China and Senegal with regard to the invitation to the legitimate Governments of Cambodia and South Viet-Nam.

66. Mr. AL-SHARAFI (Yemen) endorsed the view expressed by the representative of Algeria. His delegation wished to know whether the Secretariat had received any communications concerning the representation of Cambodia in the United Nations and whether the delegation of the Khmer Republic was still representing that State.

67. Mr. NGALLI-MARSALA (Congo) expressed his delegation's support for the statement made by the representative of China.

68. The PRESIDENT suggested that it would perhaps be more appropriate to leave it to the Secretariat to take note of the discussion which had taken place and not to press the point excessively.

69. Mr. FALL (Senegal) said that, in view of recent developments in Indo-China, the Council, as the body most competent to take decisions regarding participation in the World Conference of the International Women's Year, should discharge its responsibility and rectify the invitation to the Cambodian Government.

70. The PRESIDENT said that the Council was free to take any decision which it deemed appropriate. He had simply assumed that, for the moment, no action was required. The representative of China had not called for a decision in drawing the Council's attention to the situation with regard to Cambodia, a situation of which all, including the Secretary-General, were cognizant.

71. Mr. WIGGINS (United States of America), referring to the question which had been put by the representative of the Soviet Union on the participation of non-governmental organizations in the World Conference of the International Women's Year, said that, if the Secretariat intended to make a reply at the current meeting, his delegation anticipated that the debate would be prolonged considerably. It therefore would prefer that the Secretariat postpone its reply until a subsequent meeting.

72. Mr. FALL (Senegal), speaking on a point of order, said that his delegation had made a formal proposal requiring the Council to take a decision. If an

invitation had already been sent to the Khmer Republic, it should be withdrawn and an invitation to the Royal Government of National Union be sent. If invitations had not yet been sent, the Council should instruct the Secretariat to invite the Royal Government of National Union.

73. The PRESIDENT said he had intended to ask the Secretary of the Council to provide the necessary information concerning invitations and would do so at the conclusion of the discussion.

74. Mr. WU Miao-fa (China) thanked those delegations which had endorsed his earlier statement. His delegation considered the remarks made by the representative of the United States on the subject of non-governmental organizations to be completely unreasonable, unfounded and untenable. It was completely contrary to resolution 2758 (XXVI) of the General Assembly to invite non-governmental organizations which were connected with the Chiang Kai-shek clique to participate in a United Nations conference.

75. It was necessary, in order to abide by the spirit and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, to invite the Royal Government of National Union to the World Conference of the International Women's Year and withdraw any invitation which might have been sent to the Lon Nol clique.

76. Mr. CORDOVEZ (Secretary of the Council), replying to the question put by the representative of the Soviet Union on the manner in which the lists of non-governmental organizations had been drawn up, said that the Secretariat had acted in strict compliance with the decision taken by the Council at its organizational session for 1975 requesting the Secretary-General to ascertain which non-governmental organizations would be interested in receiving an invitation to the Conference. Pursuant to that request, a letter had been sent on 29 January 1975 to non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council. The lists which had been drawn up on the basis of replies did not, therefore, represent a recommendation as to which non-governmental organizations should be invited. With regard to the other questions put regarding invitations to States, he said he would find out from the proper authorities what actions had been taken and inform the Council as soon as possible.

The meeting rose at 6.25 p.m.

1945th meeting

Monday, 28 April 1975, at 3.15 p.m.

President: Mr. Iqbal AKHUND (Pakistan).

E/SR.1945

AGENDA ITEM 6

Non-governmental organizations (continued) (E/5635, chap. I, draft resolution II; E/L.1636 and Add.1 and 2, E/L.1640 and 1644, E/NGO/31)

PARTICIPATION OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE WORLD CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR (concluded) (E/L.1636 AND ADD.1 AND 2)

1. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to resume consideration of the note by the Secretariat (E/L.1636

and Add.1 and 2) concerning the participation of non-governmental organizations in the World Conference of the International Women's Year in Mexico City. In that connexion, he announced that the names of the following organizations should be added to the list in document E/L.1636/Add.2: the World Federation of Trade Unions (non-governmental organization in category I) and the Socialist International Association (non-governmental organization in category II).

2. Mr. CORDOVEZ (Secretary of the Council), replying to the questions which had been put to him

at the preceding meeting, said that the organizations listed in document E/L.1636 and Add.1 and 2 were, together with the two organizations mentioned by the President, the only organizations which had so far expressed the wish to be represented at the Conference. Furthermore, referring to paragraph 3 of document E/L.1636, he hoped that the Council would be able to authorize the Secretary-General to invite to the Conference the non-governmental organizations that had recently acquired consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

3. The General Assembly, by its resolution 3276 (XXIX), had decided to invite all States to participate in the World Conference of the International Women's Year; in accordance with that decision, invitations had been sent to States Members on 11 February 1975. In accordance with established practice, as soon as a communication was received from the current Government of Cambodia, the Secretariat would send an invitation to that Government, as well as all the relevant information.

4. No invitation had been sent to the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Viet-Nam. As noted in the report of the Third Committee to the General Assembly,¹ the Secretary-General, in carrying out the functions assigned to him, would follow the practice of the General Assembly in the application of the "all States" clause. The General Assembly had invited to conferences States Members of the United Nations or members of specialized agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency, States parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice, and the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam. Since the General Assembly had not invited the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Viet-Nam to any conference, the Secretariat had not been in a position to include it among the Governments invited to send representatives to the Conference. Should the Provisional Revolutionary Government qualify under the criteria provided for in the practice of the General Assembly, the Secretariat would of course invite it.

5. Mr. S. N. SMIRNOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) thanked the President and the Secretary for their explanations concerning the list of non-governmental organizations invited to send representatives to the World Conference of the International Women's Year. However, while his delegation could agree to authorize the Secretary-General to invite the non-governmental organizations to which the Council had just granted consultative status, it considered that the Council should not authorize national organizations which did not possess consultative status with the Council, and which therefore had no connexion with it, to send representatives to the Conference.

6. With regard to the interpretation given by the Secretariat to the "all States" formula, he recalled that at the time of the adoption of General Assembly resolution 3276 (XXIX), the Third Committee had not reached agreement on the question. Thus, in the view of his delegation, the Secretariat was duty bound to invite the Provisional Revolutionary Government to the Conference so that the "all States" formula would be applied without any discrimination.

7. He was disappointed that he had not yet received a reply to the question he had raised at the preceding

meeting concerning the specific contribution which the approximately 150 non-governmental organizations listed could make to the work of the Conference.

8. Mr. FADHLI (Democratic Yemen) thanked the Secretary of the Council for his explanations concerning the invitation to the Conference in Mexico City of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Viet-Nam and of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia. As far as the latter was concerned, his delegation did not consider it necessary for the Council to wait until it received a communication from that Government before inviting it to participate in the Conference.

9. With regard to the non-governmental organizations invited to the Conference, his delegation considered that the Women's International Zionist Organization should be deleted from the list contained in document E/L.1636, since it was an expansionist organization directly linked to the existence of Israel.

10. The PRESIDENT reminded members that a distinction should be drawn between the question of the participation of Governments in the World Conference of the International Women's Year and that of invitations to non-governmental organizations to send representatives to that Conference.

11. Mrs. BRUCE (Deputy Director, Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, in charge of the Branch for the Promotion of Equality of Men and Women) replying to the request for clarification from the representative of the USSR, first drew the Council's attention to paragraph 1 of resolution 1851 (LVI), in which it had requested the Secretary-General to convene, in consultation with, among others, interested non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, an international conference during the International Women's Year. The list contained in documents E/L.1636 and Add.1 and 2 had been drawn up on the basis of the replies received by the Secretary-General to a letter which he had sent to the non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council, asking them if they wished to be represented at the Conference. The Secretariat had in no way been selective.

12. Referring to the contribution which those organizations could make to the work of the Conference, she said that, by attending meetings such as those of the Commission on the Status of Women and other related bodies, many non-governmental organizations had played a role of the utmost importance with regard to the question of the status of women and their integration in development. Furthermore, since it would be the first time that an international conference would consider the question of the status of women from an interdisciplinary point of view, there was no doubt that a wide representation of non-governmental organizations could make a valuable contribution to the work of the Conference and to the implementation of the recommendations and the world plan of action to be adopted by the Conference.

13. The national organizations listed in the last section of each of the documents, E/L.1636 and Add.1 and 2, had themselves taken the initiative of writing to the Secretary-General to inform him of their wish to attend the Conference. It was for information purposes only that the names of those organizations had been added to the lists of non-governmental organizations in consultative status.

¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-ninth Session, Annexes, agenda item 12, document A/9829/Add.1.*

14. Mr. S. N. SMIRNOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) thanked Mrs. Bruce for her explanations, in the light of which the Soviet delegation formally proposed that the Council should authorize the Secretariat to invite only those non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council that were listed in documents E/L.1636 and Add.1 and 2 to send representatives to the Conference, as was in fact envisaged in Council resolution 1851 (LVI).

15. Furthermore, his delegation agreed that the Council should for the moment limit its consideration to the question of the non-governmental organizations to be invited to the Conference, on the understanding, of course, that all other questions related to the participation of Governments could be raised later by members of the Council.

16. Mr. DJIGO (Senegal) supported the views expressed by the representative of the USSR with regard to the consideration by the Council of governmental participation in the Conference.

17. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to authorize the Secretary-General to invite to the World Conference of the International Women's Year the non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council which were listed in documents E/L.1636 and Add.1 and 2, including the World Federation of Trade Unions and the Soroptimist International Association and the organizations referred to in paragraph 3 of document E/L.1636.

It was so decided [decision 73 (LVIII), para. 2].

18. Mr. ALEMAN (Ecuador) asked that the Unión Nacional de Mujeres del Ecuador, which was named at the end of document E/L.1636/Add.2, should be authorized to send observers to the Conference.

19. The PRESIDENT pointed out that that organization was not among those which the Council had just authorized to send representatives to the Conference. However, the request of the Ecuadorian delegation would be noted in the summary record of the meeting.

20. Mr. KEMAL (Pakistan) said that it was regrettable that the decision just taken by the Council had not been submitted in writing.

Participation in the World Conference of the International Women's Year (E/L.1640)

21. The PRESIDENT drew the Council's attention to the letter dated 1 April 1975 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of Australia to the President of the Council (E/L.1640), concerning the participation of Papua New Guinea as an observer at the World Conference of the International Women's Year.

22. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council decided to authorize the Secretary-General to invite Papua New Guinea to participate in the Conference as an observer.

It was so decided [see decision 73 (LVIII), para. 1].

AGENDA ITEM 5

Transport questions (E/5620, E/5621)

23. The PRESIDENT invited members of the Council to begin consideration of agenda item 5. In its report (E/5620), the Committee of Experts on the Transport

of Dangerous Goods invited the Council to take steps concerning the harmonization of the provisions relating to the packaging of dangerous goods, to review the recommendations and publish them in printed form, and to consider the possibilities of drafting an international convention on the carriage of dangerous goods applicable to all modes of transport.

24. Mr. CORDOVEZ (Secretary of the Council) drew the Council's attention to paragraph 24 of the report of the Secretary-General (E/5621), which stated that the cost of a new edition of the Recommendations would be about \$31,000, without including the cost of additional staff for the Secretariat which would be \$7,500 for the assistance of consultants; the cost of the translation involved was estimated at \$27,000 in 1974. Paragraph 29 of the same report stated that the cost of the functioning of the Committee, the Group of Experts on Explosives and the Group of Rapporteurs had been estimated for the years 1976-1977 at \$195,000, which included \$87,000 for the staff of the Economic Commission for Europe, currently assigned to work for the Committee.

25. Mr. AMADO (Mexico) said that, in the opinion of his delegation, the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods had been extremely fruitful. His Government had followed it with great interest, particularly in respect of the International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code drawn up by the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO) and the list of marine pollutants. The Committee's work on the Restricted Articles Regulations adopted by the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and on the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Regulations for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Materials was also undeniably useful. Moreover, the Committee's work on the classification, identification, packing, labelling and handling of dangerous goods transported by different modes of transport had been particularly constructive.

26. He welcomed the democratization of IMCO. The expanded membership of the Council, the opening of the Maritime Safety Committee to all members of IMCO and the institutionalization on a basis of equality of the relationship between the Legal Committee and the Maritime Safety Committee meant that the developing countries could now participate actively in the work on shipping and had due representation. He also welcomed the fact that the principle of equitable geographical distribution had been duly respected in the composition of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Group which, within the framework of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), was to carry on negotiations to provide the basis for a convention governing multimodal international transport. His delegation believed that the work of the Committee of Experts should be supported so that it could be continued in collaboration with the specialized agencies of the United Nations. Provision should also be made for preparing an international convention regulating the carriage of dangerous goods applicable to all modes of transport. To that end, account should be taken of the progress made in UNCTAD, both within the Committee on Shipping and within the Intergovernmental Preparatory Group. In view of the importance of shipping to developing countries, his delegation urged all those countries to participate in the work of all bodies dealing with that question.

27. Mr. S. N. SMIRNOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation had no objection to the documentation before the Council on the question of transport. He pointed out, however, that, as could be seen from the two reports, the question was highly technical. Moreover, the documents did not contain any specific proposal concerning measures that the Council could take. Under those circumstances, and taking into account the Council's decisions concerning the rationalization of its work, it would be preferable to invite the appropriate subsidiary organ of the Council to consider the question and then transmit its conclusions to the Council.

28. Mr. KLEIN (United States of America) said that his delegation, which in December had assumed the chairmanship of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, would have liked to introduce two draft resolutions on behalf of that Committee. However, as the text of the draft resolutions had been circulated only that morning to the members of the Committee, he wished to wait until they had had time to make comments and reach a consensus before officially proposing the adoption of those texts by the Council. Accordingly, he requested that consideration of the agenda item be resumed later in the week.

29. Mr. DONNELLY (United Kingdom) said that his delegation also wished to hold consultations with

other members of the Committee before submitting draft resolutions on the item under consideration. He therefore supported the proposal of the United States representative.

30. The PRESIDENT suggested that the time-limit for the submission of draft proposals concerning transport questions should be extended to 12 noon on Wednesday, 30 April. If he heard no objection, he would take it that his suggestion was accepted.

It was so decided.

The meeting was suspended at 4.10 p.m. and resumed at 4.40 p.m.

Organization of work

31. Mr. MACRAE (United Kingdom), replying to a question asked by the President in connexion with draft resolution II contained in the report of the Commission on Human Rights (E/5635), which was before the Council under agenda item 6, announced that his delegation would no doubt be in a position to submit a text the following day; it would probably take the form of a working paper rather than revised amendments.

The meeting rose at 4.45 p.m.

1946th meeting

Friday, 2 May 1975, at 3.25 p.m.

President: Mr. Iqbal AKHUND (Pakistan).

E/SR.1946

Revision of the agenda (E/5652)

1. Mr. FASLA (Algeria) said that his delegation would like a new item entitled "Assistance to Indo-China" to be added to the agenda of the Council (E/5652) as revised at the 1941st meeting. The war which had ravaged the countries of the region for 30 years had just come to an end. The international community had the duty to provide the Indo-Chinese people—who had struggled during those 30 years for freedom and unity—with aid which would enable them, in the short term, to solve the difficulties currently confronting them and, in the longer term, to face any problems which might arise.

2. The Secretary-General had already taken an initiative in that regard, but it had not met with the desired response; the Economic and Social Council must therefore now appeal to Member States to provide immediate humanitarian aid to the Viet-Nameese people and to help them later in their task of reconstruction.

3. To that end, the Council should adopt a resolution to supplement and strengthen the initiative taken by the Secretary-General.

4. Mr. BA-ISA (Democratic Yemen) and Mr. BALDÉ (Guinea) supported the Algerian representative's proposal to add a new item concerning assistance to Indo-China to the agenda.

5. The PRESIDENT said that, if there was no objection, he would take it that the members of the Council accepted the proposal by the representative of Algeria and decided to revise the agenda accordingly.

The agenda, as revised, was adopted.

AGENDA ITEM 2

Consideration of a system-wide attack on the drought problems in the Sudano-Sahelian region, Ethiopia and Somalia (E/5611, E/L.1625, 1637, 1645, 1646/Rev.1, 1647)

6. Mr. MORSE (Under-Secretary-General for Political and General Assembly Affairs) said that, since November 1974, the United Nations had pursued its emergency relief operations and medium-term and long-term assistance programmes in the Sudano-Sahelian region, in conformity with General Assembly resolution 3253 (XXIX) and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1874 (LVII) and 1878 (LVII). The situation had improved somewhat in the region, since there had been more rain than in the preceding seven years.

7. The members of the Council would find in report No. 13 (see E/L.1645) of the Office for the Sahelian Relief Operation (OSRO) of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) information concerning the participation of many donor countries