

CHAPTER III OF THE REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

REPORT OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

Rapporteur: Mr. Charles MALIK (Lebanon)

1. On 23 September 1947, the General Assembly referred to the Third Committee Chapter III of the report of the Economic and Social Council dealing with social questions (document A/382).
2. The Committee first took up this item at its fifty-first meeting. Two draft resolutions were introduced at that meeting by the United Kingdom concerning the continuation of advisory social welfare functions (document A/C.3/152) and the ratification of the Constitution of the World Health Organization (document A/C.3/155).
3. After a general debate on Chapter III of the report, which lasted from the fifty-second until the fifty-fifth meeting, the Committee examined six further draft resolutions which had been submitted during the general debate.
4. At its fifty-sixth meeting, the Committee took up the draft resolution submitted by the United Kingdom concerning the continuation of advisory social welfare functions (document A/C.3/152) which was rejected at the fifty-seventh meeting by thirty-five votes to eleven with five abstentions.
5. At its fifty-seventh meeting, the Committee unanimously adopted the second draft resolution submitted by the United Kingdom concerning the ratification of the Constitution of the World Health Organization (document A/C.3/155) (resolution II).
6. The draft resolution submitted by the delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics concerning the convening of a Conference on freedom of information (document A/C.3/157) was discussed at the fifty-seventh, fifty-eighth, fifty-ninth and sixtieth meetings and rejected by thirty-three votes to seven, with eleven abstentions.
7. A draft resolution submitted by the delegation of India on the same subject (document A/C.3/164) was adopted at the sixtieth meeting by twenty-seven votes to four with thirteen abstentions (resolution III).
8. At its sixty-first meeting the Committee adopted an amended text of a draft resolution submitted by the delegation of France on the exchange of workers (document A/C.3/159) by twenty-nine votes to one, with thirteen abstentions (resolution IV).

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9. At its sixty-second meeting, the Committee adopted a draft resolution submitted by the delegation of Peru on the problem of the mastication of coca leaves (document A/C.3/160) by forty-two votes to none with three abstentions (resolution V); the Committee also adopted unanimously a draft resolution submitted by the delegation of Chile on the ratification of the protocol concerning the control of narcotic drugs (document A/C.3/161) (resolution VI).

10. The consideration of the draft resolution submitted by Argentina, approving Chapter III of the report of the Economic and Social Council (document A/C.3/158) was postponed until the Committee had examined those questions which were contained in the said Chapter and had been referred to the Committee as separate items on its agenda, namely, Traffic in Women and Children, Trade Union Rights, International Children's Emergency Fund, Transfer of United Nations Assets to the World Health Organization.

11. At its seventy-third meeting, the Committee reverted to the draft resolution submitted by Argentina, the last paragraph of which had been modified in the meantime (document A/C.3/158/Rev.1). An amended version of this draft resolution was adopted unanimously at the seventy-fourth meeting (resolution I).

12. All details concerning the debates on Chapter III of the report of the Economic and Social Council are to be found in the relevant summary records of the Third Committee. It has not been considered necessary to overburden this report with extracts from them.

13. The Third Committee, therefore, recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following resolutions:

I. CHAPTER III OF THE REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

TAKES NOTE of Chapter III of the report of the Economic and Social Council; and

RECOMMENDS to Members of the United Nations holding regional conferences or assemblies that, whenever items covered by this chapter are subjects for discussion, they should communicate the conclusions reached or partial studies made to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, with a view to promoting comprehensive and universal solutions of the questions covered by this chapter.

II. ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

NOTING the action taken by the Secretary-General pursuant to resolution 61 (I) adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 1946

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concerning the establishment of the World Health Organization;

NOTING that acceptances of the Constitution of the World Health Organization by Members of the United Nations fall considerably short of the number required to bring the Constitution of the Organization into force;

HAVING REGARD to the urgent and important problems of public health and hygiene that require international action for their solution;

RECOMMENDS all Members of the United Nations which have not already done so to accept the Constitution of the World Health Organization at the earliest possible date; and

AUTHORIZES the Secretary-General to transmit the above recommendation to all States, which, whether Members of the United Nations or not, sent representatives or observers to the International Health Conference.

III. CONFERENCE ON FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING CONSIDERED that part of Chapter III of the report of the Economic and Social Council which deals with the convening of a Conference on freedom of information;

TAKES NOTE of the provisional agenda of the Conference and invites the attention of the Economic and Social Council to the discussion on this matter in the Third Committee of the General Assembly.

IV. EXCHANGE OF WORKERS

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING EXAMINED Chapter III of the report of the Economic and Social Council;

CONSIDERING that among the functions of the Economic and Social Council is that of developing international co-operation "with respect to economic, social, cultural and educational matters";

CONSIDERING that such international co-operation must be based on a better mutual understanding among peoples;

CONSIDERING that the proper method of achieving such understanding is to increase direct contacts between the various elements of the populations of all countries; and

CONSIDERING that workers too often lack means of learning about technical and social experiments which are being carried out in foreign countries;

URGES those Members which are agreeable to arrange with each other, by direct agreement, such terms and conditions as will facilitate the

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maximum possible exchange of workers wishing to take a period of training in order to improve their knowledge of their trade and to study on the spot the economic and social problems confronting their comrades in other countries.

V. ENQUIRY CONCERNING THE MASTICATION OF COCA LEAVES

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

TAKING NOTE that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs has, in its report to the Economic and Social Council on the second session of the Commission, adopted a resolution concerning the request made by the Government of Peru that a Committee of Experts should be sent to study the effects of chewing coca leaves on the inhabitants of certain zones of the Andean region;

EXPRESSES its interest in this important subject; and

INVITES the Economic and Social Council, without wishing to prejudge the issue in any way, to consider it with all the urgency that it deserves.

VI. ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE PROTOCOL OF

11 DECEMBER 1946 ON NARCOTIC DRUGS

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

DESIROUS of completing as soon as possible the transfer from the League of Nations to the United Nations of the powers and functions relating to the control of narcotic drugs;

URGES those States which have signed the Protocol of 11 December 1946 on Narcotic Drugs but have not yet deposited instruments of acceptance, to deposit these instruments with the United Nations at the earliest opportunity so that the amendments to the previous international agreements, conventions and protocols may enter into force by the end of 1947;

ENDORSES the invitation of the Economic and Social Council to all Member States and all non-member States which are parties to the international agreements, conventions and protocols on narcotic drugs to become parties to the Protocol of 11 December 1946.
