

**GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

**ASSEMBLEE
GENERALE**

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

REPORT OF COMMITTEE 3 TO THE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY ON CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE
REPORT OF THE PREPARATORY COMMISSION

Rapporteur: Mrs. Frieda Dalen (Norway)

The General Assembly referred to Committee 3 for consideration and report, the matters covered by Chapter III of the Report of the Preparatory Commission, Section 1A, paragraph 4(a), (c) and (e) concerning the establishment, at the first session of the Economic and Social Council, of a Commission on Human Rights, a Temporary Social Commission and a Commission on Narcotic Drugs; and paragraph 5(a) concerning the desirability of establishing at an early date, and possibly at the first session of the Council, a Demographic Commission.

I have the honour to report that after a full explanatory statement by Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar, Chairman of Committee 3 of the Preparatory Commission, on the reasons which had prompted the Preparatory Commission to recommend the creation of these four commissions, the sections of the Report under consideration were unanimously approved by the Committee.

A number of Delegations took occasion to emphasize the importance of the work of the Commission on Human Rights. The Delegate for Cuba announced that his Delegation proposed to submit to the Economic and Social Council a working document of concern to the Commission on Human Rights.

In the course of the discussion, several Delegations emphasized the importance which they attached to the work of the Demographic Commission and expressed the hope that it would be set up by the Economic and Social Council at the earliest possible date.

The General Assembly also requested that a Joint Sub-committee of Committees 2 and 3 should consider the matters covered by Section 1A, paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 6 and 7 of Chapter III, concerning the date of the first meeting of the Economic and Social Council, adoption of the Provisional Agenda and of the Provisional Rules of Procedure, the advisability of setting up a Co-ordination Commission and the considerations and recommendations concerning the terms of reference and composition of Commissions of the Council, and Section 1B concerning the Observations on Relationships with Specialized Agencies.

These portions of the Report were approved without change by the Joint Sub-committee, but certain views emerged from the discussion which should be noted.

In discussing the recommendations, the members took the general view that the Economic and Social Council should be allowed the widest possible freedom to carry out its work.

The recommendation that the Economic and Social Council consider at its first session the advisability of setting up a Co-ordination Commission was approved with the understanding that it should not be regarded as a directive, since the Council might not find it advisable to set up the commission at this early stage.

Doubt was expressed by some members as to whether the recommendation that most Commissions should contain a majority of highly-qualified governmental representatives was desirable and whether it allowed the Council sufficient freedom. Paragraphs 36 to 38 of Section 5 were approved on the understanding that these recommendations should not be regarded as binding and that no limitation should be put on the Council in choosing the members of, the commissions.

In discussing the relationships with specialized agencies, the need for new forms of international co-operation was emphasized, and the hope expressed that the Council would be given the greatest

liberty to consider and to propose any form of international machinery which it considers the most effective for co-ordinating action on economic and social problems.

There was some divergence of opinion as to the desirability of centralization of headquarters of the United Nations and the specialized agencies. While it seemed to be generally accepted that as many of the specialized agencies as possible should be located at the central headquarters, it was thought by some Delegations that it might be necessary to have certain agencies located in places particularly suited to their effective functioning.

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