

**ECONOMIC  
AND  
SOCIAL COUNCIL**

**CONSEIL  
ECONOMIQUE  
ET SOCIAL**

LONDON  
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17 May 1946  
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE THIRTIETH MEETING

Held at Church House on Thursday, 16 May 1946, at 10.30 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Winiewicz (Poland)

Consideration of the report of the Fact-Finding Sub-Committee  
(E/REF/68)

1. With reference to the alternate texts put forward in paragraph 7(b), page 8, Mr. WARREN (United States) proposed that the Yugoslav text be adopted with the deletion of the first sentence and the substitution of the word "presumably" for the word "necessarily".

Decision: With the deletion of the word "such" before "persons" and the substitution of "who" for "as", the United States proposal was accepted by the Committee.

2. After a certain amount of discussion the deletion of the beginning of the second sentence of paragraph 9, page 8, was proposed so that the two sentences now become one to read as follows:-

"... displaced persons concerned for the purpose, among others, of furnishing adequate information ...."

3. Mr. LIEVANO AGUIRRE (Colombia) requested that a statement on the possibilities of resettlement in Colombia be included as an appendix to the Report of the Committee.

Decision: It was agreed to add to the list of documents in paragraph (d), page 5, the statement of the delegate for Colombia.

4. Mr. YERZIN (U.S.S.R.) announced that he would request information as to the possibilities of resettlement in the Birobidzan S.S.R. and would communicate the results to the Committee, or if too late for that, to the Economic and Social Council.

5. Mr. SMOLIAR (Byelorussia) proposed the inclusion in paragraph 13 of a statement to the effect that persons without satisfactory reasons who refused to work when ordered to by the camp authorities forfeited their right to assistance.

In connection with this same paragraph, Sir George RENDEL (United Kingdom) expressed the view that although it was certainly not the function of any organization or camp authorities to maintain refugees and displaced persons in idleness, such a state of idleness had not been proved to apply to camps in general. It would be very difficult to provide steady work for these persons taking into consideration the disorganization of the economic life surrounding the camps and the necessity for jobs of a purely temporary nature as a result of the continuing process of repatriation. A steady job could quite conceivably act as an inducement against returning to the country of origin.

The representative of UNRRA supported the point of view of the United Kingdom delegate and explained the difficulty of having to balance the task of finding useful occupations for the refugees and displaced persons with the task of their earliest repatriation.

At the suggestion of Mr. LISICKY (Czechoslovakia), the delegate for Byelorussia withdrew his proposed amendment on the understanding that a similar provision was included in the draft report on definitions.

6. A motion by the delegate for the United Kingdom to delete the first two sub-paragraphs of paragraph 13 having been defeated, he proposed the following further amendments:-

- (a) In the first sub-paragraph to insert the words "in certain areas" after the words "in the fact that".
- (b) In the second sub-paragraph to substitute the word "maintenance" for the words "such favourable treatment".

(c) In the third sub-paragraph to insert the phrase "in areas where this seems necessary" after the words "arrangements should be made".

Decision: These amendments were accepted by the Committee.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.

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