

**ECONOMIC
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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS

STATEMENT BY THE UNITED STATES DELEGATE
CONCERNING THE FORM OF THE FUTURE ORGANIZATION

MR. CHAIRMAN:

I shall reply very briefly to the statements made by the delegates in opposition to my amendment. Briefly - because I am very much concerned with the slow progress which we are making toward the production of a report on time to meet the schedule which we have adopted.

Many of the comments of the delegates who spoke on Tuesday clearly had to do with matters which are to be discussed by the sub-committee, which, after our decision is taken on the amendment will deal with all the questions involved in the character of the relationship of the specialized agency to the Economic and Social Council. Problems of membership and finance are subjects to be worked out by the sub-committee. We are concerned now solely with the choice of a specialized agency or a body to be made an integral part of the United Nations.

I cannot, of course, accept the gloomy picture which the United Kingdom Delegate painted, of a specialized agency over-weighted with governments which have not yet been admitted to membership in the United Nations, meeting in secret to plan half-hearted efforts on behalf of refugees

and displaced persons. Clearly, those who wrote the Charter of the United Nations at San Francisco and the governments which later adopted the Charter, had no such fears in providing for the creation of specialized agencies as a means of conducting important international activities in which responsibilities are to be shared by governments. I submit that there are no such deterring dead-hands inherent in a specialized agency.

The specialized agency will be within the framework of agencies related to the United Nations, drawing its strength from it and cooperating with it in accomplishing its purposes. The character of relationship to the United Nations is to be recommended by the sub-committee. Provision should be made for the fullest possible use of public interest and of the moral support and judgment of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council in the conduct of the operations of the specialized agency. In fact, the United Nations has under its Charter the function to coordinate the activities of specialized agencies to be related to it. This particular character of the relationship should, of course, be preserved, but it seems to my Government that it would be a mistake to thrust upon the United Nations organization proper at this time, when the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council are burdened at the outset with so many pressing problems of organization and of substance, such a large operational task which, to be done well, must be given authority to function quickly and with appropriate flexibility.

The speed with which a specialized agency might come into active operation is also not inherent in its character. Such constitution of the specialized agency as this Committee may propose and which may be adopted by the Economic and Social Council can be accepted in the action of the General Assembly by all of those governments which are in a position to do so.

I have no knowledge of the number of governments which can adopt the constitution of a specialized body by action of their representatives voting in the General Assembly. It may be that sufficient governments are in a position to do so to bring the body into existence immediately. My Government is not in this position. The constitution of the body to be considered by the General Assembly will need to be submitted to the Congress of the United States for approval and cannot be adopted otherwise. In the case of my own and other governments similarly situated, it will take no longer to approve a specialized agency than one within United Nations. But I can assure the Committee that my Government, which has already demonstrated its lively interest in this problem on many occasions, will act with all possible speed to accomplish adherence and participation in this work, provided it is organized on sound and constructive lines.

I might add that it is my sincere belief that funds for a specialized agency can be secured more quickly than for an activity which is made an integral part of the United Nations, the contributions to which would be complicated by the difference between the pro rata scales of contributions to the general administrative expenses of the United Nations and the pro rata scales of contributions appropriate to special undertakings in which the United Nations may engage through specialized agencies.

GEORGE L. WARREN
U.S. Delegate
