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REPORTS OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. R. St. John MACDONALD (Canada)

INTRODUCTION

1. At its 1336th meeting on 24 September 1965, the General Assembly assigned to the Third Committee the following parts of the reports of the Economic and Social Council under item 12 of its agenda: A/5803,<sup>1/</sup> chapter VIII (sections I, II and V), chapters IX and X (sections I, IV, V and VII); and A/6003,<sup>2/</sup> chapters XII (sections I, III and IV), XIII and XIV (sections I, III and V).
2. At the same meeting the General Assembly allocated to the Second Committee the item entitled "Review and reappraisal of the role and functions of the Economic and Social Council" (A/6003, chapter II), and referred the item to the Third Committee for comments. The Assembly also indicated that other sections of the Council's reports might be of interest to the Committee (A/6003, chapter VII, section II; chapter XII, section II).
3. At its 1289th meeting, the Third Committee agreed that the following subjects, which were dealt with in the reports of the Economic and Social Council, would be taken up by the Committee under independent items on the same subjects on its agenda:

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Nineteenth Session, Supplement No. 3.  
2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twentieth Session, Supplement No. 3.

- (a) Assistance in cases of natural disaster:  
(A/5803, chapter X, section IV; A/6003, chapter XIV, section III)  
item 53
- (b) World social situation:  
(A/5803, chapter VIII, section II; A/6003, chapter XII, section I)  
item 54
- (c) Housing, building and planning:  
(A/5803, chapter VII, section I; A/6003, chapter XII, section III)  
item 55
- (d) Reports of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees:  
(A/5803, chapter X, section I; A/6003, chapter XIV, section I)  
item 56
- (e) Measures to implement the United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination:  
(A/5803, chapter IX, section I; A/6003, chapter XIII, section IV)  
item 57
- (f) Draft international convention on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination:  
(A/5803, chapter IX, section I) item 58
- (g) Draft declaration on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance:  
(A/5803, chapter IX, section II) item 62 (a)
- (h) Draft international convention on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance:  
(A/5803, chapter IX, section II; A/6003, chapter XIII, section I)  
item 62 (b)
- (i) International Year for Human Rights:  
(A/5803, chapter IX, section VI; A/6003, chapter XIII, section III)  
item 67
- (j) Creation of the post of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights:  
(A/6003, chapter XIII, section VII) item 98

4. The Third Committee considered the remaining parts of the reports of the Council referred to it at its 1336th to 1345th meetings, from 10 to 16 November 1965.

19. A draft resolution (A/C.3/L.1281) was submitted by Afghanistan, Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Iceland, India, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, the Ivory Coast, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Romania, Senegal, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Arab Republic, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America and Yugoslavia.

20. In the course of the debate several members expressed the desire to be co-sponsors of the draft resolution, and a suggestion was made that the whole Committee sponsor the draft resolution. The Chairman of the Committee pointed out that having regard to the spirit which prevailed in the Third Committee when it dealt with UNICEF, he believed that everyone would wish to join in sponsoring the draft resolution.

21. At its 1337th meeting, on 10 November 1965, the Committee adopted the draft resolution (A/C.3/L.1281) unanimously (see paragraph 71 below, draft resolution I).

#### TOWN TWINNING

22. At its 1338th meeting, on 11 November 1965, the Third Committee received a draft resolution, sponsored by Cameroon, Congo (Brazzaville), Guinea, Jamaica, Madagascar, Mauritania, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Togo, Tunisia, the United Republic of Tanzania and Upper Volta (A/C.3/L.1279 and Corr.1), entitled "Town twinning: means of international co-operation". This resolution was introduced in connexion with paragraphs 492-495 of the report of the Economic and Social Council covering 3 August 1963-15 August 1964 (A/5803) and Council resolution 1028 (XXXVII). It read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1028 (XXXVII) of 13 August 1964,

"Considering that experience in recent years has shown the great value of town twinning, practised without any discrimination,

REVIEW AND REAPPRAISAL OF THE ROLE AND FUNCTIONS OF THE  
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

5. During the 1340th and 1341st meetings, on 12 November 1965, three members of the Committee expressed opinions about the review and reappraisal of the Council's role and functions. One member said that a re-examination of the work of the Council and its subsidiary bodies, based on the views of Governments and the Secretary-General, would provide a sound basis for studying measures to enhance the effectiveness of the United Nations in the economic and social field. Another member stated that the Third Committee's comments to the Second Committee should stress the importance of the Council's role in assuring balanced development in the social and economic field. A third member stated that the number of items on the Council's agenda should be reduced. It was becoming increasingly difficult for the items to be considered thoroughly, and the Council needed to focus its attention on the most important items before it, such as industrial development, planning, training, the economic and social consequences of disarmament, and land reform. Consideration might also be given to the possibility of devoting an entire session to a single item, such as the problem of human resources. Support was also expressed for the statement which the Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs had made to the thirty-ninth session of the Council (A/6003, para. 711) to the effect that resources and programmes had to be related, and it was hoped that this would be done more thoroughly in the future.

UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND

6. The Committee devoted its 1336th and 1337th meetings, held on 10 November 1965, to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) (A/5803, chapter VIII, section V; A/6003, chapter XII, section IV).

7. The Chairman of the Executive Board of UNICEF made a statement (1336th meeting) on the Fund's activities in the past year. She stated that the Executive Board was particularly gratified at the selection of UNICEF as recipient of the 1965 Nobel Peace Prize. The whole character of UNICEF's work had been influenced by the compassion, wisdom, dignity and tact of the late Maurice Pate, and it was fortunate that the new Executive Director, Mr. Henry Labouisse, was identified, by his record, with the spirit and motivation that had formed the basis of his predecessor's success.

8. The Chairman cited statistics of the shocking plight of some 600 million children in developing countries. While general improvements in the standards of living would have a direct impact on the welfare of children, special services were essential to aid this most vulnerable element in the population. UNICEF aid not only spared children from needless suffering, but it contributed to the establishment of permanent government services designed to serve the child population on a continuing basis. The problems were so staggering in relation to the resources available that permanent improvement would be elusive unless the needs of children, viewed in the larger context of national development, were given adequate priority in the economic and social planning of governments. UNICEF was exploring those problems in co-operation with other United Nations agencies and with experts from different areas of the world.

9. The main burden of responsibility, nevertheless, rested with Governments, for it was they that established policies and priorities, requested assistance and formulated needs, and were ultimately responsible for the implementation of programmes. The need to view the child as a complete human being reinforced the significance of inter-ministerial co-operation at the national level and inter-agency co-operation at the international level.

10. While acknowledging the generosity of the 121 Governments which had contributed to UNICEF in 1964, the Chairman drew attention to the urgent need to think in terms not only of greatly increased Government contributions, but also of new sources of income, and of bold and imaginative decisions going beyond the limits of more conventional fund-raising practices. There was increasing interest in the possibility of earmarking funds for specific projects from private fund-raising campaigns, and from funds-in-trust provided by Governments to supplement their regular contributions. UNICEF had spent approximately \$40 million in 1963 and in 1964, although income had been below \$35 million, thus reducing the Fund's operating reserves to the minimum level of safety. The Board felt that every effort should be made to increase income to at least the annual expenditure of \$40 million, in order to be able to finance continuing programmes at the present rate.

11. At its last session the Board re-examined the way it could best assist those countries most in need of UNICEF aid, namely, those countries, especially in

Africa, which lacked administrative structures, qualified personnel and the minimal budgetary resources required for special child programmes. It re-emphasized the importance of aid for training personnel and for greater attention to children in the vulnerable and largely neglected pre-school age group. It had agreed to place the question of UNICEF's future involvement in family planning activities on the agenda of its 1966 session. In the matter of nutrition it examined ways to further work in the development of new protein food sources, the preparation of weaning foods, the extension of applied nutrition programmes in the context of community development, and the use of mothers' clubs and other channels for increasing the mother's understanding of her family's requirements. The Board had also given attention to the possibility of using world food surpluses for the benefit of children.

12. Despite the modesty of the assistance rendered by UNICEF, the remarkable results achieved substantiated the view that a small contribution, judiciously invested at the right time, could be invaluable, particularly when combined with competent, economical organization and a devoted staff. The efficiency of the UNICEF supply system was an important factor in ensuring success. But it would be unwise to be sanguine. The real decisions needed to be made by the requesting Governments.

13. Members of the Third Committee expressed pleasure at the great honour that had been accorded UNICEF in being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. A number of representatives said that the award should be regarded as something more than a recognition of past achievements, that it should serve to encourage Governments, organizations and individuals to support more effectively and more generously the enormous work still to be done. In a divided world UNICEF had set a valuable example of international co-operation and goodwill. The award underscored the relation between the welfare of children, who would be the adults of tomorrow, and the peace of the world. Action on behalf of children was an important way of promoting understanding among peoples. It was pointed out that UNICEF had played an important role in helping countries to implement the Declaration of the Rights of the Child. In the view of two delegations the award now placed upon UNICEF a further responsibility to contribute to the education of the coming generation in a spirit of peace and international friendship. There was general

regret that Maurice Pate, to whom the success of UNICEF had been so largely due, was not present to share in the tribute. The skill and devotion of the staff, and of all others who shared in the common endeavour, was praised. Good wishes were expressed to Mr. Labouisse, the new Executive Director, in his efforts to carry the work forward.

14. Among the reasons cited for UNICEF's success in stimulating national efforts was its flexibility in adapting to the evolving needs of developing countries. The efforts of UNICEF to make programmes benefiting children more effective by being linked to over-all national development programmes were commended by a number of delegations. Several representatives cited the importance of UNICEF aid in helping their own countries not only to better the condition of their children but at the same time to advance programmes of economic and social improvement.

15. In commenting on UNICEF's future work, one delegation called attention to suggestions which it had made to the UNICEF Board. These were to the effect that better results might be achieved if UNICEF aided a smaller number of projects directed to key problems affecting children in individual countries; if greater attention were directed to advance planning of projects and evaluation of results; if the Board took a more analytical approach toward current problems of children, and if the exchange of collective experience and of ideas was facilitated. There should also be more frequent and systematic contact between the Secretariat and members of the Board; and, within the Secretariat, greater advantage should be taken of possibilities for increasing the effectiveness of the present organization and for benefiting from the experience of all countries. The suggestion was made by another delegation that UNICEF should carefully avoid the bureaucratic growth which sometimes befell agencies when they engaged in over-complicated activities.

16. A number of representatives welcomed the attention recently given by UNICEF to the special needs and problems of children in the age-group of one to six years. The suggestion was made that UNICEF should pay attention to the problems of children and youth living in the growing shanty-towns. The Board's emphasis on intensified aid for basic health services as an integral part of national health services and of national development planning, with maternal and child

health included as a major element, was commended. The decrease in 1965 of UNICEF aid for nutrition programmes was regretted and attention was directed to the importance of the Board's view that joint FAO, WHO, and UNICEF aid be given to establishing food and nutrition units in national ministries and in central planning bodies. Some delegations commended the Board's decision to discuss the possible role of UNICEF aid in family planning at its next session; others expressed the view that the question should be approached with caution lest it involve UNICEF in controversies which were the concern of other bodies. Satisfaction was expressed that the Board had found that UNICEF grants for certain local costs, mainly for training purposes, had made a significant contribution to the effectiveness of the projects. The close co-operation between UNICEF and the technical agencies of the United Nations family was noted by several delegations; one delegation expressed the belief, however, that opportunities for concerted action by all the agencies concerned had not yet been fully used.

17. Satisfaction was generally expressed at the decision of the UNICEF Board to hold its next regular session in Africa and appreciation was expressed to the Government of Ethiopia for making this possible. Of particular interest was the fact that the session would include a special three-day meeting on the needs of African children and be preceded by country tours in which Board members could gain first-hand impressions.

18. Concern over the insufficiency of UNICEF's financial resources was expressed by a number of delegations. It was pointed out that the vitality of UNICEF lay in its trail-blazing character. Its financial inability to allocate more than 10 per cent for new projects in 1965 therefore imposed a serious limitation on the essential function of helping Governments launch new projects. The suggestion was made that, to prevent curtailment of important new projects, it would be necessary to review possibilities for discontinuing aid to certain programmes. It was pointed out that the Executive Board had hoped for a substantial rise in contributions. Unfortunately this had failed to materialize to the extent required and requests to UNICEF for aid were outpacing resources. Reference was made to the importance, in addition to increased Government contributions, of private fund-raising campaigns. It was essential that UNICEF resources be increased.



"Considering that the town twinning arranged under the auspices of the United Towns Organization and other similar organizations promotes the achievement of the great ideals enshrined in the United Nations Charter, the Constitution of UNESCO and the resolutions of the great international conferences,

"Considering that the first African Conference of Local Authorities, held at Dakar on 1, 2 and 3 April 1964, laid special emphasis on 'twinning co-operation',

"1. Considers town twinning to be one of the means of co-operation which the United Nations should encourage, both in connexion with International Co-operation Year and on a permanent basis;

"2. Requests the Secretary-General to instruct an office of the Secretariat to deal with all the questions arising from this new form of co-operation;

"3. Requests the Economic and Social Council to request its Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations in collaboration with the non-governmental organizations in consultative status to prepare a programme of measures through which the United Nations and UNESCO might take concrete steps to encourage further the achievement of the largest possible number of twinned towns;

"4. Requests the Economic and Social Council to submit to the twenty-first session of the General Assembly a report on all the action that has been taken to comply with this resolution."

23. The Committee's discussions revealed general agreement on the fact that town twinning was an effective means of promoting international understanding and cultural and educational exchanges between peoples from the developed and developing countries, provided it remained free from discrimination and political considerations and retained its present spontaneity. Some delegations felt that, since many organizations were active in town twinning and similar activities, no non-governmental organization should be mentioned in the resolution.

24. At the Committee's 1338th meeting, a statement was made on the financial implications of the draft resolution, in accordance with rule 154 of the Committee's rules of procedure.

25. At the 1340th meeting, the representative of the United States introduced amendments (A/C.3/L.1283) to the draft resolution (A/C.3/L.1279 and Corr.1) which read as follows:

"1. In the third preambular paragraph, delete 'the' before 'town twinning arranged under the auspices of the United Towns Organization and other similar organizations'.

"2. Insert a fifth preambular paragraph reading as follows:

"Noting that UNESCO was created for the purpose of advancing the objectives of the United Nations through the free exchange of ideas and knowledge and through the promotion of educational, scientific and cultural co-operation among the peoples of the world'.

"3. In operative paragraph 2, replace 'instruct an office of the Secretariat to deal with all the questions arising from this new' by 'take all appropriate action to encourage this'.

"4. Replace operative paragraph 3 by the following paragraph:

"Commends UNESCO for its services in stimulating and facilitating international exchanges, including town twinning, and notes that the General Conference at its thirteenth session invited States Members of UNESCO to study means of organizing and financing the twinning of towns'."

26. Certain representatives expressed the view that town twinning was not an appropriate activity for the Secretariat of the United Nations, but that it fell within the competence of UNESCO, which had already taken action in the matter. Fears were expressed that bureaucratic practices could stifle the current freedom and variety of town twinning, and that there was a possibility of undesirable intervention in what was essentially a free and bilateral process.

27. The representative of Ghana, proposed as an amendment to operative paragraph 3 of the draft resolution that a comma be placed after the words "in consultative status" and the addition thereafter of the phrase "taking into consideration the decisions on town twinning which will be taken by the forthcoming UNESCO General Conference". She explained that her amendment took into account the fact that the question of town twinning would be considered by the General Conference late in 1966.

28. At the 1341st meeting, the representative of Jamaica, on behalf of the sponsors of the draft resolution, accepted certain amendments proposed by the representatives of Ghana (see paragraph 27 above) and the United States. She then introduced an oral amendment to operative paragraph 3 of the draft under which the words "to request its Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations" would be deleted.

29. At the 1342nd meeting, the representative of Senegal, on behalf of the sponsors, which now included Algeria, Chad, the Ivory Coast and Panama, introduced a revision of the draft (A/C.3/L.1279/Rev.1), which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1028 (XXXVII) of 13 August 1964,

"Considering that experience in recent years has shown the great value of town twinning, practised without any discrimination,

"Considering that town twinning promotes the achievement of the great ideals enshrined in the United Nations Charter and the Constitution of UNESCO,

"Considering that the first African Conference of Local Authorities, held at Dakar on 1, 2 and 3 April 1964, laid special emphasis on 'twinning co-operation',

"1. Considers town twinning to be one of the means of co-operation which the United Nations should encourage, both in connexion with International Co-operation Year and on a permanent basis;

"2. Requests the Secretary-General to take all suitable measures, through his offices, to encourage this form of co-operation;

"3. Requests the Economic and Social Council in collaboration with the non-governmental organizations in consultative status, taking into consideration the decisions on town twinning which will be taken by the forthcoming UNESCO General Conference, to prepare a programme of measures through which the United Nations and UNESCO might take concrete steps to encourage further the achievement of the largest possible number of twinned towns;

"4. Requests the Economic and Social Council to submit to the twenty-first session of the General Assembly a report on programmes of action that have been taken to comply with this resolution."

30. The representative of Jamaica, on behalf of the sponsors, introduced an oral amendment to operative paragraph 4 of the revised text of the draft resolution (A/C.3/L.1279/Rev.1). Under this amendment reference to the "twenty-first" session of the General Assembly would be replaced by a reference to its "twenty-second" session, because of the date of the next session of the

UNESCO General Conference. The sponsors also proposed the renumbering of the operative paragraphs by placing operative paragraph 2 at the end of the draft resolution and renumbering the other operative paragraphs accordingly.

31. In view of the amendments that had been incorporated into the revised text, the representative of the United States withdrew her first three amendments (A/C.3/L.1283), maintaining, however, her amendment to operative paragraph 3 of the revised text (A/C.3/L.1279/Rev.1) in the following form:

"Requests the Economic and Social Council in collaboration with the appropriate non-governmental organizations in consultative status, taking into consideration the decisions of UNESCO on town twinning, to consider the preparation of "... etc."

32. Subsequently, the representative of the United States and the sponsors of the draft resolution agreed on the following text of operative paragraph 3:

"Requests the Economic and Social Council in collaboration with the appropriate non-governmental organizations in consultative status, taking into consideration the decisions of UNESCO on town twinning, to prepare a programme of measures through which the United Nations and UNESCO might take concrete steps to encourage further the achievement of the largest possible number of twinned towns."

33. At its 1342nd meeting, on 15 November 1965, the Committee voted on the revised draft resolution (A/C.3/L.1279/Rev.1), as amended, as follows:

(a) At the request of the representative of Lebanon, the Committee held a separate vote on the phrase "through his offices", in the renumbered operative paragraph 4 (previously paragraph 2), and adopted it by 40 votes to 18, with 20 abstentions.

(b) The draft resolution as a whole, as amended, was adopted by 80 votes to none, with 4 abstentions (see paragraph 71 below, draft resolution II).

## STATUS OF WOMEN

34. During the 1338th to 1340th meetings of the Third Committee, a number of representatives noted the value of the work of the Commission on the Status of Women in promoting equal rights for women throughout the world. Many representatives welcomed resolution 1068 B (XXXIX) adopted by the Council on the recommendation of the Commission, inviting Member States to ratify the Convention on the Political Rights of Women. Some regretted the fact that the Commission had been unable to complete the draft Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and expressed the hope that the text would be submitted to the next session of the General Assembly.

35. Many representatives expressed the view that the advancement of women was related to the social and economic progress of the countries which had granted them equal rights with men, and had given women the opportunity to participate in political, social, cultural and economic life. It was noted, however, that in spite of the many steps towards women's emancipation, obtained primarily through legislative reforms, women still encountered numerous obstacles when seeking the implementation of such laws. It was necessary to work towards securing equal rights for women in practice as well as in law.

36. Education was thought to be one of the most effective ways of guaranteeing the full and effective participation of women in the life of their countries, and of ensuring their ability to understand the nature of their rights and the means of exercising them. Members of the Committee felt that education of women at all levels, and vocational and technical training, constituted the first step in achieving equality of women with men and in furthering their advancement. In this connexion, a number of representatives welcomed resolutions 1068 C and I (XXXIX), in which the Council had noted the importance of training competent corps or cadres of women leaders, and of the access of women to education at all levels, and to vocational and technical training.

37. Some representatives, commenting on the value of the human rights seminars relating to the status of women, stated that the organization of such regional seminars had demonstrated the usefulness of the exchange of opinions and

experience in advancing the status of women. The plans for the organization of a new series of seminars on the civic and political education of women were welcomed by several representatives.

38. At the 1341st meeting, Afghanistan, Algeria, Guinea, Iran, Madagascar and Morocco submitted a draft resolution (A/C.3/L.1284) on United Nations assistance for improving the status of women and for their emancipation; Chile and Colombia subsequently became sponsors of the draft in its revised form (A/C.3/L.1284/Rev.1).

39. An amendment was submitted by Finland and Poland (A/C.3/L.1286) thanking the Government of Iran for the invitation which it had extended to be host to the eighteenth session of the Commission on the Status of Women in Teheran. This amendment was accepted by the sponsors of the draft resolution.

40. When the draft resolution, which received the general support of the Committee, was introduced, the importance of expanding the activities of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies in advancing the status of women was emphasized. A number of representatives expressed their support for General Assembly resolution 1777 (XVII), which referred to the initiation and implementation of a unified long-term programme for the advancement of women; and they expressed the hope that the Secretary-General would keep the Council and the Assembly informed of developments regarding the preparation of such a programme. It was suggested that the question of the advancement of women should remain under constant review. In this connexion, it was thought that a unified long-term United Nations programme would be an important step in the right direction. Several representatives welcomed the ten-year programme contemplated by UNESCO, designed primarily to improve educational opportunities for women.

41. At the 1342nd meeting, the amendment submitted by Finland and Poland (A/C.3/L.1286) was adopted unanimously. The draft resolution (A/C.3/L.1284/Rev.1), as amended, was adopted unanimously (see paragraph 71 below, draft resolution III).

ADVISORY SERVICES IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

42. At its 1338th to 1344th meetings, on 11, 12, 15 and 16 November 1965, the Third Committee discussed the sections of the reports of the Economic and Social Council dealing with the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights.<sup>3/</sup>

43. Members of the Committee expressed satisfaction with the advisory services programme, and noted that the diversity of topics discussed by seminars organized under the programme provided opportunities to exchange valuable experience in matters relating to human rights. The final reports of the seminars were considered to be particularly useful. Members noted with approval that the Council, in resolution 1067 A (XXXIX), had recommended that the Secretary-General examine the possibility of holding an additional annual seminar on the civic and political education of women, and that such annual seminars should be financed from the regular United Nations budget.

44. Several members of the Committee stressed the value of the human rights fellowships granted under the advisory services programme, and in this connexion emphasis was placed on the need to maintain an appropriate balance between the seminar and fellowship components of the programme.

45. In connexion with the 1966 advisory services programme, particular attention was drawn to the proposal described in paragraph 549 of the report of the Economic and Social Council (A/6003), concerning the organization of an international seminar on apartheid; the proposal had been received too late for action by the Council at its thirty-ninth session. A draft resolution concerning the organization of such a seminar was submitted by Costa Rica, Guinea and the Philippines (A/C.3/L.1282/Rev.1), later joined by Uganda. The operative part of the draft read as follows:

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<sup>3/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Nineteenth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/5803), chapter IX, section VIII; Ibid., Twentieth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/6003), chapter XIII, section XI.

"Requests the Secretary-General to organize an international seminar on apartheid in 1966 and authorizes him to use such funds as may be necessary for the purpose, making appropriate readjustments within the budgetary allocations approved for section 14 (Human rights advisory services), part V (Technical programmes), of the United Nations budget."

46. Nigeria submitted an amendment (A/C.3/L.1287) to insert, between the words "organize" and "an international seminar", the words "in consultation with the Special Committee on the Policies of Apartheid of the Government of the Republic of South Africa".

47. In a statement on the financial implications of the draft resolution (A/C.3/L.1285), the Secretary-General stated that the holding of the proposed international seminar would be dependent upon an offer by a Government to act as host, and that the cost estimate of \$63,540 presented to the Committee was based on the assumption that such an offer would include full provision by the host Government of all language and conference services and other facilities, and that the seminar would be confined to thirty-five participants. Noting that the credits requested for 1966 for section 14 of part V of the United Nations Budget, amounted in total to \$220,000, the Secretary-General pointed out that this sum made provision for the following activities of the Human Rights Advisory Services programme for 1966:

- (i) Seminar on human rights in developing countries, planned to take place in February 1966, in Dakar, Senegal;
- (ii) Seminar on participation in local administration as a means of promoting human rights, planned for June 1966 in Budapest, Hungary;
- (iii) Seminar on status of women planned to take place in the Philippines, the date and city still to be determined;
- (iv) The first of a series of annual seminars to be devoted to the civic and political education of women, [as requested in Economic and Social Council resolutions 1062 and 1067 A (XXXIX)]; the costs of the above-mentioned seminars were estimated at \$140,000;
- (v) Fellowships in the field of human rights and to be awarded during 1966, for which an amount of \$80,000 is provided.



48. During the discussion of the draft resolution at the 1343rd meeting, members of the Committee reiterated their abhorrence of apartheid and such similar practices as racial discrimination and segregation. Since the seminar technique was felt to be an excellent means of disseminating constructive ideas, the proposal to hold a seminar dealing with apartheid met with general approval. Several members thought that the question of holding such a seminar took an added urgency in view of the worsening situation in Rhodesia, and the view was also expressed that the proposed seminar should not be limited to consideration of the policy of apartheid alone. A suggestion made by the representative of the Netherlands that the title of the proposed seminar should be altered to read "international seminar on apartheid and the multiracial society" was later withdrawn, on the understanding that the question of the multiracial society would be included in the agenda of the proposed seminar.

49. A United States oral sub-amendment to add a reference to "the Commission on Human Rights" in the Nigerian amendment (A/C.3/L.1287) was accepted by the representative of Nigeria, who noted that the intent of his original amendment had not been to restrict the proposed seminar's terms of reference to the consideration of apartheid in South Africa, but to take advantage of the valuable experience of the Special Committee on the Policies of apartheid. It was also felt that the revised amendment had the advantage of making the matter one of human rights rather than purely political in nature: it was considered appropriate to associate the two bodies (the Commission and the Special Committee) for purposes of planning the arrangements, participation and agenda of the seminar.

50. The sponsors of the draft resolution (A/C.3/L.1282/Rev.1) accepted the Nigerian amendment as revised by the United States in the following formulation:

"Requests the Secretary-General to organize, in consultation with the Special Committee on the Policies of Apartheid of the Government of the Republic of South Africa and the Commission on Human Rights, an international seminar ...".

51. As regards the criteria for selecting the thirty-five countries to be invited to participate in the proposed seminar, the representative of the Secretary-General outlined the procedure followed in the case of the international seminar on the multi-national society held in 1965. He said that the consultative

procedure used by the Secretary-General at that time could be adapted to the proposed seminar, provided that the proposals in the draft resolution, that the Secretary-General organize the seminar in consultation with the bodies mentioned, were adopted.

52. A suggestion to postpone the proposed seminar on apartheid until, at the latest, 1968, the International Year for Human Rights, did not meet with general approval, since there was a strong consensus that the holding of the seminar was a matter of high priority which could not brook delay. A suggestion was put forward to postpone to a later year the fourth seminar dealing with the civic and political education of women; it was noted that the Secretary-General had not as yet received an invitation from a Government willing to act as host to this seminar, but this suggestion encountered strong opposition. Attention was drawn to possible inconsistencies in the Committee's attitude, since it had at its previous meeting adopted a resolution concerned with expanding the assistance that can be rendered for the advancement of women. There was considerable reluctance to take action counter to the wishes of the Commission on the Status of Women and of the Economic and Social Council as expressed in resolutions 1062 and 1067 A (XXXIX) of the Council. A related suggestion to cut costs by combining the two seminars dealing with the status of women was not supported.

53. Several delegations suggested that the funds necessary for the proposed seminar on apartheid should be diverted from the allotment for fellowships. This proposal also encountered opposition from members who thought that the seminar programme should not encroach unduly on the fellowship programme.

54. Several delegations were interested in the possibility of financing the seminar on apartheid without detriment to the programme of advisory services. An oral amendment by the United States proposed to add the words "using such technical assistance funds as may be available" to the end of the operative paragraph of the revised draft resolution. It was withdrawn, however, because of the uncertainty over the availability of any such funds as proposed for financing the seminar.

55. A number of delegations felt that all necessary arrangements for financing the seminar should be left to the Secretary-General, so that it could be held in 1966.

56. It was agreed that the Committee should give the seminar on apartheid priority among the seminars to be held in 1966. The Committee noted the Secretary-General's statement of the financial implications of the draft resolution submitted by Costa Rica, Guinea, the Philippines and Uganda, and decided consequently, in accordance with the Economic and Social Council's decision on advisory services in the field of human rights, to ask the Secretary-General, as a matter of exception and with the least possible harm to the fellowship programme for 1966, to hold that seminar.

57. At the 1343rd meeting the revised draft resolution was adopted unanimously, by a roll-call vote requested by the representative of Guinea: (see paragraph 71 below, draft resolution IV). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Denmark, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Upper Volta, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Against: None.

#### OTHER QUESTIONS RELATING TO HUMAN RIGHTS

58. During the discussion of the chapters of the reports dealing with human rights (A/5803, chapter IX; A/6003, chapter XIII), several representatives stressed the fact that some of the objectives set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights had not yet been attained. Not only had there been great delay in the adoption of the draft International Covenants on Human Rights, but the successful work done by the United Nations in certain fields, such as racial discrimination and religious intolerance, had necessarily left the agenda of the Commission on Human Rights overcharged with recurring items, many of which could now be conveniently shelved. In this connexion, some representatives welcomed Council resolution 1074 C (XXXIX), which modified the system of periodic (triennial) reports on human rights initiated in 1956 by Council resolution 624 B (XXII). The hope was expressed that better use would in future be made of the information obtained from Governments under this reporting procedure, and that the Commission on Human Rights and the Council would be more forthcoming with conclusions and recommendations based on the reported facts.

59. One representative said that the work of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities had demonstrated the value of experts in dealing with human rights questions. The proposed increase in the membership of the Sub-Commission from fourteen to eighteen was therefore justified, provided that care was taken to distribute seats in a manner which would assure representation to the world's principal legal systems.

60. A number of representatives expressed their agreement with Council resolution 1077 (XXXIX), especially with its call to all States Members of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies which had not yet done so to become parties as soon as possible to the International Slavery Convention of 1926, and to the Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery of 1956.

61. Several members of the Committee referred to the question of punishing war criminals and of persons who had committed crimes against humanity. There was general agreement that such criminals should be brought to justice wherever and whenever they might be found and apprehended, and all speakers welcomed resolutions 3 (XXI) of the Commission on Human Rights and 1074 D (XXXIX) of the

Economic and Social Council. These resolutions, in the opinion of most speakers, were a logical consequence of agreements on the subject concluded during the Second World War, and reaffirmed by the General Assembly in its resolution of 13 February 1946 entitled "Extradition and punishment of war criminals", and in resolution 95 (I) of 11 December 1946 entitled "Affirmation of the principles of international law recognized by the charter of the Nuremberg Tribunal".

62. Many representatives stressed, in particular, the inadmissibility of the notion that responsibility for war crimes or crimes against humanity could be extinguished by lapse of time. None of the international instruments dealing with the matter set any period of limitation, either explicitly or by implication, and the Commission's resolution 3 (XXI) requested the Secretary-General to undertake, by priority, a study of legal procedures to ensure that no such period would apply to such crimes. Moreover, many States had recently enacted legislation reflecting the principle that such crimes must be punished irrespective of the time that had elapsed since they were committed. It was consequently regrettable, in the view of several representatives, that in one country this principle was not accepted and that legislation had been enacted setting a time-limit for prosecutions. In addition, certain States seemed reluctant to extradite war criminals, and persons who could be tried for crimes against humanity, to the State in which the crimes had been committed. Such conduct compared very unfavourably with that of certain other States, which carried out their international obligations to the full and strove to uncover and punish such criminals wherever they might have taken refuge. One delegation pointed out, in this connexion, that the apparent reticence of certain authorities to institute proceedings was due to the fact that much evidence was held outside their jurisdiction, by Governments which had not always been ready to make it available to them. This was indeed a point to which Council resolution 1074 D (XXXIX) called attention.

63. A number of representatives said that strict compliance with international obligations in the matter of punishing war criminals was not only a moral duty towards the millions of victims of nazi war crimes, but also a preventive measure against future crimes and therefore a means of strengthening peace and confidence among nations. The question had lost none of its urgency with the passage of

time, since crimes striking at the roots of international society were still being committed in many areas of the world. Several speakers referred, in this connexion, to events in South-East Asia, the Caribbean and certain regions of Africa.

64. Some members of the Committee, while welcoming the inclusion of the question of punishment of war criminals on the agenda of the Commission and the Council, expressed the hope that the future work of the United Nations, as envisaged in the Commission's resolution 3 (XXI), would be directed less towards recrimination over the past and more towards preventive developments; much effort was being wasted in continued attacks on one or two countries, when the objective should be to preclude the possibility of war crimes and crimes against humanity occurring in any country. Other representatives thought, however, that to remain indifferent to the past while untried war criminals enjoyed protection in some States would scarcely be in accord with the standards which the United Nations should set for future generations.

65. One representative deplored the whole orientation of the effort to secure punishment of war criminals. In his view, the establishment by the victors of special tribunals to try selected nationals of the defeated States for crimes allegedly committed during a war, was indefensible on either legal or moral grounds: there was no right vested in the victors to exercise such jurisdiction and the process wholly overlooked the fact that abhorrent crimes had been committed by both sides.

66. Attention was drawn by some speakers to the second operative paragraph of Council resolution 1074 D (XXXIX), which called on eligible States which had not yet done so to accede as soon as possible to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. A number of representatives expressed regret that an instrument of such importance was not open to all States which scrupulously fulfilled their international obligations.

#### POPULATION

67. It was noted that, in planning for economic and social development, efforts to increase real income could be impeded by rapid population growth, even though an increasing population might ultimately be considered beneficial. Several

speakers remarked upon the difficulties experienced as a result of large-scale migration from the country to the towns, which increased needs for housing, public services and education in urban areas. The Commission on the Status of Women was commended on its endorsement of United Nations programmes for study of and information on family planning, the need for which various Governments had stressed.

#### LAND REFORM AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

68. The importance of land reform measures to economic and social development was emphasized by one representative, who noted that equitable redistribution of land was at the same time an act of social justice and a means of increasing production. He stressed the importance of effective services in support of land reform, particularly in the form of capital and technology, as well as the need for greater attention to the effects of land reform on industrial development, especially rural industrialization. The same speaker also noted the significance of community development as a basic factor in the building of better societies.

69. It was emphasized by one representative that the question of land reform should be considered on a world scale, and that in this connexion plans for the 1966 World Land Reform Conference were particularly welcome.

#### NARCOTICS

70. Certain representatives referred to the control of narcotics and in particular to illicit production and distribution of opium and illegal traffic in and consumption of narcotics. It was observed that, in spite of the efforts made by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Permanent Central Opium Board, the implementation of the international conventions was far from satisfactory. It was regretted that certain countries which were not Members of the United Nations or parties to the international conventions, but which traded in narcotic drugs, were wholly beyond the control of the United Nations and its organs. It was pointed out that illegal traffic in narcotics was just as serious an evil as the production of narcotics because a favourable illegal market in narcotics obviously encouraged their production. Illicit production and distribution of opium and its organization on an official basis was said to be disruptive of the

international control system and was considered to endanger public health and social order. An appeal was made to all Member States to intensify their domestic control measures and to co-operate regionally in exchanging information and experience, and in sustaining contacts between administrations and public authorities with appropriate international support.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

71. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

#### DRAFT RESOLUTION I

#### United Nations Children's Fund

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 57 (I) of 11 December 1946, 417 (V) of 1 December 1950, 802 (VIII) of 6 December 1953, 1773 (XVII) of 7 December 1962 and 1919 (XVIII) of 5 December 1963,

1. Applauds the award of the Nobel Peace Prize for 1965 to the United Nations Children's Fund, which reinforces understanding of the importance for peace in the world of the welfare and rearing of children in a spirit of friendship among nations;

2. Endorses the policy of the Fund in supporting the importance of viewing the needs of the child as a whole, and of making, in national programmes for economic and social development, adequate provisions for children and young people and thereby preparing them for their future participation in their country's development;

3. Notes with approval the programmes of the United Nations Children's Fund, which now include assistance to Governments in the fields of maternal and child health, disease control, nutrition, social welfare, education and vocational training, and which are carried out in close co-operation with the technical agencies concerned in the United Nations family;

4. Welcomes the emphasis of the United Nations Children's Fund on assistance to young children of pre-school age, and on the improvement and extension of elementary education;



5. Notes with satisfaction the decision of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund that in seeking the most effective uses of Fund aid stress should continue to be placed on developing the basic services which benefit children, on priority programmes directed at their main problems, and on the training of national personnel as an essential element of programmes, and the decision that full advantage should be taken of the relevant experience of all countries in seeking ways of meeting the problems of children and youth;

6. Welcomes the decision of the United Nations Children's Fund to hold the next regular session of its Executive Board in Africa in May 1966;

7. Urges Governments and private groups to intensify their efforts substantially to increase the resources of the United Nations Children's Fund.

## DRAFT RESOLUTION II

### Town twinning as a means of international co-operation

The General Assembly,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1028 (XXXVII) of 13 August 1964,

Considering that experience in recent years has shown the great value of town twinning, practised without any discrimination,

Considering that town twinning promotes the achievement of the great ideals enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

Considering that the first African Conference of Local Authorities, held at Dakar from 1 to 3 April 1964, laid special emphasis on "twinning co-operation",

1. Considers town twinning to be one of the means of co-operation which the United Nations should encourage, both in connexion with the International Co-operation Year and on a permanent basis;

2. Requests the Economic and Social Council, in collaboration with the appropriate non-governmental organizations in consultative status and taking into consideration the decisions of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on town twinning, to prepare a programme of measures through which the United Nations and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization might take concrete steps to encourage further the achievement of the largest possible number of twinned towns;

3. Requests the Economic and Social Council to submit to the General Assembly at its twenty-second session a report on the programmes of action that have been taken to comply with the present resolution;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to take, through his offices, all suitable measures to encourage this form of co-operation.

### DRAFT RESOLUTION III

#### United Nations assistance for improving the status of women and for their emancipation

The General Assembly,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 771 H (XXX) of 25 July 1960 and General Assembly resolution 1509 (XV) of 12 December 1960 concerning special assistance by the United Nations and the specialized agencies for the advancement of women in developing countries,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 1777 (XVII) of 7 December 1962 and 1920 (XVIII) of 5 December 1963,

Reaffirming Economic and Social Council resolution 1068 (XXXIX) of 16 July 1965, in which the Council took note of the report of the Commission on the Status of Women at its eighteenth session, which was held at Teheran from 1 to 19 March 1965,

Recognizing the importance of the work accomplished by the Commission on the Status of Women,

Recognizing the contribution of the specialized agencies and the non-governmental organizations in the matter of improving the status of women,

Believing that the co-ordination and development of the various programmes concerning the status of women should be implemented through a unified, long-term United Nations programme for the advancement of women,

Recognizing that it is appropriate to draw the attention of world public opinion to the importance of the contribution which women can make to national development and to the consequent need to solve the problem of the status of women and of their emancipation,

1. Welcomes Economic and Social Council resolution 1068 E (XXXIX), in which the Council recommends to Member States, and especially to those making

use of technical assistance, that they give greater priority to projects and programmes directed towards the advancement of women, and invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the executive heads of the specialized agencies to encourage the participation of women in projects submitted by Member States;

2. Welcomes Economic and Social Council resolution 1068 C (XXXIX), in which the Council emphasizes the importance of training appropriate cadres, especially in the developing countries, in order to enable women to participate fully in the economic, social, cultural and political life of their respective countries;

3. Welcomes the support given by the Economic and Social Council to the other recommendations made at the eighteenth session of the Commission on the Status of Women;

4. Invites the specialized agencies and the international non-governmental organizations to continue their efforts for the improvement of the status of women;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to study especially the possibility of expanding the assistance which can be rendered for the advancement of women in developing countries;

6. Invites the Secretary-General to co-operate with the Commission on the Status of Women to these ends;

7. Further requests the Secretary-General to keep the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly informed on developments in this respect, especially with regard to the possibility of establishing a unified, long-term United Nations programme for the advancement of women;

8. Expresses its appreciation to the Government of Iran for its generous invitation, which enabled the Commission on the Status of Women to hold its eighteenth session at Teheran in conditions that were particularly favourable for its work.

DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

Advisory services in the field of human rights

The General Assembly,

Noting that proposals have been made to hold an international seminar on apartheid in 1966,

Recalling that these proposals were brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council at its thirty-ninth session,<sup>4/</sup>

Requests the Secretary-General to organize, in consultation with the Special Committee on the Policies of apartheid of the Government of the Republic of South Africa and the Commission on Human Rights, an international seminar on apartheid in 1966 and authorizes him to use such funds as may be necessary for the purpose, making appropriate readjustments within the budgetary allocations approved for section 14 (Human rights advisory services), part V (Technical programmes), of the United Nations budget.

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<sup>4/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Twentieth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/6003), para. 549.