

taneous interpreters, and suggested that some alteration might be made in the French text to avoid any possible confusion.

44. She was glad that the need to co-ordinate the advisory social welfare services with the technical assistance programme had again been raised. Her delegation had stressed the point in the Social Commission.

45. She appreciated what had already been done towards obtaining increased financial participation from the recipient countries, and hoped that the Secretary-General would continue his efforts in that direction. The recipient countries were already making a very valuable contribution by paying for many of the incidental expenses in their own national currencies, but she felt that still more could be done. She did not wish to exclude any country from the benefits of the programme by insisting on payment for the services in every single case, but as the financial participation of recipient countries increased, it would naturally follow that the same amount of United Nations money would go further by an extension of the scheme to an even larger number of countries.

46. Mr. ALTMAN (Poland) said that his country was one of those which had benefited from the advisory social welfare services and he supported the Economic and Social Council's draft resolution. His delegation would reserve its comments on the detailed aspects of the scheme until it was again discussed by the Social Commission.

47. In normal times, it was for the Governments themselves to improve their social services from their own resources, but international co-operation and the exchange of information was always extremely helpful. As an example of successful international co-operation in that field, he mentioned an agreement recently signed between Poland and Czechoslovakia.

48. Finally, he stated that he would have no objection to the adoption of the joint Belgian and Lebanese amendment.

49. The CHAIRMAN said that the objections raised by the representative of New Zealand might be met if the word "review" were replaced by "examine" and the word "revisions" by "modifications" in the English text of the joint Belgian and Lebanese amendment. The English text would then be an exact equivalent of the original French. He further suggested that the last part of the amendment should be altered to read:

" . . . and to recommend to the next regular session of the General Assembly any necessary modifications therein".

50. Mr. AZKOUL (Lebanon) and Miss BAERS (Belgium) agreed to the changes suggested by the Chairman and emphasized that resolution 58 (I) was not to be revised completely, but only in so far as was necessary in view of the decision, in the first paragraph of the Economic and Social Council's draft resolution, to place the services on a continuing basis.

51. Mr. KAYSER (France) referred to the United Kingdom representative's remarks about the words "continuing" and "permanent" and asked the Secretariat to ascertain which language the Economic and Social Council had used when adopting the resolution. When that information was available some suggestions might be made in order to bring the translation into line with the original text.

52. Miss BAERS (Belgium) asked whether the wording would have any financial implications or whether it was simply a question of language.

53. The CHAIRMAN said that the Secretariat would study the points raised by the representatives of France and Belgium before the following meeting.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.

TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FOURTH MEETING

Held at Lake Success, New York, on Tuesday, 25 October 1949, at 3 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. Carlos E. STOLK (Venezuela).

Advisory social welfare services (continued)

1. Sir Raphael CILENTO (Secretariat) thanked members of the Committee for the many helpful suggestions they had made during the discussion on the advisory social welfare services and said that they would be brought to the attention of the various officers concerned.

2. The representatives of Mexico and Ecuador had referred (253rd meeting) to the need for co-ordinating activity between the United Nations and the specialized agencies, and the Canadian representative had asked whether all possible steps had been taken to ensure such co-ordination. Those representatives were not satisfied with the existing system of fellowships but supported the useful work performed by the experts and the results achieved by the seminars. The Social Activities Division of the United Nations was taking and would continue to take all possible

steps to ensure the necessary co-ordination. Whenever the Division received a request for an expert in a field which came within the competence of any specialized agency, that request was referred to the agency concerned to see whether it could not provide such an expert itself. Furthermore, the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination was seeking and indeed achieving some measure of uniformity regarding fellowships.

3. The United Nations in the past had been continually requested to encourage increased participation on the part of the Governments concerned. The specialized agencies had not, to his knowledge, received similar requests. That had been a great handicap to the United Nations and was an important point, as any lack of uniformity might possibly lead to some competition between the United Nations and the specialized agencies. Uniformity and co-ordination in detail, however, were gradually being achieved: the best example of team-work had been provided by the co-operation

between the United Nations and two specialized agencies in providing several experts for Ecuador. The Secretariat was pressing towards team-work—a most satisfactory idea. The main obstacle so far had been caused by the temporary basis of the advisory social welfare services, so that the proposed continuing basis would be of very great help in solving that difficulty.

4. The Canadian representative had also emphasized the need for greater uniformity regarding the qualifications of fellows sent abroad. The qualifications of applicants were being carefully scrutinized and it had been proposed that special selection committees should be set up for that purpose in every country concerned. The standard of the fellows had improved considerably of late.

5. The representative of Israel had spoken (253rd meeting) of the need for schools of social science in countries which were short of qualified personnel in that field. Although it was impossible for the Social Activities Division to set up and to maintain such schools, the problem had already received careful consideration and a consultant had recently been sent to Guatemala to help in the organization of such a school. That form of co-operation could be extended to other countries in need of similar aid.

6. The granting of scholarships was handicapped by the high expenditure it involved. Arrangements, however, were being made in Europe for an exchange programme between various countries without any cost to the United Nations itself. Such arrangements were in keeping with the principle of increased participation on the part of the recipient countries concerned.

7. Much had been made during the debate of a possible difference in meaning between the words "continuing" and "permanent". In the course of the lengthy discussions which had taken place in the past on the subject of the advisory social welfare services, it had been unanimously agreed that the scheme should no longer be hindered by the necessity of operating on a year-to-year basis and that it should become a regular part of the activities of the United Nations. Both words had been used during those discussions in support of the view that the scheme should become a regular function of the United Nations. That, indeed, was the aim of the Social Activities Division itself; it was not proposed that the scheme should last forever, but merely that it should be on a continuing basis from year to year.

8. Mr. BOKHARI (Pakistan) said it was clear that no one disputed the extremely useful character of the advisory social welfare services and that all were agreed that they should be regarded as a regular feature of the activities of the United Nations. Pakistan had not yet benefited from that scheme because of various difficulties; it hoped to overcome them in the near future and then to become not only a recipient but also a contributing country.

9. During the debate which had taken place in the Committee, the Belgian delegation had proposed (252nd meeting) an amendment emphasizing that the terms of resolution 58 (I) referred more to the abnormal situation following the war than to the normal social conditions in which the social welfare services were to be organized. In other words, it had emphasized the need for revising the orientation of a programme originally de-

signed to meet the abnormal situation following the war. Unfortunately that idea was no longer included in the joint amendment agreed upon by Belgium and Lebanon.

10. Conditions had greatly changed since the adoption of resolution 58 (I) which had been mainly designed to provide specific forms of assistance to the war-devastated countries. Many wounds had been healed since then and other needs were becoming apparent. All members were conscious of the grievous losses suffered by many countries which had taken part in the war and no one would dispute their right to aid and assistance for repairing the ravages wrought by war and improving the resulting social conditions. Yet it was necessary to make certain reservations on that point. War was an event and not a continuous process, while various historical processes went on continuously, whether there was war or not, bringing much devastation and suffering to countries which might not have been technically at war. Indeed, a high death-rate was often more disastrous to a country at peace than casualties sustained in military operation by a country at war. Nonetheless, there had been some tendency of late to over-emphasize the needs of war-devastated countries at the expense of the countries which had not been at war, and it had become necessary to redress the balance somewhat. The important point of the original Belgian amendment was that resolution 58 (I) had been adopted in specific circumstances immediately following the end of hostilities, whereas conditions had changed since then and it had become necessary to consider war damages side by side with other equally important and urgent factors.

11. He did not intend to submit again the original Belgian amendment and his only purpose was to emphasize that war damages should not be the only factor to be considered when examining the needs of the world equitably. Many other representatives had made extremely valuable observations and suggestions during the debate and he felt that both their and his point of view would be fully met if the joint Belgian and Lebanese amendment (A/C.3/L.21/Rev.1) were amended to read:

"3. Requests the Economic and Social Council to review the terms of resolution 58 (I) in the light of the provisions of paragraph 1 above, *and in the light of the discussions of the Third Committee of the General Assembly . . .*"

12. Mr. FREYRE (Brazil) supported the recommendation made by the Economic and Social Council. While appreciating the remarkable work already done by the services, he suggested that, in future, the programme might be implemented through the specialized agencies rather than by the United Nations itself. In view of the far more extensive programme of technical assistance to be carried out in the economic field, it was obvious that the advisory social welfare services should not be in any way neglected.

13. With regard to the future development of the programme, he considered that the most effective way of granting assistance would be through the award of fellowships to social welfare officials and by sending experts to the countries which needed them.

14. He emphasized the need for co-operation with the specialized agencies and supported the

Belgian and Lebanese amendment providing for the revision of resolution 58 (I). He believed that, in future, the under-developed countries and the war-devastated areas should be placed on an equal footing and that assistance should be granted where it was most needed.

15. He sympathized with the amendment submitted by the representative of Israel but he did not think it was really necessary since the Secretariat would obviously take into consideration the views expressed by various delegations when carrying on the programme.

16. With regard to sub-paragraph (b) of the Ethiopian amendment (A/C.3/L.23), he did not think that the time had yet come to establish a permanent United Nations organization for advisory social welfare services. Nevertheless, he asked for further information concerning the exact scope of the amendment before he could take a definite decision upon it.

17. Mr. ALAMAHEYOU (Ethiopia) said that his country would support whole-heartedly any programme designed to raise the social, cultural and economic standards of the peoples of the world. In addition to immediate practical results, such programmes would ultimately also have a salutary political influence. The existing international tension was due to many factors and mainly to various differences and disparities between the cultural, economic and social standards prevailing in different parts of the world. Taken by themselves, many of those problems were not political in character, but taken as a whole they could form intricate political problems which it would be difficult for the United Nations to settle. If the United Nations were to widen and intensify its activities in the non-political fields and to narrow the existing disparities between various nations, the remaining, basically political problems might become much easier to solve. That was the aim of the amendment he had submitted to the Committee.

18. Sub-paragraph (b) of that amendment requested the Economic and Social Council to study and report on the possibility of establishing a permanent United Nations organization for advisory social welfare services. He had made that suggestion because of the different interpretations given to the expression "continuing basis" contained in the Economic and Social Council's draft resolution. In his opinion, "permanent" and "continuing" were not synonymous and while he would be satisfied if the existing scheme continued as recommended in the draft resolution, he would also like the Council to examine the possibility of establishing a permanent social welfare organization.

19. Regarding sub-paragraph (a) of his amendment, he said that in his opinion resolution 58 (I) was defective in so far as it tended to preclude the under-developed countries from participating in the programme in question. It met the requirements of countries which had well developed social welfare schools or suitably qualified social welfare officials and which could thus benefit from the schemes providing for experts and fellows. On the other hand, countries which were under-developed or whose educated men and women had perished in the war could not participate in the programme at least until such time as they had been able to develop their own schools and train

their own experts. The shortcomings of resolution 58 (I) had been recognized by the Secretary-General himself. In the *Progress report on the implementation of resolution 58 (I)*¹, the Secretariat had suggested that the Social Commission should consider "the extension of the fellowship programme to include provisions by which young inexperienced scholars may be given formal training for at least one year in schools in social work abroad".

20. The adoption of the Ethiopian amendment would enable under-developed countries to participate in the social welfare programme. Should his amendment be rejected, however, he would still support the resolution if the Committee adopted the amendment proposed by the representative of Israel (A/C.3/L.22) as that amendment represented a step towards his goal.

21. Mr. SUTCH (New Zealand) said it had been generally agreed during past discussions that the advisory social welfare services should become a regular feature of United Nations activities and it had been felt that the expression "on a continuing basis" covered that concept adequately. Since, however, there had been some misunderstanding on that point, he proposed that the word "permanent" should be used instead of "continuing" in the Economic and Social Council's draft resolution before the Committee. He hoped that such a change would allay the misgivings of the Ethiopian representative. Otherwise, sub-paragraph (b) of the Ethiopian amendment would represent a step backward—indeed, if the social welfare services were to be placed on a continuing basis, there was no need to ask the Economic and Social Council to study the possibility of placing them on such a permanent basis.

22. The adoption of sub-paragraph (a) of the Ethiopian amendment would also narrow down the scope of the resolution; while the joint Belgian-Lebanese amendment (A/C.3/L.21/Rev.1) requested the Economic and Social Council to review the terms of resolution 58 (I) in order to widen and improve it as a whole, the Ethiopian amendment proposed that such a revision should be carried out only for the purpose of including provisions for the training of inexperienced scholars. Furthermore, one of the suggestions already contained in the report on *International Exchange of Social Welfare Personnel*² was that scholarships for at least one academic year of basic social work training should be granted to persons with little or no social welfare experience who, upon completion of their study abroad, were to fill posts in countries which were then beginning or had only recently begun to develop programmes in the social field. That question was to be examined by the Social Commission and the Economic and Social Council. Furthermore, it had always been his opinion that when funds were limited it was more advantageous for a country to send an expert abroad for a short time, so that he should obtain up-to-date knowledge and experience, rather than to send immature and inexperienced trainees for long periods of time. He believed that before specializing in any particular field, the peoples of under-developed countries should first acquire general knowledge and experience.

23. The amendment submitted by Israel also emphasized only one particular point, namely, the

² See document E/CN.5/105/Rev.1, chapter VII, section A.

¹ Document E/CN.5/109.

inadequacy of local facilities for training qualified social workers in many countries. He believed that the problem should first be examined by the Social Commission, which would then make the necessary recommendations.

24. In conclusion, although he did not necessarily agree with the views of the Pakistan representative on post-war needs in the world, he accepted his suggestion for he believed that it would meet the views expressed by the representatives of Ethiopia and Israel. The summary records of the Third Committee would be examined by the Social Commission and the Economic and Social Council, which would thus be fully acquainted with the suggestions made by all the members of the Committee.

25. Mrs. KRIPALANI (India) supported the draft resolution submitted by the Economic and Social Council and said that her country had greatly appreciated the work done by the advisory social welfare services. While welcoming the proposal that the services should be placed on a continuing basis, she hoped that their cost would be kept at a reasonable level. She did not wish efficiency to be sacrificed to economy, but she emphasized that the money spent on the services should be made to go as far as possible. One way in which that aim could be achieved would be to avoid all unnecessary duplication of work and she was glad to see from the brochure entitled *International Exchange of Social Welfare Personnel* that a first step had already been taken towards co-ordinating the activities of the various international organizations in the social field.

26. With regard to the financial participation of the recipient countries, she noted from the note by the Secretary-General (A/C.3/521) that it had increased greatly in the year 1948-1949. In her opinion, that was sufficient evidence of the desire of the recipient countries to participate as far as possible in financing the programme and she did not think that any further demands should be made upon them. The assistance of the United Nations should always remain a part of the programme and she could not, therefore, support any attempt to shift the financial burden entirely onto the shoulders of the recipient countries.

27. With regard to the fellowship programme, she referred to the report of the Social Commission¹, in which it was stated that the Indian representative had proposed that the programme should be suitably modified so as to permit a period of observation extending to a maximum of two years. That proposal had been withdrawn on the understanding that the principle of extending the period of fellowships had been accepted. The Social Commission had agreed that the Secretary-General himself should be permitted in special cases to extend the period of study to be granted to fellows, but it had been pointed out that such an extension would be impossible unless the programme was placed on a continuing basis and more funds were made available. The first of those conditions would be fulfilled if the Committee adopted the Economic and Social Council's draft resolution, but her delegation could not agree to any appreciable increase in expenditure. She therefore asked how the Social Commission's recommendation was to be put into effect.

¹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council*, fourth year, ninth session, Supplement No. 8 (E/1359).

28. Finally, she stated that she would support the Economic and Social Council's draft resolution together with the amendment submitted jointly by the delegations of Belgium and Lebanon.

29. Mr. BEAUFORT (Netherlands) supported the proposal that the advisory social welfare services should be placed on a continuing basis, on the understanding that the budgetary allocations would be re-examined each year. He referred to the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions which stated that increased contributions by Governments had hitherto served to augment the total expenditure rather than to decrease the net appropriation of the United Nations.² He hoped that in future the direct expenditure on the part of the United Nations would be decreased and that the adoption of the proposal to place the services on a continuing basis would help to achieve that end.

30. He appreciated the motives underlying the amendments submitted by the representatives of Ethiopia and Israel, but considered that the adoption of the joint Belgian and Lebanese amendment would render them unnecessary.

31. Mrs. AFNAN (Iraq) said that the advisory social welfare services were among the most constructive efforts made by the United Nations. As the representative of France had said (252nd meeting), there was a certain lack of imagination in the title given to them and she felt that the lack of imagination extended also to the budgetary allocations. More than 3 million dollars had been allocated to the information services in the budget for 1950 and she felt that if some of that money were spent on the advisory social welfare services the peoples of the world would learn about the principles and purposes of the United Nations in a tangible way. Many countries had, through bitter experience, learned to interpret all assistance as some form of political manoeuvre and, if the United Nations could extend its services to those countries, they might at last discover that assistance could really be altruistic.

32. In her opinion, some representatives had rather over-emphasized the need for increased financial participation from the recipient countries. If that policy were carried too far, the countries which were most in need of assistance would find themselves unable to afford it. There were, moreover, many Trust Territories which should also be entitled to receive assistance from the United Nations and she hoped that, in future, the services would be made available not only to all who requested them, but also to all countries which needed them.

33. She warmly supported the joint Belgian and Lebanese amendment with the addition suggested by the representative of Pakistan, as she believed that resolution 58 (I) should be re-examined with a view to rendering the services really available to all countries without any discrimination. She hoped that the services would eventually become a permanent feature of the work of the United Nations and that they would be co-ordinated with similar programmes organized by the specialized agencies.

34. Mr. EUSTACE (Union of South Africa) agreed that the advisory social welfare services

² See *Official Records of the fourth session of the General Assembly*, Supplement No. 7, (A/934), paragraph 205.

were fulfilling an essential purpose and that they should be continued. His delegation felt, however, that the time had not yet come to place the programme on a permanent basis, for if that were done there would no longer be an opportunity of reviewing the basis of the programme each year.

35. Economic conditions throughout the world were still far from stable as was shown by the dollar shortage prevalent in many countries and the recent devaluation of certain currencies. Many countries were still unable to accept financial responsibility for the services they received and he felt that any final decision on the subject should be postponed until economic conditions became more stable and the recipient countries were able to bear a larger share of the expense.

36. He emphasized that his remarks were not in any way intended as an argument against continuing the services; he simply felt that the time had not yet come to place them on a permanent basis.

37. Mr. FENAUX (Belgium) accepted the addition to the joint Belgian and Lebanese amendment submitted by the representative of Pakistan and considered that the purpose of the other two amendments would be covered by that text.

38. Mr. DEMCHENKO (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic) supported the draft resolution submitted by the Economic and Social Council. In his opinion, that resolution was perfectly adequate in itself and there was no need to amend it in any way. There was no need to instruct the Economic and Social Council to review the terms of resolution 58 (I), since the Council would doubtless take that action on its own initiative if it deemed it necessary. He would therefore abstain from voting on the joint Belgian and Lebanese amendment.

39. The amendments submitted by the representatives of Israel and Ethiopia dealt with specific aspects of the programme and, in his opinion, those details could not be settled until the actual requests for assistance were received by the Secretary-General. He did not think it was necessary to establish a permanent United Nations organization for advisory social welfare services, as was suggested in sub-paragraph (b) of the Ethiopian amendment. Such an organization would only entail additional expenditure on administration and there would then be less money available for the services themselves. He would therefore vote against the amendments submitted by the representatives of Israel and Ethiopia.

40. Mr. EREN (Turkey) said that his delegation was fully in support of the idea that the advisory social welfare services should be placed on a continuing basis, but he wished to emphasize the practical consequences of such a decision. Experience had shown that when a programme was placed on a permanent basis the cost tended to rise from year to year. The cost of all the social services sponsored by the United Nations might eventually become prohibitive for Governments that had their own social services to support. It should be borne in mind that each Government had its own social welfare programme and that the aspects requiring most urgent attention differed from country to country. Thus countries might find it difficult to bear the additional financial burden of the United Nations programme if it did not correspond exactly with their own immediate needs.

41. In conclusion, he stated his delegation would support the scheme as a whole, but he hoped that the practical implications would be borne in mind and that the adoption of the Economic and Social Council draft resolution would not involve any additional expenditure.

42. Mr. ALAMAHEYU (Ethiopia), replying to the representative of New Zealand, felt that there was a certain distinction between the words "on a continuing basis" and "on a permanent basis". Moreover, sub-paragraph (a) of his amendment was not in any way restrictive in character. It simply mentioned one specific way in which the scope of resolution 58 (I) could be widened, but that did not exclude the possibility of improving the resolution in other ways at the same time. He further emphasized that the adoption of his amendment would not alter the existing practice of reviewing the budgetary allocations for the services each year. He therefore urged all delegations to support his amendment.

43. Mrs. DE CASTILLO LEDÓN (Mexico) said that the advisory social welfare services should be placed on a permanent basis because they were among the most important obligations incumbent upon the United Nations. The Israeli and Ethiopian amendments should be rejected, because they listed only specific services and were thus too restrictive, whereas the joint Belgian and Lebanese amendment, as amended by the representative of Pakistan, fully covered the requisite scope of the programme. There was undoubtedly a consensus of opinion that the scope should be as broad as possible.

44. Mr. AZKOUL (Lebanon) accepted the insertion proposed by the Pakistan representative. If the Economic and Social Council were going to review the terms of resolution 58 (I), it must be able to do so in the light of the discussions which had taken place in the Third Committee.

45. With regard to the question whether the services should be placed on a continuing or permanent basis, the representative of the Secretariat had been correct in his interpretation, but the Lebanese delegation wished to emphasize its view that the objection to the word "permanent" was that it might be construed as a belief that the need for advisory social welfare services might itself be permanent, whereas, with the growing development of countries currently backward in that field, that need might eventually disappear.

46. The amendment submitted by the Ethiopian representative was very valuable as a suggestion and a guide to action, but that idea should appear in the records rather than be incorporated in the resolution. Its inclusion in the resolution might restrict the scope of the proposed review of resolution 58 (I) by concentrating it upon the examination of a single specific point, whereas the insertion suggested by the representative of Pakistan fully authorized the Economic and Social Council to examine that question together with the others which had emerged in the course of the discussion. The Ethiopian suggestion was, however, of the utmost importance. It was essential that the lack of suitably qualified social welfare officials or adequate services should not deprive an under-developed country of the opportunity to receive the United Nations services. As things stood, an under-developed country might not be able to receive seminars or experts because it lacked the prerequisite for the success of such

activities, namely, a number of experienced and qualified persons with whom the visiting experts could work. The Economic and Social Council should take most careful note of the Ethiopian delegation's suggestion when it came to work out the proposed continuing plan for advisory social welfare services.

47. Mr. FENAUX (Belgium) agreed with the representative of Lebanon in accepting the Pakistan representative's proposed insertion into the joint amendment.

48. Mrs. ROOSEVELT (United States of America) said that the retention of the phrase "on a continuing basis" would not only ensure the planning of a programme of services for periods longer than that of a single year but would also enable the Economic and Social Council to decide from time to time whether certain activities should be extended or discontinued.

49. The joint Belgian and Lebanese amendment, as amended by the representative of Pakistan, had rendered the Ethiopian and Israeli amendments unnecessary; she would therefore vote for the former.

50. Mr. VÁSQUEZ (Uruguay) observed that it was generally agreed that the existence and continuation of the advisory social welfare services were desirable; the only real differences of opinion concerned their scope. Such amendments as that submitted by the Ethiopian delegation concerned the future of the programme rather than its immediate existence. It might be desirable, however, that the programme should be continued for a specified period, perhaps for three or five years, rather than that it should be made permanent; that would simplify budgeting. He therefore proposed that the following paragraph should be added as sub-paragraph (iii) to the draft resolution submitted by the Economic and Social Council:

"(iii) For the subsequent years, to have the Social Commission establish an organic plan to generalize and extend those services, keeping in mind the amendments submitted to the Third Committee."

51. Mr. DOMINIQUE (Haiti) strongly supported the Ethiopian amendment. Many under-developed countries could not afford the whole cost of fellowships. That, however, was no reason for them to be deprived of such services altogether. The adoption of the Ethiopian amendment would provide the means whereby the problems of the under-developed countries in that connexion could be solved in a short period and at relatively small cost.

52. Mr. ALLEN (United Kingdom) said that he was satisfied with the explanation which the representative of the Secretariat had given concerning the interpretation of the phrases "on a continuing basis" and "on a permanent basis". He would support the joint Belgian and Lebanese amendment, as amended by the representative of Pakistan.

53. Mr. KATZNELSON (Israel) emphasized that the provision of local facilities for the training of qualified social workers was a prerequisite for any extension of local services, particularly in recently liberated countries, where the rhythm of social development was especially rapid. The change in political status tended to accelerate that rhythm.

In existing circumstances, such services were necessarily restricted, not only owing to lack of funds, but also because of the shortage of the necessary social workers. He had felt it essential to draw attention to that fact in the light of the proposed continuance of the advisory social welfare services.

54. The establishment and extension of local facilities for the training of social welfare personnel was to be preferred to the system of fellowships and short-term seminars, because the latter might fail to lead to effective practical action. Deficient co-ordination between the extension of training facilities and the extension of local social welfare services themselves might involve a similar danger. The example of the establishing of the first social service school in Guatemala cited by the representative of the Secretariat had, however, been encouraging and should be imitated elsewhere.

55. On the understanding that the Economic and Social Council would take his delegation's views into account, he was prepared to withdraw his amendment (A/C.3/L.22) in favour of the joint Belgian and Lebanese amendment, provided that the Pakistan representative's proposal were incorporated in it and also provided that that representative would accept the further insertion of the words "and the suggestions" after the word "discussions". The Economic and Social Council should be requested to pay particular attention to the suggestions made during the debate.

56. Mr. BOKHARI (Pakistan), Mr. AZKOUL (Lebanon) and Mr. FENAUX (Belgium) accepted the insertion proposed by the representative of Israel.

57. Mr. SUTCH (New Zealand) felt that the substitution of the word "permanent" for the word "continuing" in the first paragraph of the draft resolution submitted by the Economic and Social Council might make the eventual incorporation of the existing programme into an expanded programme easier, while it would not preclude its discontinuance, should that become necessary.

58. The CHAIRMAN put to the vote the amendment submitted by the Ethiopian delegation A/C.3/L.23.

The amendment was rejected by 23 votes to 3, with 22 abstentions.

59. The CHAIRMAN put to the vote the oral amendment proposed by the representative of Uruguay.

The amendment was rejected by 25 votes to 6, with 19 abstentions.

60. The CHAIRMAN put to the vote the joint Belgian and Lebanese amendment (A/C.3/L.21/Rev.1), as amended by the delegations of Pakistan and Israel.

The amendment, as amended, was adopted by 47 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

61. The CHAIRMAN put to the vote the question whether the word "continuing" should be retained in paragraph 1 of the draft resolution submitted by the Economic and Social Council (A/975).

It was decided that the word "continuing" should be retained, by 24 to 18, with 9 abstentions.

62. Mr. AZKOUL (Lebanon) explained that he had voted for the retention of the word "continuing" because the use of the word "permanent"

might have given the impression—which his delegation thought undesirable—that it was felt that there might be a permanent need for such services, whereas it was to be hoped that the need would dwindle and eventually vanish.

63. The CHAIRMAN put to the vote the draft resolution submitted by the Economic and Social Council (A/975), as amended by the joint Belgian and Lebanese amendment (A/C.3/L.21/Rev.1).

The resolution as amended, was adopted unanimously.

64. Mr. CISNEROS (Peru) welcomed the unanimous adoption of the resolution. It was particularly gratifying that no political issues had been interjected into the debate. The establishment of the advisory social welfare services on a continuing basis was a great step forward in the campaign waged by the United Nations against the scourge of poverty. His own country, which already enjoyed a highly developed system of social welfare services, would willingly collaborate in the programme to the best of its ability.

The meeting rose at 5.45 p.m.

TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIFTH MEETING

Held at Lake Success, New York, on Wednesday, 26 October 1949, at 3 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. Carlos E. STOLK (Venezuela).

Chapter III of the report of the Economic and Social Council (A/972)¹

1. The CHAIRMAN opened the discussion on chapter III of the report of the Economic and Social Council.

2. Mr. CHANG (China) called attention to the fact that a document prepared by the Third Committee—the Universal Declaration of Human Rights—had been placed, together with the Charter of the United Nations, within the cornerstone of the United Nations Permanent Headquarters. The preparation of that Declaration had been a historic achievement which would live long in the memory of mankind. The work in that field had not yet been completed, for the covenant remained to be drafted, but a very important initial step had been taken in the adoption of the Declaration.

3. He congratulated the Third Committee on all the work it had accomplished during the preceding year. Besides its work on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Committee had also considered the draft convention for the suppression of the traffic in persons and of the exploitation of the prostitution of others. Much had also been done to strengthen the control over narcotic drugs during the three years since the United Nations had taken over that task. Two protocols had been adopted on the subject: one on 11 December 1946 and the other on 19 November 1948. Moreover, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs was doing valuable work in the preparation of a new single convention to replace the existing international treaties on the subject.

4. Concluding his remarks of appreciation, he submitted the following draft resolution (A/C.3/L.24) for adoption by the Committee:

"The General Assembly,

"Takes note of chapter III of the report of the Economic and Social Council."

5. Mr. SUTCH (New Zealand) said that chapter III of the Economic and Social Council's report covered some of the most important aspects of the work of the United Nations. In his opinion, the Economic and Social Council was the most important organ of the United Nations for the achievement of international co-operation on a

long-term basis. He dwelt briefly on the work of the various Commissions of the Economic and Social Council and said that too little information on the subject reached the general public. The head-lines of the newspapers dealt with the political problems of the world and very little emphasis was laid on the steady progress made by the United Nations in the economic and social fields. It was there that the nations were reaching unanimous decisions and that heartening fact should be given wider publicity.

6. It was with deep appreciation of the work done by the Economic and Social Council and its Commissions that he supported the draft resolution submitted by the representative of China.

7. Mr. AZKOUL (Lebanon), supporting the Chinese draft resolution, congratulated the Economic and Social Council and particularly its President on its efficient work during the ninth session, but regretted that it had been unable to complete its examination of the draft conventions on declaration of death of missing persons and for the suppression of the traffic in persons and the exploitation of the prostitution of others, although they had been fully considered previously by the relevant subsidiary bodies.

8. The reasons advanced in explanation of that failure had been the lack of time and the absence of experts capable of dealing with legal questions. Those pretexts could not be regarded as an adequate explanation of what might appear almost a dereliction of duty. The Council was composed, not of individual members, but of Governments, which certainly had the requisite experts at their disposal. The lack of legal experts could be remedied if the Governments were urged to send to the Council's sessions the requisite technical experts. Alternatively, the Council might delegate more work to the qualified sub-commissions and sub-committees.

9. The Economic and Social Council itself had regretted its failure and had expressed the hope that some remedy might be found. The General Assembly should make a special effort—possibly at its fifth session—to seek the solution for such difficulties.

10. Mr. PANYUSHKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) did not agree with the interpretation of the Chinese draft resolution given by the

¹See *Official Records of the fourth session of the General Assembly*, Supplement No. 3.