

DEA - Economic and Social Council Secretariat - correspondence - 9th session

01 Mar 1949
31 Aug 1949.

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(DAG-17)

9th agenda
2/7

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: Mrs. J. Yates,
ECOSOC Secretariat,
Room C-314.

From: V. Kosteletzky, *Amherst*
Personal Assistant to the Executive Secretary,
Economic Commission for Europe.

Subject: Discussion of ECE Annual Report in the Council

This is to confirm a word I had yesterday with Mr. Yates, concerning the discussion of the ECE Annual Report (Item 7 of the Economic Committee agenda).

We now have the following schedule for the return of Mr. Myrdal:

Leave New York	13th July
Arrive Genoa	22nd July

On arrival at Genoa, Mr. Myrdal will proceed at once to Geneva, so we expect him here the weekend of the 23rd/24th. As you know, we are anxious that the ECE Report shall not be debated before his return.

ECE.
2 July 1949.

The Council also adopted the following resolutions which it requested be drawn to the attention of the Economic and Social Council:

THE COUNCIL

Having received a communication from the Greek Government (CL 6/35) requesting that FAO study methods to assist the Government in solving its problem of displaced persons,

Expresses its deep concern in the problem and desire to render the maximum technical assistance possible, and its willingness to cooperate with the United Nations and other specialized agencies, and

Recommends that the Conference give due consideration to the problem of refugees in drawing up plans for supplementary technical assistance, and provide for cooperation with the other agencies concerned.

THE COUNCIL

Having considered the report submitted by the Director-General (CL 6/27) on the Palestine Arab refugees,

Endorses the continued collaboration of FAO with the United Nations and other specialized agencies in supplying technical assistance in respect of the immediate problem,

Suggests that further assistance might be given subsequently through the proposed technical aid program, and

Recommends that the FAO Conference approve continued cooperation on this important problem.

Finally, the Council, in considering the report prepared by the Director-General on international investments and financing facilities, and noting that the question of international investment was on the agenda of the next session

of the Economic and Social Council felt it unwise at this stage to take any action but decided that a supplementary report would be submitted to its next session, such report taking cognizance of any recommendations which have been adopted by the Economic and Social Council.

...

I have the honor to enclose excerpts from the report of the Council of FAO pertaining to the above resolutions.

Accept, Sir, the assurance of my highest consideration.

N.E. Dodd

Norris E. Dodd
Director-General

Financing Facilities

The Last Session of the Conference requested the Director-General to undertake the preparation of a report on international investments and financing facilities. This fact-finding statement was to be prepared in cooperation with the United Nations, the International Bank and other appropriate United Nations agencies as a basis for a further report to be submitted by the Council to the next session of the Conference.

The Council considered the informative statement prepared by the Director-General (CL 6/8) and expressed its appreciation of this very comprehensive review which is a useful first step in building up a body of information on this important question. It showed that a relatively low proportion of current investment is being devoted to agriculture and that a relatively small part of such investment is directed toward the underdeveloped countries.

The Council believed that this question will become increasingly significant as technical aid programs are developed. FAO should therefore continue on the one hand to keep under review the whole question of national arrangements for investment in agriculture, including agricultural credit systems and indebtedness, especially in underdeveloped countries. On the other hand, a study of the international movement of capital was also required but raised wider issues and needed to be carried on in conjunction with the secretariats of the United Nations, of the International Bank and of other interested specialized agencies.

Since the question of international investment was on the agenda of the next session of the Economic and Social Council, the Council felt it unwise at this stage to express their views or to take specific action. It requested the Director-General to circulate the document it had before it, with certain minor drafting changes suggested by Council members, to all member Governments with a request that they should submit their observations by the first of September. On that basis the Director-General would submit to the next session of the Council a supplementary report embodying all the substantial relevant comments and reports that might have been obtained in the meantime, including any recommendations adopted by the Economic and Social Council.

Approves the principle of full participation by FAO in the proposed extended program of technical assistance,

Attaches treat importance to the development of the technical aid program in such a way as to ensure the utmost possible cooperation and coordination between the various Agencies and Governments concerned, and

Requests the Director-General to bring this resolution to the attention of ECOSOC at its 9th Session.

In its consideration of the proposals, the Council attached special importance to the longer term projects to be carried out by FAO individually or in association with the UN or other specialized Agencies, such as the development of extension services, improvement of statistics, resource-surveys, training of technicians, migration, but they urge that priority should be given to undertakings which result in the early increase in food supplies such as production programs and improved farming methods, control of animal and plant diseases and reduction of waste on farms, in stores and in distribution.

The Council adopted the following resolution:

THE COUNCIL

Requests the Director-General to circulate the report on a Supplementary Technical Program (CL 6/9) to Member Governments together with the Council's comments, to place the subject of technical assistance on the Agenda of the Regional Conferences, together with suitable documentation,

Recommends that the Director-General should avail himself of the widest possible expert advice on methods which have been proved valuable in the development of under-developed areas, and that he should consult those countries which have had special experience in this field, either by consulting individual experts or groups of experts concerned, with the object of completing a report for submission to the Conference at the next session, comprising

- (a) a survey of the diverse forms and techniques in which technical assistance can be given, and
- (b) an examination of the resources available for specialized advice upon which calls might be made,

and further recommends that the Director-General should take such action as he deems desirable to ascertain from the Governments of the member countries their preliminary views regarding the most urgent needs for technical assistance.

The Council also adopted the following resolution:

THE COUNCIL

Recommends that the Conference at its regular session should examine the revised proposals of the Director-General as a basis for decisions regarding the supplementary budget required for technical assistance,

Requests the Director-General to maintain continued close consultation with the UN and the Specialized Agencies concerned and, in consultation with the Council to take whatever action may be required to bring the technical assistance program into operation at the earliest practicable date.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The Council devoted close attention to the subject of Technical Assistance for Economic Development. It had before it the report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on Technical Assistance prepared for submission to ECOSOC by the Secretary General of UN in consultation with the Director-General of the Specialized Agencies and the report of the Director-General on a Supplementary Technical Assistance Program of FAO. It also heard a statement on the procedures of the Working Party set up by ACC for the preparation of the report to ECOSOC on which the Deputy Director-General and other FAO officials played a substantial role.

In the discussion on the reports it became clear that members of the Council attached the highest importance to the proposals for increased technical assistance to underdeveloped countries and considered that the proposals put forward were likely greatly to increase FAO's ability to assist its member countries. The Council recognized the importance of provision for cooperation between all the international agencies concerned in a broad integrated program of technical assistance for economic development in which agriculture, nutrition, forestry, fisheries and social welfare must form important parts. The Council also calls attention to need for full cooperation of FAO's activities with bilateral schemes to ensure the avoidance of overlapping and duplication.

It was recognized that the FAO supplementary Technical Assistance Program was a description of the fields in which FAO could render technical assistance together with tentative estimates of cost rather than a definitive program of specific projects in particular regions or countries.

It was agreed that such an approach was inevitable at the present stage of the evolution of the general plans. A number of proposals were made regarding fields of activity appropriate for FAO, and emphasis was laid on the need for the closest cooperation with the UN and the other specialized agencies concerned.

The Council adopted the following resolutions:-

THE COUNCIL

Having considered the report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on Technical Assistance for Economic Development, prepared in accordance with the resolution of ECOSOC of March 4th 1949, and the Director-General's proposals regarding FAO's participation therein,

Regards the proposals for an extended program of technical assistance as being of the greatest importance for the attainment of the purposes of the Nations as set out in the UN Charter, and in the preamble of the Constitution of FAO,

E/11373

23 June 1949

Excellency,

I have the honor to forward the text of the following resolution on Technical Assistance for Economic Development which was adopted by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at its Sixth Session held in Paris 13-24 June 1949:

THE COUNCIL

Having considered the report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on Technical Assistance for Economic Development, prepared in accordance with the resolution of ECOSOC of March 4th, 1949, and the Director-General's proposals regarding FAO's participation therein,

Regards the proposals for an extended program of technical assistance as being of the greatest importance for the attainment of the purposes of the Nations as set out in the U.N. Charter, and in the preamble of the Constitution of FAO,

Approves the principle of full participation by FAO in the proposed extended program of technical assistance,

Attaches great importance to the development of the technical aid program in such a way as to ensure the utmost possible cooperation and coordination between the various Agencies and Governments concerned, and

Requests the Director-General to bring this resolution to the attention of ECOSOC at its Ninth Session.

His Excellency
Trygve Lie
Secretary-General
United Nations
Like Success.

In accordance with the request of the Council, this resolution is being forwarded to the Economic and Social Council for its consideration at its Ninth Session.

....

I am enclosing an extract of the report of the Council embodying the above resolution.

Accept, Excellency, the assurance of my highest consideration.

Norris E. Dodd
Director-General

Mr. J. Thorn ✓
Chairman, ECOSOC, Geneva

cc. Mr. Gilbert Yates;
Secretary, ECOSOC, Geneva.

Mr. F.L. McDougall
FAO, Geneva

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agenda 9th

NOTE ON WORK OF THE AGENDA COMMITTEE

1. It is suggested that the work of the Agenda Committee would be most conveniently dealt with in three parts:

A. Inclusion, deletion or deferment of items.

B. Recommendations regarding procedure, including reference to Committees, Commissions or specialised agencies or to Secretary-General without preliminary debate in the Council.

C. Order of business.

2. A. Inclusion, deletion or deferment of items.

This might also include any recommended reformulation of items.

The following proposals under the heads have been made in the papers submitted to the Agenda Committee:

Item 2 New Zealand, defer.

Item 3 New Zealand, defer.

Item 5 U.S. and New Zealand, defer; U.K. delete.

Item 6 U.K. defer

Item 21 U.K. defer

Item 22 (i) U.K. defer
and (ii)

Item 26 U.S. and New Zealand, defer

Item 28 U.K. defer

Item 49 U.S. recommendation item be not listed separately, but as a document to be discussed in conjunction with the report of the Economic and Employment Commission; New Zealand, "it is possible that items 8 and 49 could be dealt with together, as they each cover the same subject."

B. Recommendations regarding procedure, including reference to committees, specialised agencies, commissions or the Secretary-General without preliminary debate in the Council.

Two observations regarding committees to be established at the ninth Session are to be found in the United States paper E/C3/19:

(i) that the United States will propose the establishment of a small committee, of 4 or 5 members, on item 33 "Implementation of Economic and Social Recommendations".

(ii) that the United States will propose that the Council Co-ordination Committee should this session be a committee of the whole, and that all the reports of the specialised agencies should be referred to it.

It also seems necessary for the Agenda Committee to consider:

(iii) what recommendations it may wish to make on the procedure to be followed on item 9 "Economic development of under-developed countries".

(iv) whether it wishes to make any recommendation about a separate Human Rights Committee, as at the seventh Session, or whether it contemplates that committee references on Human Rights items will be to the Social Committee.

As regards recommendations concerning the reference of items to committees, etc. without preliminary debate in the Council, the following is a tabular statement of the suggestions received from the representatives of the United States, New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

X	=	Commence plenary
XX	=	Commence committee, final plenary
XXX	=	Commence plenary; committee stage and final plenary also envisaged.

	<u>United States</u>	<u>New Zealand</u>	<u>United Kingdom</u>
Item 1	X	X	X
Item 2	X	(Defer)	X
Item 3	X	(Postpone)	X
Item 4	X	X	X
Item 5	(defer)	(defer)	(delete)
Item 6	XX	XX	(defer)
Item 7	XX	X	X
Item 8	XX	XX	XX
Item 9	XXX	XXX	XXX
	"General debate only, previous to reference to Economic Committee	General debate together with items 15, 16, 17, before reference to Committee	"In order to avoid unnecessary duplication of debate, the Council should also deal under it with those sections of the reports of the specialised agencies and commissions which relate to this subject or to technical assistance generally".
Item 10	(no recommendation)	XX	XX
Item 11	XX	XX	XX
Item 12	XX	XX	X
Item 13	XX	XX	X
Item 14	XX	XX	X
Item 15	XXX	XXX	XX
Item 16	XXX	XXX	XX
Item 17	XXX	XXX	XX
Item 18	XX	XX	X
Item 19	XX	XX	XX
Item 20	X	X	Direct reference to Social Commission under Rule 15
Item 21	X	X	(postpone)

	<u>United States</u>	<u>New Zealand</u>	<u>United Kingdom</u>
Item 22	XX	X	X (22 (iii) i.e. Report of fourth session of Commission on Human Rights). (Postpone 22 (i) and (ii) i.e. Report of fifth session and memorandum on Year-Book)
Item 23	X	X	X
Item 24	X	X	X
Item 25	XX	X	X
Item 26	(defer)	(defer)	XX
Item 27	XX	XX	XX
Item 28	XX	XX	(defer)
Item 29	XX	XX	XX
Item 30	XX	XX	X
Item 31	X	X	XX
Item 32	X	X	X
Item 33	XXX (special small committee)	X	X
Item 34	XX	XX	XX
Item 35	XX	XX	X
Item 36	XX	XX	X
Item 37	XX	XX	X
Item 38	XX	XX	X
Item 39	XX	XX	X
Item 40	XX	XX	X
Item 41	XX	XX	X
Item 42	XX	XX	X
Item 43	XX	XX	XX
Item 44	X	X	X
Item 45	X	X	XX
Item 46	X	X	X

	<u>United States</u>	<u>New Zealand</u>	<u>United Kingdom</u>
Item 47	X	XX (to Co-ord. Cttee)	XX (to Co-ord. Cttee)
Item 48	X	X	X
Item 49	(Take document under item 8)	(Take together with item 8)	(No recommendation)
Item 50	X	X	X
Item 51	X	X	X
Item 52	X	X	X
Supplementary No.1		No recommendations	
Supplementary No.2		No recommendations	

C. Order of Business

This is dealt with in the Secretariat note E/C3/20, the recommendations in which may require some adjustment in the light of decisions taken by the Committee under heads A and B above.

Serial No. 486. 8020
No. d'ordre

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Cabinet du Sec. Gén. |
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A draft reply to this communication is to be submitted to the Executive Office of the Secretary-General not later than:

Prière de soumettre au Bureau du Secrétaire général le projet de réponse à la communication jointe pour le:

July 8 1948

REMARKS:

OBSERVATIONS:

FOR THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL:
POUR LE CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL:

F. S

Date:

Date:

July 1

Chief Registrar

Le Chef de la Section d'enregistrement

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République Française

65/02

File No.	ECA
Name Indexed	
Dept. of Ex. Off.	
1 July	
BRANCH REGISTRY	

*Délégation
aux Nations Unies*

New York, le JUN 30 1949

GT/od

No 170

P.J.

La Délégation française présente ses compliments
à Monsieur le Secrétaire Général et a l'honneur de lui trans-
mettre ci-joint une lettre No 45, du Ministère des Affaires
Etrangères, en date du 25 Juin 1949, et relative aux sugges-
tions apportées pour l'examen de l'ordre du jour de la
9ème session du Conseil Economique et Social./.

EX. OFF. FILE NO. 9.8020

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
RECEIVED JUL 1 1949

For ACTION to: SCA

S.T.

M. Trygve Lie
Secrétaire Général
de l'Organisation
des Nations Unies
LAKE SUCCESS

FOR ACTION TO:	<u>Humantet</u>
NOTED AND TO BE HANDLED BY	
DATE: JUL 1 1949	
<input type="checkbox"/>	LETTER, ETC. HANDLED
<input type="checkbox"/>	NO ACTION REQUIRED

JUL 1 11 15 AM 1949
UNITED NATIONS
REGISTRY CONTROL
OFFICE

THE SECRETARY
GENERAL
UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK

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SUBJECT: [illegible]

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BM/MB

MINISTÈRE
DES
AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES

LIBERTÉ · ÉGALITÉ · FRATERNITÉ

RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE

SECRETARIAT DES CONFÉRENCES

PARIS, LE

25 JUIN 1949

Ne 45

Monsieur le Secrétaire Général,

Me référant à la résolution 218 (VIII) par

laquelle le Conseil Economique et Social a invité

ses membres à communiquer au Secrétaire Général toutes

observations qu'ils pourraient avoir à formuler sur

l'ordre du jour provisoire de la 9ème session, de façon

que le Comité de l'ordre du jour puisse en tenir comp-

te dans ses recommandations au Conseil, j'ai l'hon-

neur de suggérer

1°) que les points 3 et 5, qui ne présentent pas un
caractère d'actualité ou ne paraissent pas suffisamment

Monsieur TRYGVE LIE
Secrétaire Général
de l'Organisation des Nations Unies
- LAKE SUCCESS -

...

préparés pour être discutés dès maintenant soient renvoyés
à la prochaine session du Conseil;

2°) que les points 1, 4, 6, 20, 21, 23, 24, 33, 45, 46,
48, 50 à 52, qui se rapportent soit à des questions de pro-
cédure soit à des questions de fond pouvant être, semble-t-il,
rapidement réglées ou renvoyées à la Commission technique du
Conseil ou à l'institution spécialisées compétente sans examen
préalable en Comité, soient étudiées en séance plénière;

3°) que les points 2, 7 et 9 fassent l'objet d'une dis-
cussion en séance plénière avant d'être renvoyés à un comité du
Conseil;

4°) que les points 8, 10 à 14, 18, 19, 22, 25 à 32, 35 à 42,
44, 47 soient renvoyés directement à un comité du Conseil;

5°) que les points 34 et 43, qui soulèvent tous deux des
questions de coordination, soient étudiés par un comité spécial
qui serait constitué à cet effet ./.

Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Secrétaire Général,
les assurances de ma haute considération.

Directeur du Secrétariat des Conférences

V. Blouin

Secrétaire Général

de l'Organisation des Nations Unies

- 2000000000 -

Serial No. 486. 8045
No. d'ordre

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Sces. Adm. & Fin. | <input type="checkbox"/> Conf. & Gen. Servs.
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Conseil Sec. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social Affs.
Affs. Sociales | <input type="checkbox"/> Trusteeship
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Cabinet du Sec. Gén. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

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OBSERVATIONS:

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POUR LE CABINET DU SECRÉTAIRE GÉNÉRAL:

F.S

Date:

Date:

July 5

Chief Registrar

Le Chef de la Section d'enregistrement

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FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

5-6/02
ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES POUR
L'ALIMENTATION ET L'AGRICULTURE

Conseil de l'O. A. A.
6^e Session, Paris

File No. **ECA**
Name Indexed
Dept. of Economic Affairs
5 - JUL 1949
BRANCH REGISTRY

Paris, le 28 June 1949
20, rue Quentin-Bauchart. - Bal. 07-00

Excellency,

I have the honor to forward the text of the following resolution on Technical Assistance for Economic Development which was adopted by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at its Sixth Session held in Paris 13-24 June 1949:

THE COUNCIL

Having considered the report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on Technical Assistance for Economic Development, prepared in accordance with the resolution of ECOSOC of March 4th, 1949, and the Director-General's proposals regarding FAO's participation therein,

Regards the proposals for an extended program of technical assistance as being of the greatest importance for the attainment of the purposes of the Nations as set out in the U.N. Charter, and in the preamble of the Constitution of FAO,

Approves the principle of full participation by FAO in the proposed extended program of technical assistance,

Attaches great importance to the development of the technical aid program in such a way as to ensure the utmost possible cooperation and coordination between the various Agencies and Governments concerned, and

Requests the Director-General to bring this resolution to the attention of ECOSOC at its Ninth Session.

His Excellency
Trygve Lie
Secretary-General
United Nations
Lake Success.

EX. OFF. FILE NO. 8045

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OF THE
SECRETARY-GENERAL
RECEIVED
JUL 5 1949

For ACTION to: **ECA**

-2-

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N. E. Dodd

Norris E. Dodd
Director-General

FOR ACTION TO:	<i>Dumoutet</i>
IMPORTANT: TO BE COMPLETED BY	
ACTION DATE	
<input type="checkbox"/>	ACTION COMPLETED
<input type="checkbox"/>	LETTER, ETC. ACKNOWLEDGED
<input type="checkbox"/>	NO ACTION REQUIRED

JUL 6 9 26 AM 1949

UNITED NATIONS
REGISTRY CONTROL
OFFICE

☐ NO FOREIGN DISSEMINATION
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The Council devoted close attention to the subject of Technical Assistance for Economic Development. It had before it the report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on Technical Assistance prepared for submission to ECOSOC by the Secretary General of UN in consultation with the Director-General of the Specialized Agencies and the report of the Director-General on a Supplementary Technical Assistance Program of FAO. It also heard a statement on the procedure of the Working Party set up by ACC for the preparation of the report to ECOSOC on which the Deputy Director-General and other FAO officials played a substantial role.

In the discussion on the reports it became clear that members of the Council attached the highest importance to the proposals for increased technical assistance to underdeveloped countries and considered that the proposals put forward were likely greatly to increase FAO's ability to assist its member countries. The Council recognized the importance of provision for cooperation between all the international agencies concerned in a broad integrated program of technical assistance for economic development in which agriculture, nutrition, forestry, fisheries and social welfare must form important parts. The Council also calls attention to need for full cooperation of FAO's activities with bilateral schemes to ensure the avoidance of overlapping and duplication.

It was recognized that the FAO supplementary Technical Assistance Program was a description of the fields in which FAO could render technical assistance together with tentative estimates of cost rather than a definitive program of specific projects in particular regions or countries.

It was agreed that such an approach was inevitable at the present stage of the evolution of the general plans. A number of proposals were made regarding fields of activity appropriate for FAO, and emphasis was laid on the need for the closest cooperation with the UN and the other specialized agencies concerned.

The Council adopted the following resolutions:-

THE COUNCIL

Having considered the report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on Technical Assistance for Economic Development, prepared in accordance with the resolution of ECOSOC of March 4th, 1949, and the Director-General's proposals regarding FAO's participation therein,

Regards the proposals for an extended program of technical assistance as being of the greatest importance for the attainment of the purposes of the Nations as set out in the U.N. Charter, and in the preamble of the Consitution of FAO,

Approves the principle of full participation by FAO in the proposed extended program of technical assistance,

Attaches great importance to the development of the technical aid program in such a way as to ensure the utmost possible cooperation and coordination between the various Agencies and Governments concerned, and

Requests the Director-General to bring this resolution to the attention of ECOSOC at its 9th Session.

In its consideration of the proposals, the Council attached special importance to the longer term projects to be carried out by FAO individually or in association with the UN or other specialized Agencies, such as the development of extension services, improvement of statistics, resource-surveys, training of technicians, migration, but they urge that priority should be given to undertakings which result in the early increase in food supplies such as production programs and improved farming methods, control of animal and plant diseases and reduction of waste on farms, in stores and in distribution.

The Council adopted the following resolution:

THE COUNCIL

Requests the Director-General to circulate the report on a Supplementary Technical Program (CL 6/9) to Member Governments together with the Council's comments, to place the subject of technical assistance on the Agenda of the Regional Conferences, together with suitable documentation,

Recommends that the Director-General should avail himself of the widest possible expert advice on methods which have been proved valuable in the development of underdeveloped areas, and that he should consult those countries which have had special experience in this field, either by consulting individual experts or groups of experts concerned, with the object of completing a report for submission to the Conference at the next session, comprising

- (a) a survey of the diverse forms and techniques in which technical assistance can be given, and
- (b) an examination of the resources available for specialized advice upon which calls might be made,

and further recommends that the Director-General should take such action as he deems desirable to ascertain from the Governments of the member countries their preliminary views regarding the most urgent needs for technical assistance.

The Council also adopted the following resolution:

THE COUNCIL

Recommends that the Conference at its regular session should examine the revised proposals of the Director-General as a basis for decisions regarding the supplementary budget required for technical assistance,

Requests the Director-General to maintain continued close consultation with the UN and the Specialized Agencies concerned and, in consultation with the Council, to take whatever action may be required to bring the technical assistance program into operation at the earliest practicable date.

9th agenda

MARTIN HILL AMSANITA ROME

UNITED STATES HAVE SUBMITTED PROPOSAL AGENDA COMMITTEE
COUNCIL COORDINATION COMMITTEE SHOULD TAKE ALL
SPECIALISED AGENCY REPORTS ALSO CONSIST COMMITTEE
WHOLE STOP YOUR VIEWS PLEASE

GILBERT YATES

M. Gilbert Yates, Secretary Ecosoc

20 juin 1949

9th agenda

UNITED NATIONS • NATIONS UNIES

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Gilbert Yates
FROM: Georges Dumontet
SUBJECT: Agenda Item 29

Item 29

Date 17 June 1949

In connexion with the attached, the note marked Annex II seems to be the material necessary for the Agenda Committee. Annex I gives the details which might be of some use.

MEMORANDUM

SG 84/4/06/AGD

15 June 1949

To: Mr. Georges Dumontet
ECOSOC Secretariat

cc: Mr. John P. Humphrey, Director
Human Rights Division

Mr. W. Martin Hill
Director for Coordination of Specialized Agencies
and Economic and Social Matters

From: M. H. Higgins, Assistant Director *MH/H*
Transport and Communications Division

Subject: Resolutions 14, 23 and 31 of the UN Conference on
Freedom of Information (Geneva, 23 March to 21 April 1948).

1. In a memorandum, No. SG 84/4/06 of 8 June, from myself to Mr. John P. Humphrey and Mr. W. Martin Hill (a copy of which I attach for your information (Annex I)), I gave an account of ECOSOC and International Telecommunication Union (ITU) action on the above mentioned three resolutions of the UN Conference on Freedom of Information and suggested a future course of action, which has been agreed to by Mr. Humphrey and by Mr. Hill.
2. It would seem important that ECOSOC should dispose of the resolutions before the International Administrative Telegraph and Telephone (Paris) Conference completes its work because some of the telecommunication problems concerned fall within the purview of this Conference and there will not be another Telegraph and Telephone Conference until 1952 (Buenos Aires).
3. I shall therefore be grateful if you will acquaint the ECOSOC Agenda Committee with the facts and request that Resolutions 14, 23 and 31 of the UN Conference of Freedom of Information will be dealt with in time for any decisions requiring ITU action to be communicated to the ITU before the end of the Paris Conference, probably late July. For your assistance I attach at Annex II a draft paper which you may wish to circulate to the Members of the ECOSOC Agenda Committee.

MH/Higgins

Att.

Annex I

MEMORANDUM

SG 84/4/06

To: Mr. John Humphrey
Director, Human Rights Division

8 June 1949

Mr. Martin Hill
Director for Coordination of Specialized Agencies
and Economic and Social Matters

From: M. H. Higgins
Assistant Director
Transport and Communications Division

Subject: Resolutions 14, 23 and 31 of the
U.N. Conference on Freedom of Information
(Geneva, 23 March to 21 April 1948)

1. The U.N. Conference on Freedom of Information recommended to ECOSOC that the following matters be referred to the International Telecommunication Union:

- (a) Exchange of news over rented teleprinter lines (Resolution No. 14. - see Annex A).
- (b) A document (E/Conf.6/29) prepared by the U.N. Secretariat dealing with the relationship between "freedom of information" and the "electronic phase of international telecommunications" (Resolution No. 23.- see Annexes A and B).
- (c) Multiple destination press transmissions (Resolution No. 31. - see Annex A).

2. As far as is known the ITU representatives at the above Conference took no exception to these Resolutions, but the Secretary-General of the ITU subsequently wrote a letter to the President of ECOSOC during the Seventh ECOSOC Session on August 8, 1948, stating that the subjects raised in Resolutions 14 and 31 had already been studied by the ITU and would be discussed by the Administrative Telegraph and Telephone Conference, Paris, 1949; and that as to Resolution 23, Document E/Conf. 6/29 "is, as a whole, pointless and, in certain respects, unjustifiably wounding to the susceptibilities of the ITU." He suggested that the ITU might well request ECOSOC "to be good enough to shelve this Resolution No. 23" and that "United Nations could usefully propose to the ITU that the questions raised in the three resolutions be included in the Agenda of the forthcoming Paris administrative Telegraph and Telephone conference." The Secretary-General also wrote a letter along similar lines to the Secretary of ECOSOC in which he stated that the three Resolutions would be referred to the ITU Administrative Council.

3. ECOSOC did not discuss these Resolutions at its Seventh Session but transmitted them to the General Assembly (Doc. E/1065. - Resolution 152(VII)). The General Assembly at its 211th plenary meeting, 13 May 1949, decided to refer them back to "the Economic and Social Council for appropriate action,

at the Council's discretion" (Doc. No. A/976, 16 May, 1949). The Secretary-General of United Nations has prepared a Memorandum (Doc. E/W.13) containing draft resolutions for the acceptance of the Council in its consideration of the Assembly's resolution and a relevant extract is attached as Annex C.

4. The Secretary-General reported his action to the ITU Administrative Council and the U.K. Member of that Council also drew attention to Resolutions 14 and 23, and suggested that UN should present concrete proposals to the appropriate ITU conferences (in particular the Paris, 1949, Conference) for amendment of the existing Acts of the Union. The Administrative Council at its Third Session (Sept.-Oct. 1948) resolved to draw the attention of the French Administration (host Administration to the Telegraph and Telephone Conference, Paris, 1949) to the three resolutions "which, although they have not yet been dealt with by ECOSOC, might be of interest to the Paris Conference."

5. A meeting was held at Lake Success on 28 March 1949 to discuss UN interest in the Paris Telegraph and Telephone Conference (see summary record in this file) and it was agreed that it would be better if the above resolutions were not discussed at Paris unless and until they were officially referred to the ITU by the UN, and that an informal approach might be made to the French Government and ITU for the purpose of preventing the inclusion of this item on the Conference agenda. (For action see Mr. Delaney's memorandum, Annex D.)

6. The three Resolutions were not published as a document of the Paris Conference but were circulated prior to the Conference in an ITU Telegraph and Telephone Division Circular (No. 1207) which contained comments by the French Administration on particular matters which the French felt that ITU Members might wish to study before the Conference opened. The French Administration commented that only Resolutions 14 and 31 seemed likely to be of interest to the Conference, and suggested that Resolution 14 should be examined by a Committee which would be set up to study a similar question already referred to the Conference by an organ of ITU. The Administration was of opinion that the three Resolutions should be published for the Conference.

7. Mr. Delaney, Chief of Section for Aviation, Shipping, and Communications, Transport and Communications Division, is representing UN at the Paris Conference. He has discussed the Resolutions with Mr. Mulatier, Secretary-General of the Conference and with others there who are all of opinion that any lengthy discussion of them should be avoided; in particular, Resolution 23 might provoke adverse comment. Mr. Delaney has requested the Secretariat of the Conference to circulate the Resolution of the General Assembly mentioned in paragraph 3 above. The French Delegation intends to bring the Resolutions to the attention of the Conference with a suggestion that they shall not be considered, since ECOSOC has as yet taken no final decision on them. The Delegation will point out that the problems with which Resolutions 14 and 31 are concerned will, in any event, be discussed by the Conference in other connections.

8. Mr. Delaney considers that ECOSOC should be informed -

(a) of action by the Conference on the three Resolutions- (say) an extract from the minutes of the relevant Plenary Session, and

(b) of any separate action by the Conference on the problems with which Resolutions 14 and 31 are concerned.

9. Mr. Delanney further considers that if ECOSOC wishes to maintain any of the Resolutions its decisions should be reached before the end of the Paris Conference and communicated to that Conference for action. An Administrative Telegraph and Telephone Conference is the appropriate organ of ITU to deal with many of the questions raised by the Resolutions and after Paris the next Conference will be that of Buenos Aires in 1952.

10. It is suggested:

- (a) that Mr. Delanney be instructed to support the line of action proposed by the French Administration and to request that ECOSOC be informed as soon as possible of action taken by the Conference, and
- (b) that the President of ECOSOC Ninth Session be informed, through the ECOSOC Secretariat, that it is important that ECOSOC should consider these Resolutions in time for any decisions to be communicated to ITU for action before the end of the Paris Conference.

Attachments-

Annex A (Resolutions Nos. 14,23,31)

B (Doc. E/Conf.6/29)

C (Draft Resolutions concerning the ITU)

D (copy of memorandum from Mr. Delanney, 30 May)

Resolution No. 14

The United Nations Conference on the Freedom of Information recommends that the Economic and Social Council suggest to the International Telecommunication union that, where teletype lines rented for a long period are installed between two or more information agencies, not only may the agencies bound by contracts exchange information over these lines, but also the correspondents of affiliated agencies may use these lines without additional expense in order to furnish news to the agencies for which they are working.

Resolution No. 23

The United Nations Conference on the Freedom of Information takes note of the Document of the Secretariat concerning international Telecommunications and the Freedom of Information (E/CONF. 6/29*) and recommends that because of the essentially technical nature of this question, the Economic and Social Council refer it to the International Telecommunication Union for study.

Resolution No. 31

Considering that one of the means of developing the exchange of information consists in the reception of press radiotelephony emissions intended for many listeners, and considering that thirty seven nations at present authorize the private reception of information services intended for many listeners the United Nations Conference on the Freedom of Information takes note of this practice of private reception of multiple destination information services intended for many listeners, and, proposes that the Economic and Social Council refer this problem to the International Telecommunication Union or any other competent organization for study.

*) Note of the Secretary General: This document is attached as an annex.

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS AND THE
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

1. World-wide Movement of Information:- Information is exchanged today between nations by three major methods - the mails, by electronic facilities and by the traveler. The postal service, which is the cheapest method, carries the greatest volume of international information. The electronic method which is expensive is perhaps the most efficient, complex and undeveloped means in the world today. The traveler is the most direct and the most costly method, yet it affords a thorough exchange of ideas on a person-to-person basis. By volume it cannot be compared with the mails and electronic methods.

2. Scope of Electrical International Communications:- This paper deals with the electronic phase of international communications and its relationship to the general subject - "Freedom of Information". The world today is closely interwoven with wire, submarine cable, radio telephone, radio telegraph, radio facsimile and radio broadcasting channels with all facilities carrying a large volume of information, both voice and written record, between nations. Through the operation of written agreements and contracts between nations and systems, press information and commercial messages reach their destination by direct communication routes or through relay points. These national systems are for the major part Government owned. Many are subsidized by the Governments concerned and a small portion are owned by private enterprise. These international systems, with the exception of those engaged in international broadcasting, are either functioning to make a profit on their investment or make the operation financially self-supporting.

The world's great national and international systems have been designed primarily for national usage. They were modernized during the last World War by applying all of the latest developments in the art. They have been expanded in size and coverage to handle the great volumes of traffic imposed by the war, and to such extent that today there is hardly a village or hamlet in any nation that cannot be reached by electrical communications.

This great world-wide telecommunications plant has much idle and unused capacity. Only a small portion of its potential is being used effectively internationally because of national regulation and high rates charged for the exchange of information; lack of uniformity of terminal and transit charges; and the need for a new international monetary unit to replace the present gold franc. Rates for press and regular message traffic are so high that they sharply restrict the number of possible users and the kind of messages transmitted. Short-wave radio and international broadcasting over long-wave has never been exploited by private interests for the reason that it does not pay.

3. International Regulation of Telecommunications:- The Madrid Conference of 1932 marked an important stage in the international regulation of telecommunications, for it was here that the international organizations of telegraphs, telephones and radio were unified and the International Telecommunication Union was created with practically every country in the world accepting membership. The International Telecommunication Union, formed under the provisions of the Madrid Convention, was a loosely knit organization. The heart of the Madrid agreements is the Allocation Table which is essentially self-executing. The means visualized for dealing with problems arising under the Convention were the use of ordinary diplomatic channels and the holding of administrative Conferences at five-year intervals. Accordingly, the structure of the Union did not provide for any continuing body having powers to deal in an executive manner with any matters of substance. The provisions of the New International Telecommunication Convention, signed at Atlantic City, New Jersey in 1947, establish a new structure for the Union and place it in a position suitable and practical for the accomplishment of its purposes. An agreement approved by the Second Session of the General Assembly establishes the International Telecommunication Union as a Specialized Agency of the United Nations.

The purposes of the Union are broadly stated to be the maintenance and extension of international cooperation, and promotion of the development of technical facilities so as to increase their usefulness and make them generally available to the public. The constant increasing of rates today lowers the usefulness of international facilities and makes the service less available to the general public. Article 3 of the Convention states that the Union is specifically charged with:-

"effecting allocation of the radio frequency spectrum and registration of radio frequency assignments in order to avoid harmful interference between radio stations of different countries;

"fostering collaboration among its Members and Associate Members with a view to the establishment of rates at levels as low as possible * consistent with efficient service and taking into account the necessity for maintaining independent financial administration of telecommunications on a sound financial basis;

"promoting the adoption of measures for insuring the safety of life through the cooperation of telecommunications service;

"undertaking studies, formulating recommendations, and collecting and publishing information on telecommunication matters for the benefit of all Members and Associate Members."

NOTE: * Not underscored in original.

It is significant to point out that in addition to setting forth the principle of establishing international radio-telegraph rates in a manner consistent with the maintenance of a sound financial structure, it also establishes the principle of agreement between administrations at both ends of the circuit upon rate changes before putting them in effect. This is in contrast to the unilateral action which, on many occasions, has been practiced in the past. It is reasonable to expect national regulatory commissions to give greater weight to the maintenance of a sound financial structure for international telecommunications carriers than to the general public usefulness when rate problems are presented. If all rate establishing agencies would earnestly endeavour to keep revenue and general public usefulness in balance when considering international rates, a greater flow of information between nations by electronic facilities would be possible.

4. Regional Regulation Machinery:- In many services such as wire telephone and standard (medium) wave radio communications, standard and short wave broadcasting, the problems for solution are of continental or regional, rather than of world interest. The International Telecommunication Convention allows the conclusion of regional arrangements on condition that their provisions do not conflict with those of the International Telecommunication Convention and the Regulations annexed thereto.

5. Description of Electronic Telecommunications:- This media of mass communications embraces all means of international and domestic communications utilizing electrical force as the prime mover for voice, written record and image transmissions and receptions. It includes radio broadcasting, radio photo, radio point-to-point service, facsimile, television, wire line teleprinter and telephone service, submarine cable, point-to-point service, etc. All of these means are used daily for the transmission of information between nations.

By its very nature radio is a medium of mass communications; it is a carrier of intelligence. It delivers ideas with an impact that is powerful. In a forum for international discussion and education, the voice and the written word of radio can carry public issues around the earth and mould public opinion far more quickly and far more effectively than any other means.

Television:- With its eye and ear appeal, television is radio in combination with motion pictures -- radio with films and the world news. Its unlimited possibilities for service and employment are matched only by the complexity of its many problems - economic, artistic, legal, financial and scientific. Its application on an international basis where borders are widely separated has not been solved; however, its potential force should not be overlooked in any discussion of exchange of information between nations. It is a service to the general public. International television, of course, belongs to "tomorrow". The gradual correction of the distorted trans-oceanic images of today augur well for the future.

During the war micro-wave transmission were advanced tremendously for use in radio relaying of television from point-to-point or city-to-city. The coaxial cable, as another artery of television networks, was further developed and its service area extended. In certain heavily populated international areas of the world today television has immediate usage in distributing the news and images on an international scale and the Conference may wish to take cognizance of this possibility and recommend regional studies. It should be understood, however, that necessity for heavy investment by the public in receiving equipment limits the use of this medium to only a very small part of the population.

International Radio Telephone:- This service is used by many press agencies and individuals to handle press reports and dispatches between nations. Its principal usage is commercial and personal calls. It is of particular interest as it offers a cheaper rate on a word basis than the regular point-to-point written press tariffs. (See Graph "C" attached). #

The present state of the international telephone service requires revision of techniques and standardization of operating practices. Specialists in international telephony believe that the traffic will expand quickly with a rapid and efficient service. To provide high speed, manual operation must be replaced by semi or fully automatic methods. Consequently, existing national services need reviewing and, if necessary, replanning as integral parts of the international system.

During the period between the two world Wars many new international circuits came into service, permitting the public an ever-increasing range over which telephone calls could be made. It might be expected that the international telephone service would have benefited from the better operating practices in use by the national administrations and also that it would have been able to avoid the failures known to exist in some national systems. This has not been the case and we find the international service inferior to the service provided domestically.

It is an important fact that an efficient international service cannot be established on the basis of several different operating practices, and many national administrations would prefer to operate all their different international circuits on a uniform practice, even though this were not particularly efficient, rather than mix several methods, some good and some bad.

Most domestic calls are established in a matter of seconds while international calls, on the other hand, require from one to several hours. There is no good technical reason for such serious disparity.

All charts mentioned in this paper will be issued separately as an addendum.

It is the function of the International Telephone Consultative Committee of the International Telecommunication Union to propose and take measures which will improve international service, though such improvements may be in conflict with national interests.

Because of the international condition described above the Conference may wish to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that it request the International Telecommunication Union to refer the problem to the C.C.I.F., for investigation and study with a view to establishing uniform practices and procedures of operation.

Facsimile and Image Transmissions:- Facsimile offers a private, infallible, high-speed, economical means of transmitting writing, pictures or printed matter between any two points that are connected by a wire circuit of reasonably good quality or by a radio channel. Transmission originates at a photo-electric cell which scans the original. It converts the blacks and grays of the numerous scanning lines into a varying signal voltage which is amplified and sent over the circuit to a recording apparatus. Here the signal is recorded on electro-sensitive paper to reproduce the shadows and contrasts of the original in their proper relationship.

Accuracy is absolutely assured, as the original written copy is in no wise altered in the transmission. Human errors are eliminated. If the copy is printed or typed in small letters, a far greater number of words can be transmitted per minute than by any known method. The transmission speed depends entirely on the quality of the communication channel used; that is on a frequency which can be used without excessive attenuation, since the carrier frequency rises with increased speeds. Speeds of from 15 square inches per minute to 44 square inches per minute or more can be made available for various types of channels. Its use is at present confined to short length radio transmissions. However, its counterpart "Radio Photo" is at present used for the transmission of pictures and images via the use of frequency-shift or carrier-shift, on international high frequency channels affording world-wide coverage. This associated service is expensive because it requires in most cases photographic processing at the receiving terminals before copies can be delivered.

Facsimile is now being used locally for broadcasting the news and press in written form direct to the listener. It has great potentialities for long range transmission of written information between nations and may offer in the near future one solution for a universal and cheap press rate on a world-wide basis. A new development has been reported of a system which is a combination of television and facsimile. It is claimed that this new system, which uses a television broadcasting transmitter, can transmit and receive at the rate of one million words per minute. Even if it is proven at one thousand words per minute on a frequency band width of an ordinary international radio telephone channel, it is

easy to visualize its great value in moving written information between nations provided the required operating practices and national regulations are in harmony. The time is not distant when it will be possible to print national newspapers simultaneously at many points throughout the world.

The radio art is advancing so rapidly today that when a new device or system goes into service it shortly thereafter enters the obsolescent stage, because of newer developments and improvements in component parts. The large capital investment in world telecommunications plants and the necessity for adequate return on it makes it almost impossible to obtain general national changes which would cause them to discard obsolete systems making a small profit for the stockholders. The Conference may wish to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that it request the International Telecommunication Union to have the facsimile method analyzed and explored as an economical and efficient method of moving written information between nations.

6. International Radio Broadcasting:- International Radio Broadcasting is perhaps the greatest medium in the world today for passing information between nations. It is generally recognized today that radio broadcasting can perform a service which cannot be performed by any other means. This is particularly true for those areas where the press suffers from a shortage of newsprint, and where newspapers and newsreels can not be distributed or only with considerable delay. Radio broadcasting is also of great value in countries with a high percentage of illiterate nationals.

Radio waves are not subject to national barriers. They penetrate borders and everything along their path. It is true that they can be stopped by jamming but this is an expensive and most complex operation at best and causes the user, in many cases, as much harm as the originator of the transmission. During World War II there was little or no evidence of high powered high frequency jamming. Most interference today is caused by the over-crowded assignment of wave-lengths in the short-wave radio broadcast spectrum. This is confirmed by the fact that fifty-seven nations are now beaming more than 4,000 hours of international short-wave broadcasting per week.

In order for international high frequency broadcasting to approach in quality of transmission that of domestic or standard frequency transmissions the present congestion in the international high frequency or short-wave broadcast bands will have to be eliminated. The Atlantic City International High Frequency Broadcasting Conference of 1947 has recognized this need and at its next Conference in Mexico City in October, 1948, the International Telecommunications Union will study all possibilities of economizing in the use of high frequency channels for broadcasting. It will be necessary to examine all categories of broadcasting services on high frequencies and the different factors that have to be considered, as well as the weights to be given to these factors under various conditions, when questions of priority are being investigated, with a view to arriving at an orderly and approved solution to this vital international problem. Some form of sharing of high frequencies between nations will in all probability be resorted to.

The international high frequency radio spectrum set aside for international broadcasting of the voice between nations is not large because it is in direct competition with the radio point-to-point written record (fixed) service, the Maritime Service, Aeronautical Service and amateur service. It is estimated that it will occupy, after the Mexico City Conference, approximately nine percent of the usable portion of the spectrum. In all probability many nations will have to curtail a portion of their present broadcasts to keep within the bands specified by the Convention.

The Conference might wish to recognize as a fundamental principle that no country has any permanent and fixed property right to any particular international high frequency but that the ether, in the usable international bands, is the joint property of all the peoples of the world. If this concept were recognized, it would follow that the available frequencies should be assigned to those governments and organizations with priority given to those serving the world public interest.

To achieve its mission international radio broadcasting must have listeners. Merely to broadcast into unlistening space is a waste of energy and effort. It is not the kilowatts of the transmitter which are important but the message which the listener, rich or poor, great or humble, plucks from the spectrum. Item 5 of the Provisional Agenda of the Conference provides an opportunity to discuss measures concerning the free publication and reception of information and consideration of the restrictions imposed by governments on persons or groups wishing to receive and disseminate information, ideas and opinions with particular reference to, inter alia, the limitation or regulation by governments of the right of all persons under their authority to possess and operate radio receiving sets covering all bands used in domestic and international radio broadcasting.

7. International Press Service:~ International press today is moved by submarine telegraph cable, radio point-to-point service both manual and printer, facsimile, radiophoto and radio telephone. The major volume is carried by radio point-to-point and radio multiple address. In this field, as well as the general commercial field, radio has broken the overseas communications monopoly of cable-owning countries and nowadays links all countries of the world for efficient handling of press information.

In order to secure the optimum development and use of radio communications for large scale efficient and economical exchange of press information between nations two major objectives must be accomplished otherwise this means, which has the greatest potential for increasing international understanding, will be sparingly used and possibly replaced by an inexpensive and less efficient means such as the air mail. These two objectives are:

- A. low universal international telecommunications press rate.
- B. In order to permit the smooth and rapid exchange of written information between all nations existing world telegraph plant structures must be susceptible to inter-connection and inter-change of messages on an automatic or semi-automatic basis cancelling the present manual method of exchange or relay. To this end it is necessary to adopt a standardized switching system based upon a standard five-unit tape code of operation.

/See Agreement Between the Governments Represented at the Bermuda Telecommunications Conference, Bermuda 4 December 1945, Treaty Series No. 17, London: His Majesty's Stationery Office (1946).

International press rates at the present time are so high that the general and full usage of international facilities is restricted. Rates are not stabilized and there is a drive under way by many international commercial carriers for further increases. International carriers present to the National Regulatory Commissions their various claims as to press rates which take into account working capital, government taxes, depreciation of plant, operating revenue deductions, fair rate of return and other factors bearing on what they consider to be their revenue requirements. The claims made by the carriers are stated in most convincing terms and requested increases are seldom disallowed by the Regulatory Commissions. This results in a steady or increasing rate structure and it is urgent that the situation be reviewed on an international basis so that the rate payers can secure relief and this most efficient method for moving information can be more universally used.

Many of the communication carriers in the world today handle both commercial and government traffic in addition to press traffic. There are a few licenced carriers which only handle press communications. As a result the overhead of those carriers handling only press is greater than that of the carriers in the general service field. It should be understood that carriers in the general service field obtain greater revenue for regular message traffic than they do from press. Therefore, in any rate analysis of a purely press carrier it should be recognized that it will require a greater volume of press to equal the revenue obtained from handling a lesser volume of regular message traffic. This situation usually works against the public user in the approval of requested rate increases. Every increase in international press rates is followed by a decline in international press volume.

There is also a practice on the part of commercial companies in the general service field of handling international press on idle circuits and at such time as the facilities are not needed for regular full-rate messages. With the development of methods along multi-channel operation in common use during the war it should be possible for companies in the commercial field to give the same priority in handling press as is now given to full-rate messages. This can be accomplished technically by assigning specific channels for press only.

The provisions of the Madrid Convention relating to telecommunication as a service were fully reviewed by the 1947 Atlantic City Conference of the International Telecommunication Union and modified in some particulars. Article 29, dealing with the stoppage of telecommunications, has been extended to include private telegraphic communication, such as private facilities. The countries have reserved the right to stop all transmissions which may appear dangerous to security or contrary to their laws. Under Article 30 countries have reserved the right to suspend service either generally or for certain kinds of transmissions, outgoing, incoming, or in transit. An analysis of the different national laws and regulations would have to be made before an estimate could be given as to the effect this provision would have on international press.

Scheduled Multiple Press Transmission Service is now available in some countries. This method consists of a one-way broadcast of the written press or information by manual morse code or radio printer. It offers a reliable and economical means for moving large volumes of traffic on a daily basis to foreign points. It is of particular value to the Department of Public Information of the United Nations in moving daily a large volume of United Nations News to the capitals of the world.

The transmissions under this arrangement will start from the Headquarters at Lake Success about June 1, 1948 and be at certain specified times amounting to two hours total time daily. Control of all transmissions will be by United Nations personnel located at Lake Success. The power and characteristics of the transmitting facilities employed by the United Nations will be such as to give reasonable assurance of satisfactory reception in Europe, South America and the Far East.

These written record news broadcasts from the United Nations will be by morse radiotelegraph and five-unit Radio printer signal. The speed of the morse radiotelegraph transmission will be approximately 25 words per minute. The printer service will operate at 60 words per minute. The service will be available to any agency or individual equipped to handle manual or radio printer reception. The latter will require for efficient service a form of dual diversity reception now commonly employed at foreign commercial receiving centres. Some of the United Nations Information Centres will be equipped with special dual receiving equipment for this purpose.

This type of service will permit the United Nations to distribute its news at a cost of less than one cent per word. The more users or subscribers the less the cost per word. This action is one solution to the general problem of finding an economical method for the distribution of information. It also permits ships at sea and anyone desiring this service to use the material for broadcasting, press, etc., without reservation and cost other than the terminal costs for reception.

It is highly desirable that more modern methods of transmission of international press should be used for supplanting present methods of telegraphy for the transmission of news. Two of the proven methods available are high speed radio printer with tape relay and facsimile press transmission.

In order to show the great variation between incoming and outgoing press rates from the headquarters of the United Nations at Lake Success to the different capitals of Member Nations, a Map and Chart are attached to this report marked Enclosure "A" and Enclosure "B", respectively. Inbound and outbound press dispatches from and to New York, for instance, utilize the same electrical facilities and labor for transmission and reception. Therefore, the variation which exists cannot be charged to the usual factors considered in establishing rates. Generally rates for international press dispatches inbound to the continental United States from foreign points are substantially higher, in terms of United States dollars, than the outbound rates. By viewing Enclosure "B", it will be seen that there is good uniformity between inbound and outbound rates in the Western

Hemisphere. To the Middle East and Far East it will be noted that there is considerable difference.

Enclosure "C" shows clearly that in all cases it is cheaper to use the international radio telephone instead of the written press services for handling press dispatches between North America and other continents. Radio telephone service is perhaps one of the most costly basic facilities to operate in the international field of telecommunications. Therefore, if a uniform flow of information between nations is to be maintained and increased, the proper regulatory bodies should establish a uniformly low international press rate.

8. Standardization of International Telecommunications Facilities:-
The national communications systems to-day operating in the international service have their own standard operating procedures and practices. These differing practices in most cases require manual treatment of press and other dispatches jumping from one national system to another or through a national system thereby sacrificing speed. In order that press dispatches may favorably compete with the air mail in the international service it is necessary with the material at hand to adopt international engineering and operating standards in the transmission, reception and terminal handling. In the swift current of modern history events pile up too suddenly and with too rapid an international effect to permit effective cooperation unless we have communications that can link all countries with the requisite high speed of service and accuracy of transmission.

One of the principal ways in which we can at present, and without additional cost, increase the speed and accuracy which we need to-day is the simple standardization of our transmission code. The failure to adopt a standard transmission code involves the same complications for communications that the construction of different gauge railroads involves for common transportation. Messages can no more move from one gauge track to another than can locomotives. Uniformity and standardization are absolutely essential if we are to have a rapid and economical flow of written information between nations.

Before World War II practically all radio telegraph circuits were operated in the International Morse Code using either manual transmission and aural reception or high speed transmission and reception. This was true whether the type of operation was high-speed boehme or creed radio-telegraph; high speed I.B.M., radiotype or ordinary manual radio. Service was slow by having to repeat the manual sending of every message every time it was relayed. The possibilities of error in retransmission was multiplied many times and service messages increased proportionately. Delays and possibilities of error should not be tolerated. Mechanical means have replaced human skill and should be adopted on a universal basis if we are to take full advantage of the electrical means of communications and not allow it to become obsolescent.

The use of a universal standard five-unit perforating code makes the same tape completely interchangeable between land line, radio teletype and submarine cable facilities. This teletype code, also known as the Baudot code, is already in general use on many commercial and governmental wire lines in the world and in several

trans-oceanic submarine telegraph cables. The code employs only five elements or pulses as against six, seven or eight in other codes. Since the essential band width required to transmit signals at a given speed is directly proportioned to the number of elements in the code employed, the five-unit code makes the most economical use of the radio frequency spectrum.

The adoption of this code as the international standard would produce results challenging the liveliest imagination. With radio teletype, cable and land lines linking the principal populations of the world our globe would immediately be interlaced by a network which could carry a message or a press dispatch from Singapore through Brisbane, Hawaii and San Francisco to Chicago, or from a little hamlet in Kansas to a City in the Soviet Union without any reprocessing of the dispatch. The originator would punch out the tape at the start of its global journey. Whether relayed by land line in the United States, England, India or the Soviet Union, by radio or cable across the various seas, that message would speed on automatically from point-to-point, jumping from wire to radio and back again, finally emerging, after only a few minutes, in printed form on a typewriter at its ultimate destination.

It is not merely that this semi-automatic tape relay five-unit teletype code system makes for immediate and great material benefits through conservation of equipment, personnel, labor, space and cost. It is not merely that the system adjusts itself to vastly increasing traffic loads. It is not merely these advantages that suggest our present day use of a standardized automatic system. In all probability the coming years are going to witness a tremendous expansion in international communications. Weather information from points scattered in every corner of the world, collected by centralized organizations to be disseminated to vitally interested aviation, shipping and other industries; the gathering, transmitting and disseminating of press information; world-wide agricultural reports; international trading; the United Nations and its numerous Specialized Agencies interlocking with offices all over the world - all these and the innumerable other sources of international communications are going to create an urgent need for a modern, streamlined global communications system.

Such a system will not be possible unless communications can be interchanged between all the plant structures of all countries speedily, accurately and efficiently. That interchangeability calls for a fully unified effort at standardization, based on uniformity of procedures, equipments and facilities. Therefore, the Conference may wish to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that it transmit to the International Telecommunication Union a recommendation that a study be made of an international standard code for all radio printer channels between Nations.

9. Low Cost Radio Broadcast Receivers:- Much has been accomplished by the world's radio industry in improvement to the general field of broadcasting. In the international field of broadcasting there has been a steadily increasing number of transmitters going into service which are owned and operated by national administrations. It may be stated that the present congestion existing in the international broadcasting frequency bands indicate no dearth in transmission. On the other hand, there is an acute shortage of receivers both for short wave reception and standard wave reception.

This is especially true in the areas which have been ravaged by World War II. In many other countries the receiver density is also very low.

The present cost of receiving equipment is so high in most countries that only a few can afford to purchase it. All efforts to reach the masses of the world will be greatly facilitated when a low cost broadcast receiver will be available covering the different bands and which can be manufactured locally from parts within the reach of all nations. Two or three designs may be necessary in order to cover the long wave, standard and short wave bands. If a cheap receiver at a price equivalent to from ten to fifteen United States dollars could be manufactured by all nations and distributed throughout the world, the United Nations, for instance, would be in a better position to improve international cooperation.

The United Nations Department of Public Information has called upon the Radio Manufacturers Association of America and the International Institute of Radio Engineers to study this problem on a world-wide basis and make recommendations toward an early solution. Many of the major powers are now producing low cost receivers for national use. The Conference might wish to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that it request the International Telecommunication Union to take appropriate measures to find a solution to this problem for presentation to the next International High Frequency Broadcasting Conference to be held in Mexico City in October 1948.

10. PROFESSIONAL TRAINING:- There is a definite need in many nations for elevating and modernizing the courses of training in the many skills and trades involved in mass communications. Shortage in technical personnel of all types exists in most of the European and Asiatic nations. Training along the old pre-War lines of operation is the rule without giving much consideration to long range training programs which should include post-War developments, methods and procedure. New students are returning to a system of training which is obsolete and totally unsuited for the modern technician's world. The universal use of films, visual aids, laboratories, research and use of modern equipment should be stressed in any worthwhile training program.

UNESCO has already attempted a solution to this problem on an international basis. This Conference may wish to request the Economic and Social Council to recommend to this Specialized Agency that it expand its program concerning the improvement of training standards in the arts and skills employed in all media of mass communication. It is believed that UNESCO, in collaboration with the International Telecommunication Union, might establish standards of proficiency in each skill which in time will reflect improvement in the operations of mass communications facilities.

B. DRAFT RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING THE INTERNATIONAL
TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

I

(ref. resolutions Nos. 14, 23 and 31 of the Final Act of the Conference, pp. 29, 32, 34 and 35)

- A. RECOMMENDS to the International Telecommunications Union that it take [such] action [as may be within its competence] to give effect to the suggestion of the United Nations Conference on Freedom of Information that where teleprinter lines have been installed on long-term lease between two or more news agencies, not only may the agencies bound by contract exchange news over these lines, but correspondents of the affiliated agencies may also use them without extra charge for transmitting news to the agencies for which they work;
- B. TAKES NOTE of the Secretariat document on International Communications and the Freedom of Information (E/CONF. 6/29), and DECIDES in view of the highly technical nature of the matter, to refer it to the International Telecommunications Union for its consideration; and
- C. REFERS to the International Telecommunications Union for further study the problem dealt with in resolution No. 31 of the Final Act of the United Nations Conference on Freedom of Information (E/CONF.6/79), relative to expanding the interchange of information by the reception of press transmissions by radio addressed to multiple destinations.*

*Note: In view of the fact that the Conference on Freedom of Information suggests in resolution No. 31 of the Final Act that the Economic and Social Council refer the problem for further study to the International Telecommunications Union or any other competent body the Council may wish to designate some other competent body.

ANNEX DFreedom of InformationA. Resolutions

1. My concern is twofold:
 - a) Any lengthy discussion on resolutions 14, 23 and 31 should be avoided for, in the opinion of Mr. Mulatier and others, resolution No. 23 could give rise to unpleasant remarks bearing on Doc. E/Conf. 6/29--and the subjects dealt with in resolutions No. 14 and 31 will be taken care of by the Conference anyway.
 - b) as these resolutions have been referred by the Assembly to the ECOSOC, the latter must have before it an expression of opinion or, at least, date on which to act.
2. The resolutions have been circulated prior to the Conference, in the circular of the ITU Secretariat No. 1207 (page 4), but have not been distributed in a document of the Conference.
3. I have requested the Secretariat of this Conference to circulate resolution B in Doc. A/876.
4. It is the intention of the French delegation to bring these resolutions to the attention of the Conference (in compliance with the relevant resolution of the last session of the ITU Council) but to suggest that they be not considered as they do not have yet final status. They would add that the questions raised in two of the three resolutions will be discussed anyway by the Conference (For resolution No. 14 in particular, see ITU circular 1207, page 2).
5. An extract from the minutes containing this statement could be used as information paper for ECOSOC on the subject. This paper could also include information on the action taken by the conference in this field, if this action is taken before the discussion by ECOSOC.

6. Should ECOSOC wish to maintain one or several of these resolutions, its decision ought to be reached before the end of the Paris Conference so that the latter may still act on them--otherwise the whole matter would have to wait until the next Telegraph and Telephone Conference (Buenos Aires, 1952). There may well be, therefore, a problem of correct timing for the discussion by ECOSOC at its next session.

B. Convention

7. Mr. deWolf finds the present text of article VII (formerly Article IV) correct and feels that this subject will raise no difficulty.

8. I have asked the Secretariat of the Conference to circulate resolutions A and C (Doc. A/876) with only Article VII of the Draft Convention.

ANNEX II

Ninth Session

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION: RESOLUTIONS FROM THE
FINAL ACT OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REFERRED TO THE COUNCIL
BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

NOTE FOR THE AGENDA COMMITTEE

Memorandum by the Secretary-General

1. At the Second Part of its Third Session, the General Assembly (resolution of 13 May, 1949 - document A/876) decided inter alia, that resolutions Nos. 14, 23 and 31 adopted by the United Nations Conference on Freedom of Information should be referred to the Economic and Social Council for appropriate action and the Secretary-General has prepared draft resolutions to assist the Council in its consideration of the Assembly's resolution (document E/W. 13)
2. The above resolutions Nos. 14, 23 and 31 refer to certain aspects of international telecommunications of concern to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). The Secretary-General of the ITU took exception to them in a letter to the President of the Council (document E/AC.27/4) and subsequently reported his action to the ITU Administrative Council.
3. Although the Council has taken no final decision on these resolutions they were discussed by the ITU Administrative Council at its third session (Geneva 1948) and are to be studied by the International Administrative Telegraph and Telephone Conference now meeting in Paris.
4. Many of the problems raised by the resolutions can only properly be dealt with by an Administrative Telegraph and Telephone Conference, and after the present one at Paris, which is expected to close toward the end of July 1949, there will not be another until 1952 (Buenos Aires), unless a special one be called.
5. In view of the foregoing facts it would seem important that the Council should deal with these resolutions in time for any decision taken by it affecting the ITU to be communicated to that Agency for action before the end of the Paris Conference. The Agenda Committee may wish therefore to recommend that Resolutions 14, 23 and 31 of the UN Conference on Freedom of Information be dealt with early among the items on the Agenda for the Council's Ninth Session.
- not underlined
- Like 29 AA

9th agenda

Geneva, 16 June 1949

NLT

UNATIONS

LAKE SUCCESS (NEW YORK)

DUMONTET FROM YATES

1. PLEASE CABLE COMMENTS ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT FOLLOWING SUGGESTED ORDER ECONOMIC ITEMS INTER SE : 13, 9, 8, 10, 11, 36, 15, 16, 17, 2, 3, 39, 40, 41, 49, 14, 12. CONFIRM LATE PLACE 14 WOULD SUIT STATISTICS DIVISION VIEW SUBCOMMISSION SESSION SEPTEMBER.
2. CABLE COMMENTS SOCIAL DEPARTMENT FOLLOWING SUGGESTED ORDER SOCIAL ITEMS INTER SE : 18, 30, 19, 6, 37, 38, 42, 26, 7, 31, 32, 20, 21
3. CABLE HUMPHREY'S RECOMMENDATIONS SUGGESTED ORDER FOLLOWING ITEMS INTER SE 22 THROUGH 25 AND 27 THROUGH 29.
4. ITEM 4. ASSUME POWERS *Briefed*
5. ITEM 47. WHAT IS PRESENT STATE 1950 CALENDAR PROPOSALS.

G.E. Yates, Palais des Nations, Geneva.

9th agenda

NLT UNATIONS NEWYORK

578 SZE FROM YATES PLEASE ADVISE MOST CONVENIENT DATE
COMMENCEMENT COORDINATION QUESTIONS COUNCIL ALSO WHETHER
OTHER STRONGLY REQUESTED DATES

Gilbert Yates, Secretary Ecosoc

15 June 1949

*Al
afenda*

13 July, 1949

Central Council of the
Confederation of Yugoslav Trade Unions,
Belgrad,
YUGOSLAVIE.

Sirs:

I am directed by the President of the Economic and Social Council to acknowledge receipt of your cable of 12th July, concerning the recommendations on the subject of Unemployment and Full Employment put forward by the World Federation of Trade Unions to the ninth session of the Economic and Social Council.

We note that these recommendations have the full support of your organizations.

Yours very truly,

Mary W. Robertson
Secretary to the President
of the Economic & Social Council



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9th agenda

July 11th 1949.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of July 8th 1949, concerning Item 9 of the Agenda of the Economic and Social Council now in session, "Economic Development of Under-developed Countries", this item will be discussed not earlier than July 21st. July 23rd was mentioned in error by my office. Should the date be changed we shall cable to you on July 19th, so that the information will reach you in time.

Yours faithfully,

G.E. Yates
Secretary of the Economic
and Social Council.

Dr. P.A. Verhulst,
Federatie van Vereenigingen
van Bergcultuurondernemingen in
Indonesië,
Heerengracht 182,
AMSTERDAM.

9th April 1949

NLT INTBAFRAD WASHINGTON DC

LOPEZ HERRARTE STOP COUNCIL TODAY ACCEPTED NEW USA RECOMMENDATION
TO COMMENCE ITEM NINE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT JULY TWENTYFIRST
OR SOONEST POSSIBLE THEREAFTER

YATES

Mr. G. Yates, Secretary Ecosoc, Room C-314

5 July 1949

Copy for Mr. Humphrey on arrival.

TELEPRINT

UNATIONS NEW YORK

ECOGN NO. 18

MRS MENON HUMAN RIGHTS FROM YATES. AGENDA COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDED ITEM 27 INTERMEDIATE DATE GROUP. CANNOT
GIVE DATE BUT NOT BEFORE THIRD WEEK PROBABLY LATER.
WILL COMMUNICATE AGAIN AFTER ADOPTION AGENDA COUNCIL
NEXT WEEK

Mr. G.E.Yates

Ecosoc Secretariat

July 4th 1949

Distribution:

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Mr. Messing
Mr. Weintraub (on arrival)

G.E. Yates

2 July 1949

Document E/1332/Add.1 on "Full Employment and Unemployment" was received from the WFTU on 30th June, although it is in effect a basic document to which rule 10 applies, i.e., it should have reached the Secretary-General by 16th May last. In the circumstances, when the relevant item, No. 49, is reached - it is recommended by the Agenda Committee that this item commence in the Economic Committee - the instructions of the Chairman of the Committee should be taken the previous day on the point whether it should be listed in the daily agenda or not. If any question is raised in the Committee the Chairman will then be in a position to explain his decision.