

IN REPLY REFER TO

ECA 55/1/01

To: Gilbert Yates, ECOSOC, Geneva

From: D. Walker, ECOSOC, Lake Success DW

39

*Summary
revised*
File

11 August 1949

In reply to your cable of 10 August, please find attached a copy of the formal letter sent last year informing Governments of their election to Commissions. The date of the resolution seems to vary with the Commission, 21 June 1946 being cited for Economic and Employment, Statistical, Transport, Human Rights, Status of Women and Social. The reference for the Fiscal Commission is 1 October 1946, for the Population Commission 3 October 1946. The letter for the Narcotics Commission is not among those present.

COPY

Same letter sent to:
India-USA-Union of South Africa

SOA 21/01

14 September 1948

The Secretary-General of the United Nations presents his compliments to His Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and has the honour to inform him that the Economic and Social Council ⁽¹⁹⁴⁸⁾ on ¹⁹⁴⁸ 17 August 1948 selected the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to nominate a representative to act as member of the Social Commission for a period of three years.

On 21 June 1946, a Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council requested that, with a view to securing a balanced representation in the various fields covered by the Commission, the Secretary-General shall consult with the Governments selected by the Council before the representatives are finally nominated by their Government and confirmed by the Council. The Secretary-General ^{therefore has the honour to} accordingly ~~invite~~ the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics ~~to be so good as to~~ communicate to him the name of its nominee at the earliest possible date, together with the requisite biographical data.

His Excellency,
The Minister for Foreign Affairs,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Moscow,
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

IN REPLY REFER TO
ECL 51/83

MEMORANDUM

5/1/83

Seen
File in Simon
fjl

11 March 1949

TO: Mr. H. E. Caustin, Deputy Director
Economic Stability and Development Division

FROM: F. P. E. Green, Executive Officer
Department of Economic Affairs

SUBJECT: Procedure concerning Financial Implications of Resolutions
of Regional Commissions.

Resolution 175 (VII) has of course been distributed to the regional commissions but so far we have given them no specific instructions regarding its application. As the British Delegate in the Council pointed out yesterday, the last paragraph of the Resolution in which the Council "calls the attention of its subsidiary organs to the foregoing procedure which will in future apply to Council action on their Reports" should cause a regional commission, where it considers a matter to be one of urgency, to include such a reference in a resolution proposed for adoption by the Council.

This question is not entirely unrelated to other matters of financial procedure also discussed yesterday. The French Delegate considered that the regional commission when passing any resolution which cannot be implemented by the present staff should have some idea of the financial implications of the proposal.

In principle this idea is entirely sound. It applies to all the functional commissions of the Council. The Council, however, left the regional commissions to make their own Rules of Procedure and the regional commissions have so far not made such a rule.

Administratively, ECE could certainly implement such a rule. The administrative resources at Geneva are so strong that the Commission could be advised of the financial consequences of its decisions. I doubt whether the other two regional commissions are in the same position. Clearly, since they prepare their basic budget document, they are capable of making their own estimates of the extra cost involved in a resolution; but just as a regional commission's budget receives close scrutiny and often revision at the hands of the Bureau of Finance, so I am sure would the Bureau of Finance feel that they can take a similar revising point of view to any estimates prepared in Bangkok or in Santiago.

I can see arising a situation such as occurred in connection with the Bureau of Flood Control where a regional commission votes a project under the impression that it will necessitate funds to a certain figure. If the Bureau of Finance competently within its powers revises this estimate to

a lower figure, Members of the regional commissions may well be inclined to interpret this revision as an act of discrimination by the Secretariat against the area. Perhaps we can in the Department propose a solution to this problem. If not, I think I should put it in the hands of the Bureau of Finance to see how they can ensure that statements of financial implications can be presented to the regional commissions which will carry their approval.

cc: Mr. G. E. Yates ✓
Mr. Paul Coidan

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'K. E. Yates', written in a cursive style.

26 March 1948

Dear Mr. Chairman,

The Economic and Social Council, at its sixth session, had under consideration the question of the form of reports from its commissions and decided to consider the matter again at its next session in the light of further experience and of certain information to be supplied by the Secretary-General.

authoritative

In the meantime, however, it was the wish of the Council that Commissions should be invited to include in their reports (either in the body of the report or as annexes) draft texts of any Resolutions which they propose for adoption by the Council arising out of their reports. It was felt out that this arrangement should give satisfaction both to the Commissions, which would be able to present their proposals to the Council with great precision, and to the Council, which would be able to work on an attributive text. Also, this practice should materially assist the working of General Assembly Financial Regulation No. 38 and the Council Rule of Procedure No. 30.

I should be grateful if you would call this matter to the attention of ~~the Social Commission~~ ^{a Transport and Communications Commission}, in connection with the report which will be presented to the second session of the Council.

forthcoming session
With best wishes for the success of your future session,

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Charles Malik
President of the Economic and
Social Council

Chairman of the Transport and Communications
Commission
United Nations, Lake Success, N.Y.

*Pls. return to
G. E. YATES*

Dr. Charles Malik

G. E. Yates

Form of Commission reports

26 February 1948

In connection with the work of our Commissions, there is one point of a procedure or machinery character that I would like to mention to the Council. At present, when we begin our consideration of Commission reports, we have to start our work on a text drawn up by the Secretariat on the basis of the Commission's report. This necessarily involves in most cases some adaptation of the language of the report in order to turn it into resolution form, and in the nature of the case cannot be a wholly satisfactory process.

I think it would speed our own work at future sessions if we asked our Commissions to include in their reports - either in the body of the report or in the annex - draft texts of any resolutions which they recommend that the Council should adopt arising out of their report. I think this procedure would at the same time give satisfaction to our Commissions, as they would know that the Council's work would then start from a text agreed upon in the Commission's session. The procedure would at the same time help to give precision to their work.

If the Council agrees, this suggestion might be considered by one of our Committees. If the document E/626 (Work Programme of Commissions) is referred to the Council Committee on Matters relating to Co-ordination it might be considered by that Committee at the same time.

MEMORANDUM:

TO : Miss Jeffreys (on return)
Mr. Chen
Miss Harcourt
Miss Barnett
Mr. Paymaster
Mr. Denys

FROM : P.J. Bolton

SUBJECT : Communications to Members of Commissions - Reference
Administrative Instruction No. 15

8 January 1948

Since all communications to individual members of Commissions are transmitted through official channels, and in view of the fact that the members themselves tend to change fairly frequently, it would often make for speedier handling of a circular communication to a number of members if the actual names of the individual officials concerned were omitted.

I have accordingly agreed with Mr. Yates that this practice will be followed in the future when convenient. In the case of letters and notes verbales it will therefore suffice to address the communication to "the Representative of.....on the Social Commission of the Economic and Social Council", and transmit it through the Delegation, Embassy or Ministry of Foreign Affairs in accordance with the normal procedure for the country concerned. In the case of cables and telegrams the passing instructions can be in the form "KINDLY TRANSMIT FOLLOWING TO REPRESENTATIVE OF.....ON SOCIAL COMMISSION OF ECONOMIC SOCIAL COUNCIL."

3 April 1947

DATA ON FIRST SESSIONS OF COMMISSIONS OF THE COUNCIL

Held before the Fourth Session of the Council

1.) NUMBER OF MEETINGS OF COMMISSIONS DURING THE SESSIONS:

<u>Commission</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Per Day</u>
Transport and Communications Commission (6 to 18 February)	13	2
Economic and Employment Commission (20 January to 5 February)	23	2
Social Commission (20 January to 4 February)	23	1 to 2
Commission on Human Rights (27 January to 10 February)	22	2
Commission on the Status of Women (10 February to 24 February)	19	2
Commission on Narcotic Drugs (27 November to 13 December)	25	2
Statistical Commission (27 January to 7 February)	13	2
Population Commission (6 to 19 February)	16	2

2.) NUMBER OF MEETINGS OF SUBSIDIARY GROUPS ESTABLISHED DURING THE SESSIONS:

<u>Commission</u>	<u>Subsidiary Group</u>	<u>Number of Meetings</u>
Social Commission	Steering Committee	every day
Commission on Human Rights	Sub-Committee on Handling of Communications	3
	Sub-Committee on Rules of Procedure	1
	Sub-Committee on Terms of Reference and Composition of Sub-Commissions on Freedom of Information and of the Press, and Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities	4
Commission on Narcotic Drugs	Special Committee charged with the Study of the Question of the Control of Narcotics in Japan and Korea	2
Commission on the Status of Women	Sub-Committee on Handling of Communications	3

3.) SUBSIDIARY GROUPS TO BE ESTABLISHED AFTER THE SESSION

<u>Commission</u>	<u>Subsidiary Group</u>
Transport and Communications Commission	Conference of Experts to prepare for a World Conference on Passports and Frontier Formalities (to meet in April 1947) Meeting of Telecommunication Experts (to meet in June 1947) World Conference on Passports and Frontier Formalities (to meet in September, 1947) International Maritime Conference (to meet in November 1947) Inland Transport Conference (uncertain) (to meet in May 1947)
Social Commission	Temporary Social Welfare Committee (to have its next session from April 16 on)
Commission on Human Rights	Sub-Commission on Freedom of Information and of the Press Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities Drafting Group for an International Bill of Rights
Commission on the Status of Women	Sub-Committee on Drafting Preliminary Report on Political Rights of Women
Statistical Commission	Committee on Industrial Classification
Population Commission	Ad hoc Committee on Migration

4.) GLOBAL NUMBER OF PAGES OF DOCUMENTS
PRODUCED

<u>Commission</u>		<u>Eng.</u>	<u>Fr.</u>	<u>Rus.</u>	<u>Chin.</u>	<u>Span.</u>
Transport and Communications Commission:						
	(i) Before Session	270	270	42		
	(ii) During Session	90	90			
	(iii) After Session	120	120			
Economic and Employment Commission:						
	(i) Before Session	150	150			
	(ii) During Session	393	393	153		
	(iii) After Session	45	45	45		
Social Commission:						
	(i) Before Session	342	342			
	(ii) During Session	56	56			
	(iii) After Session	50	50			
Commission on Human Rights:						
	(i) Before Session	75	75	40		
	(ii) During Session	150	150			
	(iii) After Session	10	10	10		
Commission on the Status of Women:						
	(i) Before Session	50	50	50		
	(ii) During Session	100	100			
	(iii) After Session	25	25	15	15	15
Commission on Narcotic Drugs:						
	(i) Before Session	754	806	70		
	(ii) During Session	291	303	40		
	(iii) After Session	257	259	100		
Statistical Commission:						
	(i) Before Session	33	31	20		
	(ii) During Session	81	55	16		
	(iii) After Session	46	34	24		
Population Commission:						
	(i) Before Session	29	29			
	(ii) During Session	66	65	44		
	(iii) After Session	15	15	15		

5.) TECHNICAL SERVICES

<u>Commission</u>	<u>Verb. Rep.</u>	<u>Sum. Records</u>	<u>Interpreters</u>
Transport and Communications Commission		x	Fr., Eng., Rus.
Economic and Employment Commission		x	Fr., Eng., Rus.
Social Commission	some	x	Fr., Eng., Rus., Sp.
Commission on Human Rights	x	x	Fr., Eng.
Commission on the Status of Women	x	x	simultaneous
Commission on Narcotic Drugs		x	Fr., Eng., Rus., Sp.
Statistical Commission		x	Fr., Eng., Rus.
Population Commission	x	x	Fr., Eng., Rus.

6.) SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION

<u>Commission</u>	<u>First Session</u>	<u>Future Sessions</u>
Transport and Communications Commission	no	no
Economic and Employment Commission	mostly	yes
Social Commission	some	yes
Commission on Human Rights	some	yes
Commission on the Status of Women	yes	yes
Commission on Narcotic Drugs	no	no
Statistical Commission	no	yes
Population Commission	no	yes

7.) AVERAGE DIVISION STAFF ENGAGED IN WORK OF COMMISSION

<u>Commission</u>	<u>Number of Persons</u>
Transport and Communications Commission	9
Economic and Employment Commission	5 to 6
Social Commission	12
Commission on Human Rights	20
Commission on the Status of Women	12
Commission on Narcotic Drugs	12
Statistical Commission	6
Population Commission	4

ANNEX A

SPECIAL TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON RELIEF NEEDS AFTER TERMINATION OF UNRRA
(6 January to 23 January)

- 1.) Total number of meetings: 30
Number of meetings per day: 2
- 2.) Number of meetings of subsidiary bodies established during the session:
3 working groups, approximately 4 meetings each.
- 3.) No subsidiary groups to be established after the session.
- 4.) Global number of pages of documents produced:

	Eng.	Fr.
(i) Before Session	13	13
(ii) During Session	490	490
(iii) After Session	27	27
- 5.) Technical Services:
Verbatim reporters: part of one meeting
Summary Records: for ten meetings
Whispering interpreters: some, for French and Russian
- 6.) Simultaneous interpretation: Used for the majority of meetings.
There will be no next session.
- 7.) Average Division Staff engaged in the work of the Committee: 6

ANNEX B

WORKING GROUP FOR ASIA AND THE FAR EAST
(14 February to 7 March)

- 1.) Total number of meetings: 5
Number of meetings per day: 1
- 2.) Subsidiary groups established during the Session:
Sub-Group 1 - 11 meetings
Sub-Group 2 - 10 meetings
Joint Sub-Groups 1 and 2 - 7 meetings
- 3.) No subsidiary groups to be established after the Session.
- 4.) Global Number of pages of Documents produced:

	Eng.	Fre	Rus.
(i) Before Session	465	269	
(ii) During Session	59	59	4
(iii) After Session	42	150	150
- 5.) Technical Services:
Verbatim Reports: none
Summary Records: for most meetings
Interpreters: Simultaneous
- 6.) Simultaneous Interpretation: Used for all plenary and Joint Sub-Group meetings.
There will be no future sessions.
- 7.) Average Division Staff engaged in the work of the Working Group: 10.

SUMMARY

Including Data from Annexes A and B

1.) GRAND TOTAL Number of Meetings of Commissions:	139
2.) GRAND TOTAL Number of Subsidiary Groups:	53
4.) GLOBAL Number of Documents Produced:	
English:	4,764 pages
French:	4,811 pages
Russian:	838 pages
Spanish:	15 pages
Chinezes	15 pages
GRAND TOTAL:	10,458

Draft
MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. Gilbert Yates

FROM: Georges Dumontet

10 February 1947

SUBJECT: Alternates for members of Commissions of the Council

The question of "alternates" is one of the items on the agenda for the fourth session of the Economic and Social Council. At its ad hoc meeting held on 10 December 1946 for the purpose of confirming nominations of members to eight Commissions, the Council's attention was drawn to this question of alternates but it decided to postpone discussion of it until its next session.

1. Resolutions adopted by the Council on 21 June, 1 and 3 October 1946 (E/84/Rev.1; E/245, pages 3-6) dealing with the composition of the Economic and Employment, Transport and Communications, Statistical, Human Rights, Social, Status of Women, Fiscal and Population Commissions, make no mention of alternates. They provide that each Commission "shall consist of one representative from each of (18 or 15 or 12) Members of the United Nations selected by the Council".

Those same resolutions provide that "in the event a member of the Commission is unable to serve for the full three-year term (the regular term of office except for the initial period), the vacancy thus arising shall be filled by a representative designated by the member Government subject to the provisions dealing with the appointment of representatives, that is: nomination by the member Government in consultation with the Secretary-General and confirmation by the Council".

2. With regard to the interpretation of those resolutions, several members of the Council, among whom Mr. Colbjornsen (Norway), declared at the special meeting held on 10 December 1946 that "while no provision was made for alternates, nothing precluded it". Mr. Colbjornsen then suggested that the Council should take up this question of alternates. He agreed, however, at the request of the President, Mr. Zuleta Angel, and Mr. Philips (United Kingdom delegate) to have his proposal discussed at the fourth session of the Council.

3. It should be recalled that several Governments, Norway, *Peru* submitted names of alternates as well as of representatives to Commissions of which they were members. In such instances, the Secretary-General reminded the Governments in question of the decision of the Council that ~~these~~^{there} should be one representative from each member Government on each Commission.

4. In practice, however, the appointment of only one representative has given rise to the following situation. The Social, Economic and Employment, Human Rights, Statistical, Population, Transport and Communications, *Status of Women* Commissions met between 20 January and 28 February. Besides the fact that a few member Governments had not yet submitted names of representatives, several of the representatives whose nomination had been confirmed by the Council were prevented from attending the first session of the Commissions. In such instances, the Secretary-General invited the member Governments to designate, in consultation with him, a substitute who would have the right to participate in all the proceedings of the Commissions but not the right to vote.

2 [*one* substitutes have thus attended the meetings of the Economic and Employment Commission; *two* of the Social Commission; of the Human Rights Commission; *one* of the Statistical Commission; of the Transport and Communications Commission; *two* of the Population Commission; of the Status of Women Commission.]

5. The question of alternates was again brought up during the meetings of the Commissions, and the Social Commission decided to recommend to the Economic and Social Council to provide for the appointment of alternates.

To sum up, the Council decided at its ad hoc meeting to study the question of alternates at its fourth session; in the period preceding the fourth session of the Council, substitutes, without the right to vote, have replaced representatives temporarily prevented from attending meetings of the first session of

Commissions; the Social Commission has specifically recommended to the Council that alternateship for members of Commissions be established.

6. Should it appear advantageous to make provision for alternates, the following might be considered: either to select temporary alternates when a regular representative is prevented from attending a session; or to select permanent alternates who could attend meetings in place of an absent member. In order to conform with the decision of the Council to have the greatest experts as members of Commissions and to secure a balanced representation in the various fields, the procedure should be to select alternates, temporary or permanent, in the same way as the regular members, that is: to have the alternates nominated by the member Governments, in consultation with the Secretary-General and, then, to have such nominations confirmed by the Council.

This suggested procedure, however, raises the following problems:

In the case of temporary alternates, their nomination would take place between sessions of the Council, probably just before the opening meeting of a Commission. These alternates, whose nominations could only be confirmed at the next session of the Council, would not have the right to vote. Presuming that the Secretary-General gives them such a right to vote, pending the approval of their nominations by the Council, this procedure would have to be renewed each time since sessions of Commissions take place between sessions of the Council and since the temporary status of such an alternate would no longer be required at the time the Council could approve it.

In the case of permanent alternates, the problem is different: it is to find out whether there will exist a rule governing replacement of regular representatives by alternates. Members of the Social Commission were of the opinion that an alternate should not be entitled to replace the regular member except in a case of "force majeure". It might be difficult, not to say cumbersome, to decide in what instances a "force majeure" prevails.

7. Any decision taken by the Council in connection with alternates will affect the Rules of Procedure of Commissions and will have to be incorporated therein.

2 December 1946

TO: Mr. Owen ✓
M. Laugier
Mr. Perez-Guerrero
Mr. Stanczyk
M. Gros
Mr. Ritchie
Mr. Malania

FROM: Mr. Yates' Office (Georges Dumontet)

SUBJECT: Nominations of members to Commissions

1. Nominations of members to Commissions of the Economic and Social Council

At the date of writing, out of 120 names to be proposed by 39 States for 8 Commissions of the Council (Economic and Employment, Transport and Communications, Statistical, Fiscal, Social, Human Rights, Status of Women, Population), 87 names, or over two-thirds, have been received and approved, or are under way of being approved, by the Secretary-General. Those still to be received (33) can be broken down by Member States as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) Economic and Employment Commission | (4) Australia; Poland; (Belgium) U.S.S.R. |
| 2) Transport and Communications Commission | (6) Chile; Egypt; France; Poland; Union of South Africa; U.S.S.R. |
| 3) Statistical Commission | (2) Turkey; U.S.S.R. |
| 4) Fiscal Commission | (4) New Zealand; Poland; Union of South Africa; U.S.S.R. |
| 5) Social Commission | (5) Ecuador; Iraq; Poland; Union of South Africa; U.S.S.R. |
| 6) Human Rights Commission | (4) Australia; Chile; Iran; U.S.S.R. |
| 7) Status of Women Commission | (5) Australia; Byelorussia; Guatemala; Turkey; U.S.S.R. |
| 8) Population Commission | (3) Australia; U.S.S.R.; Yugoslavia |

It is probable that before December 10, the date set for the Ad Hoc meeting of the Economic and Social Council to confirm the nominations of members of these Commissions, most of the remaining names will have been submitted and discussed.

2. Ad Hoc meeting of the Council

In accordance with its decision taken on 3 October 1946, the Council is to meet under the chairmanship of Mr. Zuleta Angel to confirm nominations to the Commissions. This ad hoc meeting will be held on 10 December 1946, at 3:00 p.m., at Flushing, in Conference Room "A". Only one item can be discussed at this meeting, that is the confirmation of nominations to the Commissions (E/P.V./36, pp. 72-80) In accordance also with the decision of the Council, taken during its second session (Journal No. 30, page 555, par. 5-6), this confirmation by the Council should be "purely formal and procedural".

Provision should be made, however, in the event that not all names of members are received on time. In order to allow the Commissions to meet as scheduled (E/INF/9/Rev.1) the Council should adopt, during its ad hoc meeting, a resolution to the effect that:

- 1) each Commission should be empowered to convene provided that two-thirds at least of its members have been confirmed by the Council;
- 2) nominations received by the Secretary-General after the ad hoc meeting of the Council to be held on 10 December should be confirmed, on behalf of the Council, by a small committee which might consist of Mr. Zuleta Angel as Acting Chairman and two other members of the Council (to be designated), it being understood that the Council retains the right to reconsider the confirmation of such members at the beginning of its Fourth Session.

The above two clauses are in direct relation to the question of the confirmation of members and, consequently, are not in contradiction with the decision taken by the Council on 3 October 1946.

The text of this draft resolution has just been drawn up by the Legal Department and will shortly be submitted to your approval. If you deem advisable to have it submitted to the Council, I shall have it reproduced as a Document E/- so that it may be distributed, in due time, to the members of the Council at the ad hoc meeting.

yes. | Mr. Zuleta Angel, might, on the other hand, take advantage of this ad hoc meeting to make an official announcement of the date of the next session of the Council (28 February 1947), as well as of the programme of meetings of the Commissions, as scheduled until 28 February (E/INF/9/Rev.1).

g
g

Do
3/12.

3. Alternates

It is possible that members of the Council, namely the representative from Belgium, may bring up the question of alternates.

The decision of the Council on this point is as follows: If a member of a Commission is unable to serve for his full term of office the vacancy thus arising shall be filled by a representative designated by the Member Government and this nomination shall be subject to the confirmation of the Council (E/84/Rev.1). The Council does not make provision, therefore, for nomination of alternates.

If some members of the Council insist that alternates be nominated, enjoying the same privileges as regular members of the Commissions, in case of the latter's absence, it is evident that a new decision will then have to be taken by the Council. It is apparent also that the Council should follow the same procedure as that for nominations to Commissions (name submitted by the Government of the Member State, consultation between the Secretary-General and this Government, confirmation by the Council).

If such a decision were taken by the Council, it is evident that some time would elapse before nominations of alternates could be confirmed by the Council. It is quite possible, therefore, that the Council, at its ad hoc meeting on 10 December, recommend to the Member States of the Commissions to designate "temporary alternates" who should receive the Secretary-General's approval. If such were the case, it seems that those temporary alternates could participate in the work of the Commission but should not have the right to vote.

In conclusion, it seems that:

- a) the nature of the Council's previous decision should be maintained - ~~no~~ alternates.
- b) in case the Council alters its decision, it should be ^{made} sure that members of the Commissions, either delegates or alternates, are experts.

g agree Do.

Other Questions

Rules of Procedure of the Commissions

* Draft rules of procedure for the Commissions, based on those of the Council but adapted to the needs of the Commissions, will be submitted to you very shortly. This draft was drawn up in the following manner: several drafts were prepared respectively by MM. Humphrey, Deperon, Lukac, Steinig, and Pintos - Directors of other Divisions being in agreement with one or the other of those drafts. In the course of several meetings, attended by MM. Humphrey, Deperon, Bruce, Pintos, and Dumontet a comparative study of such drafts was made and agreement was reached on a practically uniform text, following very closely the rules

of procedure of the Council proper, while at the same time taking into account the needs of the various Commissions. In case this draft, after revision by the Legal Department, should receive your approval, it could be submitted to each Commission for study at one of its first meetings.

Status of members of Sub-Commissions

The Council has taken a decision on this point only as far as Sub-Commissions of the Economic and Employment Commission are concerned. Members of those two Sub-Commissions shall be selected by the Commission in consultation with the Secretary-General and subject to the consent of the Governments of the countries of which the members are nationals. These members would serve in their personal capacity and not as Governmental representatives. The question under study is to find out whether this principle should apply to Sub-Commissions of other Commissions (Human Rights, Statistical, and others to come) MM. Deperon, Humphrey, Milhaud, have prepared or are preparing a memorandum on this subject. With your approval, such memoranda could form the basis of discussion in order to come to a decision on a draft which, if not uniform, at least embodies a general principle which could be proposed to each Commission, for study in the establishment of its Sub-Commissions.

Documents for the ad hoc meeting of the Council

The following documents will be drawn up for the ad hoc meeting of the Council:

- 1) Lists of names of representatives to Commissions submitted by Governments of Member States, and approved by the Secretary-General; (+ short description of each)
- 2) Drafts of resolution mentioned in the present memorandum (page 2) provided such drafts receive your approval;
- 3) Text of the Council resolution concerning the composition of Commissions, E/84/Rev.1 (for information purposes only);
- 4) Extracts from the verbatim record E/PV/36 and Journal No. 30, concerning the ad hoc meeting of the Council (for information purposes only);
- 5) Calendar of Commission meetings up until 28 February 1947 E/INF/9/Rev.1). + add 1

(This note was sent to Mr. Lugin in French)
f.d.

Could we not submit tentative calendar for the year?
do.

Comms. of the Council

ECOSOC Secretariat
Circular No. 17

16 January 1947

TO: All Divisions

FROM: G. E. Yates

SUBJECT: REPLACEMENT OF MEMBERS OF COMMISSIONS OF THE COUNCIL

Some Members of Commissions of the Council whose appointment was confirmed by the Council at its meeting on 10th December last will not attend the coming sessions of the Council Commissions. On the other hand, the Council did not complete its examination of the question of alternates at its ad hoc meeting in December, and decided that further consideration should be postponed till its next session in February.

Two kinds of cases have hitherto arisen in the interim period:

1. A Representative of a Government is not able to serve on the Commission and he resigns. In this case, a new nominee may, after consultation between the nominating Government and the Secretary-General, serve provisionally pending confirmation by the Council at its next session. (Resolution of 10 December 1946.) This is illustrated in the attached copy of Mr. Owne's letter to Mr. Chang of the Chinese Delegation.

2. A Representative is not able to attend the coming session of a Commission but does not intend to resign and suggests that he be replaced by an alternate. In this case, it is suggested that the proposed alternate attend the meeting of the Commission and participate in its proceedings, but without the right to vote. This is illustrated by the attached copy of a letter to the United Kingdom Representative.

2 January 1947

Dear Dr. Chang,

I beg to acknowledge receipt of the letter of December 21, by which you inform the Secretary-General that Mr. Frank Kefung will not be able to serve as a member of the Transport and Communications Commission, from which he tenders his resignation, and that in his place, Mr. Hsiao Chin-Yuen, Counsellor, Ministry of Communications, Nanking, is nominated to serve on the above-mentioned Commission.

This nomination has been noted, and I write to confirm that, in accordance with the terms of the Resolution passed by the Economic and Social Council on 10th December last, Mr. Hsiao may serve provisionally on the Commission pending confirmation by the Council at its next regular session.

Yours very sincerely,

A.D.K. Owen
Assistant Secretary-General
for Economic Affairs

601-3-2/GI

17 January 1947

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the letter which you addressed to the Secretary-General on 10 January regarding your Government's representative on the Social Commission.

The resolution regarding Members of Commissions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its last meeting on 10 December 1946 last did not deal with the appointment and status of alternates, and the Council agreed that the question should be discussed at its next meeting on 28 February 1947. Accordingly, the replacement by Governments of members, who have been confirmed by the Council, by alternates having the same status does not appear to be authorized at the present stage. I suggest that the alternate named in your letter should, therefore, attend the meeting of the Social Commission and participate in its proceedings, but without the right to vote.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

A.D.K. Owen
Acting Secretary-General

J.A.C.C. Alexander,
United Kingdom Delegation
to the United Nations,