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REPORT OF THE RAPPORTEUR OF COMMITTEE 4

The Committee was set up on June 15, 1950, under the Chairmanship of Julio Alvarado (Bolivia), while José Avilés (El Salvador) was appointed Rapporteur.

1. The Committee first dealt with coordination of the work of the Commission, the Inter-American Economic and Social Council and other international organisations, on the basis of the report prepared by the Executive Secretary (Document E/CN.12/170) and the joint declarations made by the Executive Secretaries of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council and of ECLA (Document E/CN.12/AC.4/2).

The Committee listened to Mr. Amos Taylor, Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council, who explained that the work of the two organisations had been coordinated for a dual purpose: that of avoiding any unnecessary duplication of effort and, in addition, with a view to establishing active and constructive cooperation between them.

It was the unanimous opinion of the Delegations that the Executive Secretary had amply fulfilled the mandate given him at the last Session both as regards avoiding any duplication

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of efforts and in connection with extending the Commission's cooperation with the Inter-American Economic and Social Council.

In the absence of any opposition to the proposal, it was decided that at the Committee's second meeting, a resolution would be considered embodying the opinions expressed by the various delegations on this subject.

A Draft Resolution was accordingly submitted to the members of the Committee at its second meeting, having been proposed by the Cuban Delegation (Document E/CN.12/AC.4/5) and this was unanimously approved after slight changes in style suggested by the Argentine Delegation, (E/CN.12/203).

2. The Committee also considered a memorandum dealing with measures to increase the availability of educational, scientific and cultural material in ECLA's region (E/CN.12/172) and listened to Mr. Establier, the UNESCO Observer, who referred to the cooperation between UNESCO and the Commission, expressing the hope that ECLA would adopt a resolution similar to that adopted by ECAFE in connection with the aforesaid memorandum.

Various delegations agreed in principle that closer cooperation between ECLA and UNESCO was necessary. They felt, however, that the setting up of a Working Party to study the means of increasing the availability of educational, scientific and cultural material could not be voted at once, since the plan involved factors which would affect both the Secretariat's programme of work and its Budget. It was therefore deemed advisable to set up a small Working Party to consider the matter. The Uruguayan Delegation expressed its desire to

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approve the proposal immediately but in view of the opinions of the other delegations, the representative of Uruguay conformed to the general view that a Working Committee should set up.

This Committee was made up of representatives of Argentina, Cuba, United States, France, Great Britain and Uruguay and invited the Observers of UNESCO and the World Federation of United Nations Associations to attend its meetings. At its first meeting this Committee elected Mr. Green of the United States as Chairman.

After listening to the views of the Executive Secretary, the Working Committee approved the text of a resolution (Document E/CN.12/AC.4/4) which the delegates felt was adequate in relation to the objectives envisaged, without involving any large expense or requiring a large staff from the Commission's Secretariat.

The text approved by the Working Committee and translated into the three official languages of the Conference by a small Sub-Committee designated for this purpose was approved by the Committee as a whole on June 19, 1950, (Document E/CN.12/204).

3. The Committee also considered a draft resolution proposed by the Bolivian Delegation, in connection with the study of social problems. (Document E/CN.12/AC.4/3).

It was generally agreed by the delegations that in view of the very close relationship between economic and social problems, it was evident that in studying the economic aspect of a region, the Executive Secretary should also take into account the

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social aspect. Nevertheless, after listening to the Executive Secretary, it was deemed that the recommendation contained in the proposal was out of order. It was especially stressed that it should be remembered that the Economic Department, on which the Commission's Secretariat depends, together with the Social Department, both have their functions delegated to them by the Secretary General of United Nations, who is responsible to the Governments concerned for the work of the Secretariat.

The Bolivian Delegation agreed on this point and withdrew its proposal, accepting the suggestion put forward by the United States' Delegation that the general approval of the delegations as regards the principles behind this motion should be put on record.

The Committee approved this suggestion unanimously and also agreed to record its recommendation that the Member Governments make use of the services offered by the Social Department of United Nations in accordance with resolution 58 of the General Assembly.

4. The Chilean Delegation moved a proposal envisaging a modification of article 42 of the Commission's regulations so as to include Portuguese among the official languages of the Commission in order to facilitate the work of the Brazilian Delegation and in recognition of the important contribution made by this Government to the Commission's work. After listening to the Executive Secretary who pointed to the financial implications involved in the resolution, the Committee /approved the

approved the resolution unanimously, with the exception of the United States' delegation who, though in agreement with the reasons put forward in advocating this proposal to adopt Portuguese as an official language, could not, in view of the expenses involved, give its approval without further instructions from its Government. (Document E/CN.12/205).

A proposal made by the Guatemalan Delegation that Portuguese should be considered as a working language was not accepted by the majority of the delegations who felt that they could not approve the resolution before careful consideration of the financial and administrative implications of the measure, though they did feel that it was very just that Portuguese should be placed on an equal footing with the other official languages of the Commission.

5. The Chilean Delegation proposed that the records contain a request from the Commission that the Executive Secretary proceed with the immediate publication of the general section of the Economic Survey presented at this session in view of the fact that the high quality of the work would render its study of great use in international centres, and other organisations interested in Latin American economic problems.