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Committee of the Whole Meeting
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Santiago, Chile.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF NEWSPRINT
AND PRINTING PAPER IN LATIN AMERICA

The Executive Secretary wishes to bring to the attention of the Commission resolution 374 (XIII) quoted below, regarding Production and Distribution of Newsprint and Printing Paper, adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its Thirteenth Session. This subject has been placed on the Provisional Agenda under Item 5:

"374 (XIII). PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF NEWSPRINT AND
PRINTING PAPER

Resolution of 13 September 1951

The Economic and Social Council,

1. HAVING RECEIVED from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization a resolution concerning the production and distribution of newsprint and printing paper, unanimously adopted at the sixth session of its General Conference,

/" 2. CONSCIOUS

2. CONSCIOUS of the gravity of a crisis which threatens education, culture and freedom of information in a large number of countries, and which hampers and is thus likely to render ineffectual the efforts undertaken by the United Nations, the specialized agencies and many governments to overcome illiteracy and develop international understanding,

3. WELCOMES the campaign undertaken by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to warn public opinion and the various governments, and joins with that body in stressing the necessity for the adoption without delay of immediate and long-term measures calculated to improve the position and ultimately put an end to the shortage of newsprint and printing paper; and

A. WITH A VIEW TO IMMEDIATE RESULTS

4. DIRECTS a pressing appeal to the main consumers and producers of paper among Member States, relying confidently on their sense of solidarity and understanding of national and international needs, voluntarily to adopt temporary measures to alleviate present shortages of newsprint and printing paper, the former by slightly reducing their consumption and the latter by expanding their production and endeavouring to meet the over-all requirements of the various countries;

5. RECOMMENDS that the governments of Member States do all in their power to draw the attention of their nationals to the appeal contained in the preceding paragraph, and to the reasons for, and the objects of the voluntary co-operation expected of them;

6. ENDORSES the appeal made by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to the governments of the States members of the Woodpulp and Paper Committee of the International Raw Materials Conference and requests the Secretary General to inform them of this concordance

/ of views

of views and of the special importance attached by the Council to the action which they are taking and which they might take within the framework of that Conference with a view not only to relieving the present crisis without delay, and if possible bringing it to a speedy conclusion, but also to creating production and distribution conditions whereby the recurrence of similar crises would be prevented; and

7. REQUESTS the regional economic commission to encourage trade which would provide newsprint and printing paper industries with adequate supplies of raw material; and

B. WITH A VIEW TO ACTION OVER A LONGER PERIOD

8. CONVINCED that while the measures set forth above, if implemented immediately, may temporarily alleviate some of the effects of the crisis, they cannot provide a satisfactory solution of the problem as a whole, since they do not deal with some of the profound causes of the crisis,

9. AFFIRMS it to be indispensable that everything possible should be done to ensure a production and distribution of newsprint and printing paper throughout the world which will satisfy the actual and the growing requirements of all countries;

10. RECOGNIZES, to this end, the need for the United Nations and for each of the regional economic commissions and other competent bodies to take part in this constructive work;

11. REQUESTS:

(a) The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to continue its studies and research in forestry development and uses of forestry resources so as to indicate the measures which it deems useful to take to increase production, including the use of substitute raw materials, and to make its knowledge and experience in this field available to governments and inter-governmental organizations on request to assist them in their efforts to overcome the shortage of newsprint and printing paper;

/ (b) The regional

(b) The regional economic commissions to assist in the efforts referred to above;

(c) The United Nations and specialized agencies taking part in the expanded programme of technical assistance to place at the disposal of such countries as may request it technical assistance necessary to carry out the programme of forest conservation, including reafforestation, development of substitute raw materials and production of newsprint and printing paper, so far as is consistent with the principles of Council resolution 222A (IX);

(d) The United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue to draw the attention of public opinion and of the governments of Member States to the problems underlying the present resolution, in order that they may be settled in a manner which would enable that organization to fulfil its programme of education and freedom of information; and

(e) The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, in so far as these efforts might require the assistance of international financial resources, to advise the Food and Agriculture Organization, other specialized agencies and Member States, as requested, on such aspects of the problems involved as fall within its sphere; and

C. WITH A VIEW TO KEEPING THE PROBLEM UNDER CONTINUOUS REVIEW

12. REQUESTS the Secretary-General to keep the problem under continuous review in order to ensure the necessary co-ordination of effort of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, and to report to a session of the Council in 1952 on the progress made pursuant to the recommendations contained in this resolution".