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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA

Committee of the Whole Meeting
Santiago, Chile
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Addendum to document E/CN.12/AC.16/8

RESOLUTIONS RELATING TO THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN
AMERICA ADOPTED BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AT ITS
13TH SESSION ON THE 18, 19 AND 20 SEPTEMBER 1951

"414 (XIII). ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION OF THE COUNCIL AND ITS
COMMISSIONS

Resolutions of 18, 19 and 20 September 1951

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL,

1. TAKING NOTE of the reports of the ad hoc Committee on the
Organization and Operation of the Council and its Commissions and,

A.I

Organization of the Council

2. CONSIDERING that the questions placed on the agenda of the Council
should be thoroughly examined by the Council after sufficient time has
been devoted to their study by governments,

3. CONSIDERING the necessity for adequate preparation for meetings
and for timely and adequate documentation,

4. CONSIDERING the desirability of spreading the workload of the
Council more evenly over the year in order to lessen the strain on
delegations and on the Secretariat,

5. CONSIDERING the desirability of deciding well in advance the dates
upon which those subjects which require the attendance of experts
should be discussed in order to save the time of such experts and thereby

/ promote the

promote the highest possible level of discussion,

6. CONSIDERING the desirability of avoiding double discussion when the subject does not require it,

7. APPROVES the general principles contained in paragraphs 12 and 13 of the first report of the ad hoc Committee on the Organization and Operation of the Council and its Commissions;

8. DECIDES THAT:

(a) The council shall hold two regular sessions in each of the years 1952, 1953 and 1954;

(b) The first regular session of the year shall commence as near as possible to the first Tuesday in April;

(c) The second regular session of the year shall commence as late as administratively possible before the regular session of the General Assembly and shall be adjourned at least six weeks before it. The session shall be resumed during or shortly after the General Assembly for a further brief series of meetings, to be held either at the meeting-place of the General Assembly or at Headquarters, as convenient, primarily in order:

(i) To arrange the disposition of questions arising out of the session of the General Assembly and of other matters which can appropriately be dealt with by the permanent delegations; and

(ii) To work out, with the assistance of the Secretary-General a basic programme for the following year, to consider a provisional sessional agenda for the next regular session drawn up by the Secretary-General, and to fix the dates referred to in the following paragraph in respect of the next regular session;

(d) At its first regular session of the year the Council shall primarily take up such major items as are ripe for consideration. Major economic items, together with related items, shall as far as possible be dealt with during this session. The Council shall also deal with major items in the social and human rights fields, and with such other items as can conveniently be disposed of at this

/ session. The

session. The Council's work at this session shall be so arranged that related items are dealt with in groups, discussion of each group starting on a date fixed at the previous session as provided in paragraph (c) (ii) above. At this session the Council shall also consider the provisional sessional agenda for the second regular session drawn up by the Secretary-General in the light of the basic annual programme in such a way that related subjects are dealt with in groups, and shall fix the dates on which the discussions of each group will start;

(e) At its second regular session of the year, the Council shall take up those questions which for procedural or other reasons, cannot be disposed of earlier in the year. This session shall therefore be primarily concerned with those major items in the economic, social and human rights fields which have not been dealt with at the first regular session with problems of co-ordination and priorities, with appropriate reports of specialized agencies and subsidiary bodies of the Council, and with current technical assistance questions;

(f) At the beginning of each regular session, the Council shall, subject to rule 16 of the rules of procedure adopt its sessional agenda on the basis of the provisional sessional agenda drawn up by the Secretary-General and considered by the Council at its preceding session and of such additional items as may be reported to it by the Secretary-General under the provisions of paragraph (g) below. It shall normally include in its sessional agenda only items for which adequate documentation has been circulated to governments six weeks in advance. It shall also allocate items between the plenary Council and committees. The sessional agenda for each regular session shall include as an item the consideration of the provisional sessional agenda drawn up by the Secretary-General for the next regular session;

(g) At each session, the Secretary-General shall report to the Council regarding all items duly proposed for inclusion in

/the provisional

the provisional sessional agenda by Member States or other authorities having the right to do so under rule 10 of the rules of procedure, with any observations he may wish to offer, including observations regarding the session of the Council at which such items might be taken up. After the Council has considered the provisional sessional agenda for the following session, any further item proposed for that session shall be accompanied by a statement from the authority proposing it regarding the urgency of the item and the reasons which precluded its submission before the consideration by the Council of the provisional sessional agenda for that session;

(h) Major items shall normally be dealt with by the plenary Council, on the understanding that it may refer any item or any particular aspect of an item to one of its committees for study, drafting or report;

9. REQUESTS the Secretary-General to prepare and present to the fourteenth session of the Council such draft revised rules of procedure as may be required in order to make the rules of procedure of the Council and of the functional commissions conform to the provisions of the present resolutions; and

A. II (a)

10. HAVING NOTED the recommendation of the ad hoc Committee on the Organization and Operation of the Council and its Commissions that the Economic Employment and Development Commission be discontinued, its work being taken over by the Council, its committees, regional commissions or ad hoc bodies as appropriate,

11. RECOGNIZING that economic development of underdeveloped countries is one of the most important long-range economic problems which face the world to-day,

12. RECOGNIZING FURTHER that this question should receive the constant consideration of the Council in all its aspects, with special emphasis on the financing of economic development,

/ 13. RECALLING Council

13. RECALLING Council resolution 295 (XI) requesting the Economic, Employment and Development Commission to place the problem of financing economic development on the agenda of at least one of its sessions each year,

14. DECIDES to include in the agenda of the Council each year an item on economic development and to arrange a series of meetings devoted to the review of the problem of economic development in all its aspects which will consider the progress made in the implementation of the resolutions of the Council in this field and make such recommendations as it may deem necessary to accelerate the pace of development in underdeveloped countries; and

C. I

Regional economic commissions

40. DECIDES, with regard to its regional economic commissions:

(1) To approve in general the principles contained in paragraphs 5-10 of the second report of the ad hoc Committee on the Organization and Operation of the Council and its Commissions which guided the Committee in the formulation of its conclusions regarding regional commissions; and, in particular:

(2) To continue the Economic Commission for Europe, the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East and the Economic Commission for Latin America;

(3) To amend the terms of reference of these commissions in accordance with the provisions of sections (a), (b) and (c) below

.....

(c) THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA (resolution 106 (VI) of 25 February 1948 as amended by resolution 234 B (IX) of 12 August 1949)

(i) AFTER SUB-PARAGRAPH (c) OF PARAGRAPH 1, add sub-paragraphs (d) and (e) to read as follows:

/ " (d) Give special

" (d) Give special attention in its activities to the problems of economic development and assist in the formulation and development of co-ordinated policies as a basis for practical action in promoting economic development in the region.

" (e) Assist the Economic and Social Council and its Technical Assistance Committee in discharging their functions with respect to the United Nations technical assistance programme, in particular by assisting in their appraisal of these activities in the Latin American region"; and

(ii) REPLACE PARAGRAPH 16 by:

"16. The Council shall, from time to time, make special reviews of the work of the Commission";

(4) To recommend to the regional economic commissions that their rules of procedure be amended, where necessary, to comply with the following:

" The Commission shall at each session recommend the date and place for its next session subject to the approval of the Council and in consultation with the Secretary-General. In special cases, the date and place of the session may be altered by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Chairman of the Commission, and the Council's Interim Committee on Programme of Conferences." and

(5) To recommend to the regional economic commissions that they examine the desirability of revising their rules of procedure regarding consultative relations with non-governmental organizations in the light of the rules on consultation with non-governmental organizations established by the Council for the functional commissions, of part V of resolution 288 (X) of 27 february 1950, and of the discussions on this subject during the thirteenth session of the Council; and ...

D.

45. DECIDES:

(a) That the arrangements in the foregoing resolutions relating to the organization of the Council and its Commission shall come into force on 1 January 1952.