

States concerned for their comments, and to report to the Council at a subsequent session;

5. *Invites* Governments of Member States to comment on the proposals and recommendations of the Secretary-General mentioned in paragraph 4 above;

6. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps to convene in 1958 in Tokyo a second regional cartographic conference for Asia and the Far East, including the preparation of a provisional agenda and the sending of invitations to Governments of States Members of the United Nations or of members of the specialized agencies, and to the specialized agencies and other inter-governmental organizations.

*922nd plenary meeting,
2 May 1956.*

601 (XXI). Report of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note of the report of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.⁸

*902nd plenary meeting,
18 April 1956.*

602 (XXI). Report of the International Monetary Fund

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note of the report of the International Monetary Fund.⁹

*904th plenary meeting,
19 April 1956.*

603 (XXI). Convention on Road Traffic adopted at the United Nations Conference on Road and Motor Transport (Geneva, 19 September 1949)

The Economic and Social Council,

Having examined the Secretary-General's note¹⁰ on the 1949 Convention on Road Traffic drawing its attention to the expiry on 26 March 1957 of the provision contained in paragraph 6 of article 24 of that Convention reading as follows:

" During a period of five years beginning with the entry into force of this Convention, any driver admitted to international traffic under the provisions of the International Convention relative to Motor Traffic signed at Paris on 24 April 1926, or of the Convention

⁸ International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, *Tenth Annual Report, 1954-1955*, Washington, D. C. (E/2802), *Appendices to the Tenth Annual Report, 1954-1955* (E/2802/Add.1), and document E/2802/Add.2.

⁹ International Monetary Fund, *Annual Report of the Executive Directors for the Fiscal Year ended April 30, 1955*, Washington, D.C. (E/2801), and document E/2801/Add.1.

¹⁰ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-first Session, Annexes*, agenda item 22, document E/2818 and Add.1.

on the Regulation of Inter-American Automotive Traffic opened for signature at Washington on 15 December 1943, and holding the documents required thereunder, shall be considered as fulfilling the requirements of this article".

Taking into account the opinion expressed by the Transport and Communications Commission in paragraph 34 of the report on its seventh session,¹¹ and also resolution 185 adopted by the Inland Transport Committee of the Economic Commission for Europe at its thirteenth session,

Recognizing the difficulties and delay involved in formally amending the Convention,

1. *Recommends* prompt ratification of the 1949 Convention on Road Traffic by all eligible Governments which have not already done so, in order to achieve at the earliest possible date the desirable world-wide uniformity in administrative procedures provided by the Convention;

2. *Recommends* Governments of States which are or may become parties to the 1949 Convention on Road Traffic to examine the possibility of continuing, as an administrative measure, to apply the provisions of paragraph 6 of article 24 of that Convention for an additional period of three years, up to 26 March 1960;

3. *Instructs* the Secretary-General to communicate the above recommendation to the Governments mentioned in paragraph 2 and to request them to inform him of their position with respect to this recommendation;

4. *Instructs further* the Secretary-General to inform Governments of States which are parties or are eligible to become parties to the 1949 Convention on Road Traffic of the replies received under paragraph 3.

*914th plenary meeting,
26 April 1956.*

604 (XXI). Recognition and enforcement of foreign arbitral awards

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 570 (XIX) of 20 May 1955, requesting the Secretary-General to ascertain from the Governments mentioned therein whether they consider it desirable to convene a conference to conclude a convention on the recognition and enforcement of foreign arbitral awards, and whether they are prepared to participate in such a conference,

Noting from the report of the Secretary-General¹² on the result of the consultation undertaken in pursuance of resolution 570 (XIX)¹³ that a substantial number of Governments have expressed themselves in favour of convening a conference to conclude a convention on the recognition and enforcement of foreign arbitral awards,

¹¹ *Idem, Nineteenth Session, Supplement No. 4* (E/2696).

¹² E/2822 and Corr.1.

¹³ E/2822/Add.1 to 5.

and have indicated that they are prepared to participate in such a conference,

Noting further the comments by Governments and interested non-governmental organizations in consultative status¹³ on the draft Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards prepared by the Committee on the Enforcement of International Arbitral Awards,¹⁴

Having considered the observations on this subject submitted by the Secretary-General¹⁵ in pursuance of resolution 570 (XIX),

Taking into account the activities of the regional economic commissions of the Council and of other inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations aiming at furthering the development of arbitration in private law disputes as a measure beneficial to international trade,

Having consulted the Secretary-General as prescribed in General Assembly resolution 366 (IV) of 3 December 1949, approving the rules for calling of international conferences of States,

1. *Decides*:

(a) To call a conference of plenipotentiaries with the following terms of reference:

- (i) To conclude a convention on the recognition and enforcement of foreign arbitral awards on the basis of the draft Convention prepared by the Committee on the Enforcement of International Arbitral Awards, taking into account the comments and suggestions made by Governments and non-governmental organizations, as well as the discussion at the twenty-first session of the Council;
- (ii) To consider, if time permits, other possible measures for increasing the effectiveness of arbitration in the settlement of private law disputes and to make such recommendations as it may deem desirable;

(b) To invite:

- (i) States Members of the United Nations or members of any of its specialized agencies, and also any other State which is a party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice, to participate in the conference;
- (ii) The interested specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the Council, as well as The Hague Conference on Private International Law and the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law, to participate without vote in the conference;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To ask the inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations active in the field of international commercial arbitration to submit brief reports on the progress of their activities on this subject, together with any comments or suggestions they may have;

¹³ E/2822/Add.1 to 5.

¹⁴ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Nineteenth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 14, document E/2704 and Corr.1.

¹⁵ *Idem, Twenty-first Session, Annexes*, agenda item 8, document E/2840.

(b) To submit to the conference a consolidated report, including the reports received from the above organizations, and any other information he may have gathered on the subject, together with such observations as he may have;

(c) To make all necessary arrangements for the calling of the conference of plenipotentiaries in accordance with the terms of General Assembly resolution 366 (IV) and of the present resolution.

*923rd plenary meeting,
3 May 1956.*

605 (XXI). Advisory services in the field of human rights

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General¹⁶ on advisory services in the field of human rights, together with the observations of the specialized agencies,¹⁷

Having noted that the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Human Rights, and the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities have adopted resolutions on advisory services in the field of human rights,¹⁸

1. *Approves* the suggestion for a news-personnel project along the lines set forth in the Secretary-General's report¹⁹ on the news-personnel programme, on the understanding that in the development of the project due emphasis will be given to the promotion of freedom of information;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To continue to develop all aspects of the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights and, if feasible, to undertake during 1956 a seminar or seminars, preferably on a regional basis, along the lines suggested in the resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on the Status of Women;

(b) To determine, after consultation with the appropriate specialized agencies, the areas or types of activities in the field of human rights in which assistance may be requested from the United Nations in accordance with paragraph 3 (d) of General Assembly resolution 926 (X) of 14 December 1955;

(c) To seek, as appropriate, the co-operation of professional organizations and other interested non-governmental organizations with competence in this area;

(d) To submit a report on developments under the advisory services programme to the Council at its twenty-third session;

3. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to inform Governments of States Members of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies of the resolutions relating to the advisory services programme which have

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, agenda item 9, documents E/2825, E/2839 and E/2853.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, document E/2854.

¹⁸ *Ibid.*, document E/2853.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, document E/2839.