

B

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling that in resolution 1166 (XII) of 26 November 1957 the General Assembly requested the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to intensify the programme of the United Nations Refugee Fund to the fullest extent possible in order to achieve permanent solutions for the maximum number of refugees remaining in camps, without losing sight of the need to continue to seek solutions for the problems of refugees outside camps, and authorized him to appeal to States Members of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies for the purpose of raising the additional funds needed for closing the refugee camps,

Considering that the contributions paid, pledged or promised to the Office of the High Commissioner in answer to his appeal are as yet inadequate to enable him to complete by 31 December 1960 the clearance of refugee camps,

Urges States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies :

(a) To renew their efforts either to contribute or to increase their contribution to the Office of the High Commissioner;

(b) To assist the Office of the High Commissioner in its task of seeking permanent solutions for the problems of refugees by facilitating their voluntary repatriation or their assimilation within new national communities, in accordance with the basic principle laid down in paragraph 1 of the statute of the High Commissioner's Office²⁵ and reaffirmed by the General Assembly in resolution 1166 (XII);

(c) To consider with the help of voluntary agencies further resettlement opportunities for refugees wishing to emigrate from countries of first asylum, including if possible, refugees suffering from physical, social or economic handicaps.

*1041st plenary meeting,
21 July 1958.*

688 (XXVI). Technical assistance for narcotics control

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting the resolution on technical assistance for narcotics control adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its thirteenth session,²⁶

1. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the interested specialized agencies, to review the nature and scope of assistance requested by Governments for increasing the efficiency of their measures to control the production of narcotics, to eliminate drug addiction, and to suppress illicit traffic; to explore the extent to which such assistance can be made available under existing programmes; and to formulate, as may be necessary, proposals regarding the assistance which might be made

²⁵ General Assembly resolution 428 (V), annex.

²⁶ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 9 (E/3133), annex I, para. 2, section II.

available by the United Nations and the interested specialized agencies, with an estimate of the cost;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to report on these matters to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fourteenth session, and subsequently to the twenty-eighth session of the Economic and Social Council.

*1042nd plenary meeting,
28 July 1958.*

639 (XXVI). International control of narcotic drugs

A

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note of the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (thirteenth session).²⁷

*1042nd plenary meeting,
28 July 1958.*

B

REPORT OF THE PERMANENT CENTRAL OPIUM BOARD

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note of the report of the Permanent Central Opium Board on the work of the Board in 1957.²⁸

*1042nd plenary meeting,
28 July 1958.*

C

PUBLICITY ON NEW NARCOTICS

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering the growing number of new strong analgesics that come into medical use each year,

Concerned over the frequent declarations by manufacturers or in the press that one or another of these drugs is not addiction-producing,

Recalling the great harm in terms of human suffering arising out of similar claims made with regard to such drugs as heroin and pethidine,

Urges Governments to keep a close watch over the publicity given to new narcotic drugs, and in particular to ensure, so far as possible, that claims of this kind are based only on careful and comprehensive clinical tests.

*1042nd plenary meeting,
28 July 1958.*

D

NATIONAL CONTROL OF NORMETHADONE

The Economic and Social Council,

Observing that the World Health Organization, in its study on the potency, side-effects and addiction liability

²⁷ Ibid., Supplement No. 9 (E/3133).

²⁸ E/OB/13 and E/OB/13/Addendum. United Nations publication, Sales No. : 1957.XI.3 and 1957.XI.3 Addendum.

of synthetic narcotics,²⁹ found that the addiction-sustaining dose of the new synthetic narcotic, normethadone, equalled that of morphine, and that the drug may thus be regarded as equally dangerous as morphine,

Noting that this drug came under international control in November 1954 following a recommendation to this effect by the World Health Organization Expert Committee on Addiction-producing Drugs,

Learning that normethadone is coming into general use in some countries,

Urges all countries that have not yet done so, and in particular such countries as are manufacturing and exporting normethadone, to place that drug under national control.

*1042nd plenary meeting,
28 July 1958.*

E

ESTIMATES

The Economic and Social Council,

Aware of the importance of the estimate system established under the 1931 Convention in controlling the licit trade in narcotic drugs,

Recalling its resolution 588 B IV (XX) of 3 August 1955, which drew attention to the question of defective estimates,

Noting that the Drug Supervisory Body is still lacking the full co-operation of some countries, and that this situation hampers it in carrying out its duties,

1. *Again urges* all Governments to indicate, when they send in their estimates, the method they have used in calculating them, either directly or by referring to an earlier communication in which the method has been described;

2. *Reminds* all parties to the Convention for Limiting the Manufacture and Regulating the Distribution of Narcotic Drugs, signed at Geneva on 13 July 1931, as amended by the protocol signed at Lake Success on 11 December 1946, that they have undertaken (article 5 thereof) to furnish the explanations that may be required by the Drug Supervisory Body;

3. *Draws attention* to the frequently encountered defects in consumption and stock estimates mentioned in sections IV.3, and IV.4, of the Drug Supervisory Body's statement³⁰ entitled *Estimated World Requirements of Narcotic Drugs in 1958*.

*1042nd plenary meeting,
28 July 1958.*

F

PROVISIONAL SAFEGUARDS FOR THE CARRIAGE OF NARCOTIC DRUGS IN FIRST-AID KITS OF AIRCRAFT ENGAGED IN INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT

The Economic and Social Council,

Having been requested by the Council of the Inter-

national Civil Aviation Organization to consider the problem of the carriage of narcotic drugs in first-aid kits of aircraft engaged in international flight,

Noting that the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization at the eighth meeting of its thirteenth session, on 1 April 1957, invited the World Health Organization to study the medical aspects of this question,

Intending to give further consideration to the problem of formulating guidance to Governments on the regime of control needed for this purpose,

Considering that, pending action to be taken in the light of the recommendations to be received from the World Health Organization, Governments should take steps to prevent the diversion to illicit purposes of such drugs,

1. *Recommends* Governments to take all necessary measures to prevent the misuse and diversion for illicit purposes of narcotic drugs carried in first-aid kits of aircraft engaged in international flight, in particular by ensuring that such drugs are kept in sealed or locked containers to which only authorized persons have access, that adequate records of supply and use, and of stocks, of narcotic drugs are maintained by the airline companies concerned, and that such records and stocks are subject to regular inspection;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite the views of the International Criminal Police Organization on the safeguards which should be taken to prevent the diversion of such drugs for illicit purposes;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, if the World Health Organization study supports the carriage of narcotic drugs in first-aid kits of aircraft engaged in international flight, a report on the legal problems, in particular concerning the application of efficient safeguards against abuse and of uniform principles under which opiates or similar drugs might be used and carried in first-aid kits on board aircraft in an effort to promote uniformity under existing laws, this report to be prepared in consultation with the secretariats of the International Civil Aviation Organization and the World Health Organization;

4. *Invites* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to consider the report referred to in the preceding paragraph at its fourteenth session, if possible, and to advise the Economic and Social Council whether further measures should be recommended to Governments for application;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission, at its fourteenth session, a legal opinion on the carriage of narcotic drugs in first-aid kits of aircraft engaged in international flight in the light of the provisions of chapter V of the International Opium Convention signed at Geneva on 19 February 1925, as amended by the Protocol of 11 December 1946.

*1042nd plenary meeting,
28 July 1958.*

²⁹ E/CN.7/325.

³⁰ E/DSB/15, United Nations publication, sales No. : 1957.XI.4.

G

PREVENTION OF DRUG ADDICTION

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 588 E (XX) of 3 August 1955,

Recalling with satisfaction the work accomplished by the World Health Organization Study Group on the Treatment and Care of Drug Addicts,³¹

Noting that important progress is being made toward understanding the nature of drug addiction and in the development of methods of treatment of addicts,

Considering that additional studies on problems of drug addiction would be useful, and that the World Health Organization has begun preparations for a study group on the prevention of addiction,

Expresses the hope that the World Health Organization will take, as soon as possible, the necessary steps to present its report on the prevention of addiction.

*1042nd plenary meeting,
28 July 1958.*

H

PROHIBITION OF OPIUM PRODUCTION IN AFGHANISTAN

The Economic and Social Council,

Having noted that Afghanistan, which was formerly an important opium-producing country, has adopted the law of Kaus 2, 1336 (24 November 1957)³² concerning the prohibition of cultivation, trade, purchase, sale, import, export and use of opium in Afghanistan,

Welcoming this policy, and at the same time recognizing that it entails serious economic and social consequences for a considerable proportion of the population of the region formerly occupied in opium cultivation; and that assistance is required both in respect of the immediate emergency and the long-range development involved,

Recalling with gratification the response of Afghanistan to the invitations regarding the 1925 and 1931 Conventions contained in resolution II B (XI) of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recognizing that the success of Afghanistan in this field requires international co-operation,

Recognizing that technical assistance is a useful means of aiding in the execution of the policy incorporated in the above-mentioned law,

Recalling the interest in this question expressed by the General Assembly and the Council itself,

1. *Expresses its sense of the significance of the policy adopted by Afghanistan and its hope that Afghanistan will succeed in accomplishing the tasks it has undertaken;*

2. *Draws the attention of the General Assembly, of the specialized agencies concerned, and especially of the relevant technical assistance organs, to the importance, in relation to the economic and social development of*

³¹ World Health Organization, Technical Report Series, No. 131.

³² E/NL.1958/13.

Afghanistan, of the successful and speedy achievement of these aims.

*1042nd plenary meeting,
28 July 1958.*

I

MIDDLE EAST NARCOTICS SURVEY MISSION

The Economic and Social Council,

Having regard to the volume of the illicit traffic in narcotics (in particular, opium, cannabis and their narcotic derivatives), as shown in the reports transmitted by Governments in the Middle East, and to the emergence of serious problems regarding such illicit traffic,

Considering that the situation calls for increased effectiveness of measures to combat the illicit traffic, and particularly for improved co-operation among the Governments of the countries concerned in the region and their enforcement authorities,

Believing that further examination of the problems involved and of practicable means of solving them is required,

1. *Requests the Secretary-General to appoint a mission of not more than five members, chosen for their knowledge of the type of problems concerned and of enforcement work, to serve as individual experts, to provide the secretariat and to make administrative arrangements for the work of the mission;*

2. *Requests and authorizes the mission, acting as such, in consultation with and with the consent of the Governments concerned, to examine and consider the problems involved, and in particular:*

(a) *To inform itself of the situation, by information transmitted by Governments and by the Secretariat, by discussion with representatives of the Governments concerned, and by visits to countries in the region where major problems exist in this field;*

(b) *To discuss with the Governments their views and suggestions regarding the improvement of the situation;*

(c) *Having regard to the need for preserving the confidential character of certain kinds of information in this field, to make communications for the consideration of individual Governments, or of groups of Governments, which would be kept confidential as between the mission and the Government or Governments concerned;*

(d) *Subject to the preceding paragraph, to make a report, to be transmitted to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, on such general matters and suggestions within this field as the mission may consider desirable,*

(e) *To make, to those Governments that may request it, suggestions on the ways, within the framework of present technical assistance programmes and such modifications as the Council may make in them, in which technical assistance may be used to increase the effectiveness of measures against the illicit traffic and, if the mission considers it desirable, to report to the Commission on this subject.*

*1042nd plenary meeting,
28 July 1958.*

J

THE PROPOSED SINGLE CONVENTION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 159 II D (VII) of 3 August 1948 and 246 D (IX) of 6 July 1949 requesting the preparation of a draft of a single convention in order to replace by a single instrument the existing multilateral treaties relating to the control of narcotic drugs, to reduce the number of international treaty organs exclusively concerned with such control and to make provision for the control of the production of raw materials of narcotic drugs,

Noting that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs has completed such a draft,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the draft of the Single Convention adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its twelfth and thirteenth sessions to all States Members of the United Nations and States members of the specialized agencies and of the International Atomic Energy Agency, to the World Health Organization, other specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Permanent Central Opium Board and Drug Supervisory Body, and to the International Criminal Police Organization;

2. *Invites* the States and organizations referred to in paragraph 1 above to transmit to the Secretary-General their comments on the draft not later than 1 October 1959;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, and to communicate to these States and organizations by

31 December 1959, a compilation of the comments received by the Secretariat by 1 November 1959;

4. *Decides* to convene, in accordance with Article 62, paragraph 4, of the Charter of the United Nations, and with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 366 (IV) of 3 December 1949, a plenipotentiary conference for the adoption of a single convention on narcotic drugs to replace the existing multilateral treaties in the field;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General :

(a) To call such a conference within a reasonable period, in the light of the time-limits mentioned in paragraphs 2 and 3 above;

(b) To invite to the conference :

(i) The States mentioned in paragraph 1 above;

(ii) The World Health Organization and other specialized agencies interested in the matter, with the same rights as they enjoy at sessions of the Economic and Social Council;

(iii) The Permanent Central Opium Board and Drug Supervisory Body, with the same rights as these two organs enjoy at sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;

(iv) The International Criminal Police Organization, with the same rights as this organization enjoys at sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;

(c) To prepare provisional rules of procedure for the conference.

*1042nd plenary meeting,
28 July 1958.*

Questions relating to human rights

680 (XXVI). Report of the Commission on the Status of Women

A

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note of the report of the Commission on the Status of Women (twelfth session),³³ and endorses the work programme and priorities contained therein.

*1029th plenary meeting,
10 July 1958.*

B

STATUS OF WOMEN IN PRIVATE LAW

I

AGE OF MARRIAGE, FREE CONSENT, AND REGISTRATION OF MARRIAGES

The Economic and Social Council

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to circulate, to Member Governments and to non-governmental organiza-

tions in consultative status with the Council, a questionnaire designed to obtain information on consent to marriage and requirements as to age and registration of marriage;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare for the fourteenth session of the Commission on the Status of Women a report based on the information received from Governments and from non-governmental organizations;

3. *Invites* Member Governments and non-governmental organizations to co-operate with the Secretary-General by providing the information requested at an early date;

4. *Considers* that it may be appropriate to propose desirable standards in this field by means of a recommendation under the auspices of the United Nations which would establish a minimum age of marriage; the requirement of the free consent of both parties to the marriage; and the compulsory registration of marriages;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare for the fourteenth session of the Commission on the Status of Women a recommendation dealing with the three questions outlined in paragraph 4 above.

*1029th plenary meeting,
10 July 1958.*

³³ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 7 (E/3096).*