

United Nations
CONFERENCE
ON
TRADE AND EMPLOYMENT

Nations Unies
CONFERENCE
DU
COMMERCE ET DE L'EMPLOI

RESTRICTED
E/CONF.2/32
30 January 1948
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATIONS OF: ARGENTINA, BOLIVIA, BRAZIL,
COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA, CHILE, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, ECUADOR, EL SALVADOR,
GUATEMALA, HAITI, MEXICO, PANAMA, PERU, URUGUAY AND VENEZUELA.

Mr. President and Delegates:

This meeting of heads of delegations has been called for the purpose of carrying out an exchange of views in our search for practical formulas to solve the great problems that are still awaiting solution at this Conference.

Needless to say, our views are identified with the general hope that establishment of peaceful and friendly relations between the nations will necessitate the institution, within the framework of the United Nations, of a programme of economic co-operation linked with the Organization, which will bind the nations together for the achievement of these fundamental objectives.

We feel that the Trade and Employment Charter should, for this purpose, contain sufficiently wide and balanced formulas to permit the co-existence of the nations in a manner that ensures them opportunities for progress.

In support of this statement we think it proper to recall that most of the delegations were in agreement, in their speeches at the previous Plenary Meetings, in stating the common desire that the hope we have referred to should be embraced with generous understanding in the Charter under discussion.

After two months of work at this Conference - which was originally expected to finish on the 15th of January - there remain undecided questions of the greatest importance regarding problems on whose equitable solution depends the establishment in the Charter of the desired equilibrium between the industrialized countries and those others that aspire to the increasing development of their resources in order to realize the guiding principles of economic co-operation contained in the United Nations Charter.

We believe that the desire expressed by our delegations that formulas should be found to permit the diversification of our sources of production and the development of our industries has not been adequately met, and this explains the differences in views that are still outstanding regarding the provisions of the Draft Charter, and which we consider to be of fundamental importance.

/It seem to us

It seems to us that the most effective procedure for attaining the objectives we have described would be the setting up of a special group in direct contact with delegations, which would collaborate in seeking harmonious solutions of specific problems. Thus, instead of the work of the organs of the Conference being interrupted, the group whose establishment we propose - which might be called a co-ordination group - would help to find formulas of agreement, which, it may be reasonably assumed, could only result in facilitation of the work of these organs and, consequently, in the complete success of the Conference.

We are sure that this proposal will be received in the same spirit of understanding as our delegations have shown in interpreting the needs and hopes of other nations.

We believe that we are contributing to the fulfilment of the general wish by making every effort to obtain a Charter which, having the unanimous approval of the nations participating in this Conference, will receive the final ratification of the Governments and the adherence of the nations they represent.

The indivisibility of peace as a permanent achievement of civilization must be based on harmonious co-operation between the nations, which in turn necessitates mutual understanding.

In the hope that such a spirit may rule the work of this Conference, we believe that we are contributing our share to its success by presenting the proposal stated above.
