

Executive Committee  
Second Session

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE SECOND MEETING  
Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,  
on 26 August, 1948, at 10 a.m.

CHAIRMAN : Hon. L.D. WILGRESS (Canada).

The Executive Committee approved the Chairman's proposal to set up a Credentials Committee composed of the Delegates of China, Columbia, Czechoslovakia, Greece, under the Chairmanship of the Delegate of Columbia.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY ON THE WORK OF THE SECRETARIAT. (ICITO/EC.2/5) (Provisional Agenda: No.3)

Sir R. PILLAI (India) pointed out a misprint in Part I of the report where "Article 84" should read "Article 85".

Replying to a question from Mr. STINEBOWER (United States) the Chairman said that the approval by the Committee of the separate parts of the Report was without prejudice to any decisions the Committee might take in the course of the forthcoming meetings.

Part I - Administration and Finance.

Concerning the financing of the Interim Commission, the Executive Secretary said he would supply details of the expenses for the period covered by the Report. He thought he would be able to show economies on certain items, although expenses on others might be higher because some charges, as for instance the common services provided by the United Nations, were higher than had been expected. He would also circulate estimates for the last quarter of 1948 and for the whole of 1949 in order that the Advisory Committee of the Assembly of

the United Nations might be provided with the necessary information for the financing of this period. He hoped to be able to meet the expenses for the last quarter of 1948 without requesting a further advance beyond those of \$86,490, for the second quarter and \$110,000 for the third quarter of 1948.

Mr. STINEBOWER (United States of America) appreciated the further details the Committee had been given and expressed the hope that the Executive Secretary would give at a later stage detailed information as to the size and composition of the Secretariat.

Mr. PEDROSA (Philippine Republic) formally moved that the Executive Committee confirm to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the commitment undertaken by the Executive Secretary that any advances to the Interim Commission should be reimbursed to the United Nations by the International Trade Organization.

The motion was approved subject to a temporary reservation of Mr. STINEBOWER (United States of America) pending authorization by his Government

Dr. AUGENTHALER proposed that the Committee should vote a resolution to authorize the Executive Secretary or the Chairman to send to the Secretary-General of the United Nations on behalf of the I.C.I.T.O. a formal expression of appreciation of the co-operation which he had accorded the Interim Commission.

The proposal was approved.

The Executive Secretary called the attention of the Committee to Annex B because there would be no further opportunity to discuss the information services. This

question had been left to his discretion at Havana and he would be glad to hear the opinion of the Committee. His impression was that these services were extremely useful. There had been as he had anticipated a large volume of enquiries from all sources requesting information on the scope and activities of the I.T.O. and the I.C.I.T.O. and invitations had been received from public bodies and associations both in the United States of America and in Europe to give lectures addresses and to furnish articles for their various publications. This resulted in the dissemination of objective information which he considered very important.

Mr. SUETENS (Benelux) wished to congratulate the Executive Secretary for the work done and agreed with him in his estimation of the importance of information services. He thought however that what the Secretariat could do was not enough and that it had to be implemented by the efforts of each single country within its jurisdiction.

Referring to paragraph 6 of Annex B, the Chairman said that the summaries of the Charter and the GATT had been distributed in mimeographed form, they had not been printed because the United Nations were not likely to finance these costs, which the Executive Secretary estimated roughly at \$500 for 5,000 copies of each pamphlet. The publication would have to be in three languages so that the cost of each pamphlet would be approximately \$1,500. Out of the sum of \$10,000 budgeted for information services, nothing had been spent; the other publications mentioned were printed by United Nations headquarters and the salary of the Public Relations Officer had been charged to another post.

Mr. STINEBOWER (United States of America) felt the Executive Secretary was to be complimented and the expenditures on information services should be held to the lowest level possible. Whilst he would like to see many mimeographed copies, he was reluctant to see expenses increased by printing charges.

Mr. SHACKLE (United Kingdom) thought the Executive Secretary's Report admirable for its objectivity and clarity. He thought the two summaries were the right kind of information to be issued by the Secretariat and would like to see them printed.

Mr. TONKIN (Australia) thought the question of printing of these two pamphlets could be deferred until members of the Committee had seen the mimeographed copies.

Mr. PEDROSA (Philippine Republic) moved that the two pamphlets be printed.

The CHAIRMAN thought that if Mr. Pedrosa agreed, the question might be deferred until the mimeographed copies were seen by those who up to the time had not received them. The matter could then be reverted to when the financial question came up before the appropriate Sub-Committee, and Mr. Pedrosa agreed.

Mr. WUNSZ KING (China) said that while appreciating the difficulties and the expenses involved, he would like to see some publications in the Chinese language because he had gathered how very little informed people were in this matter in China.

Mr. COUILLARD thought the presentation of information should not take a popular form. He suggested that one useful form of publication would be a subject index to the Havana Charter.

Dr. AUGENTHALER (Czechoslovakia) supported the proposal to publish booklets on the Charter and GATT. The latter should be re-written to take account of the Second Session.

Mr. PEDROSA (Philippine Republic) suggested that contacts be made with UNESCO with a view to the inclusion of the Havana Charter in University curricula.

The CHAIRMAN replied that the Report was not an exhaustive account of all the information work of the Secretariat, contacts had been established with such organizations as UNESCO, WFUNA and others and the Executive Secretary had also delivered a lecture to the U.N. Summer School at Lake Success.

The Committee agreed that the question of printing the two summaries be deferred till the budget came up for examination.

PREPARATION OF AUTHENTIC TEXTS OF THE HAVANA CHARTER IN THE CHINESE, SPANISH AND RUSSIAN LANGUAGES (see also ICITO/EC.2/12)

The CHAIRMAN suggested that, in view of the numerous spanish-speaking countries which were awaiting the translation of the Charter in order to propose its ratification to their Legislatures, this should in his view be given the first attention of the Committee.

Mr. SHACKLE (United Kingdom) said that, as all three translations under discussion were to be eventually authentic texts, the translation should receive the greatest care. His Delegation could bring out an expert in the Spanish language for examination of the text.

Mr. de BRIGARD SILVA (Columbia) agreed that it was important to bring out the Spanish text as soon as possible,

but he pointed out that October 10th was the date which had been set for Governments to submit their comments on the draft already circulated.

Mr. WUNSZ KING (China) was thankful to the Chinese Department of U.N. for having prepared a translation of the text of the Charter. This text was at present under examination in Shanghai and Nanking and also at Geneva by members of his Delegation. There were errors in the translation which were being corrected and this would take time.

Mr. STINEBOWER (United States of America) felt that some Delegates had perhaps received at Havana the impression that he was opposed to the translation in all the five official languages and he wished to say this was in no way the case. He added that an expert in Spanish was standing by in Washington and could be brought to Geneva immediately.

The CHAIRMAN said that document ICITO/EC.2/12 had been circulated to all Governments, on July 14th, but comments had only been received from the United States. The United Kingdom had informed that it would soon be in a position to comment. Consequently the procedure suggested by the Executive Secretary presented difficulties. Perhaps a new date for receipt of documents should be set and the subsequent procedure shortened in accordance with the proposals in Document ICITO/EC.2/12. It was agreed to defer a decision in this matter pending consultations by the Chairman and the Executive Secretary with the delegations concerned.

The meeting was adjourned to the same afternoon  
at 3 p.m.