

FIRST COMMITTEE: EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

SUB-COMMITTEE C: PROPOSED RESOLUTION ON EMPLOYMENT

PROPOSAL BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF BRAZIL FOR A RESOLUTION ON
INTERNATIONAL ACTION RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT

A. Points to be covered in the Resolution

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Employment was pleased to be informed that the Economic and Social Council has paid due attention to the considerations on international action relating to employment, made at the First Session of the Preparatory Committee in London last year, and that the suggested measures have been ultimately sent by the Economic and Employment Commission to the Sub-Commission on Employment and Economic Stability for careful study and report back to the Economic and Social Council. Although the Conference knows that the Economic and Social Council - through its Economic and Employment Commission and Sub-Commission on Employment and Economic Stability - is considering the problems involved in those suggestions, it would like to stress, once more, the importance of international action for the achievement and maintenance of full and productive employment, as well as for high and stable levels of effective demand.

Consequently, the Conference would like to insist on the consideration of the following measures:

1.)
2.)
3.) As in the Draft Resolution of the First Session
(E/CONF.2/5)
4.)
5. International co-ordination of employment services with a view to facilitating the migration of labour where desirable.
6. International co-ordination relating to the settlement, in the scarcely populated areas, of immigrants, taking into special consideration the financial side of the problem, as pointed out in the paper presented by the International Labour Organization to the Sub-Commission on Economic Development (E/CONF.2/C.1/C/1, page 4).

/B. Justification

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Items 1 to 4

The reasons behind the recommendations relating to the items 1 to 4 are so evident that they dispense with any specific and individual comment.

They derive from the fact that the national economies are inter-dependent, however great may be the diversification of their economic structures, and from the obvious fact that the flow of capital contributes extraordinarily to keep the national economies going.

Notwithstanding, emphasis is to be placed, as the delegation of Australia has repeatedly done, on the wide fluctuations of the world prices of primary products as one of the main causes of international economic disequilibria.

When we consider that almost one billion and a half of the world population live on the production of foodstuffs and raw materials, it is not difficult to be convinced of the importance of this problem, that has deserved the special attention of the International Trade Organization, which assigned to it a whole chapter in the International Charter of Trade and Employment.

It seems to me that disparity between prices of primary and industrial products as reflected in the barter terms of trade is one of the most important causes of world trade disequilibrium.

It is also obvious that this disequilibrium affects specially those countries whose economies depend in a high degree upon the exportation of one or a few staple goods.

Ronald WALKER, speaking about this type of economy says:

"The type of economy as developed prior to the depression was doubly vulnerable to external economic crisis. A disproportionate fall in the prices of foodstuffs and raw materials as compared with manufactured goods or an interruption to the international flow of capital investments was always apt to throw Australian economy in depression."

(E. Mordekai - Towards World
Prosperity - New York, 1947)

What Walker says about Australia, may be said of all Latin American countries and of several other of like type.

Item 5

Exceedingly important to those countries that confront the problems of seasonal migrations, chiefly in agriculture (case of France, Italy, Poland, Germany, etc.)

/Item 6

Item 6

The remarks of this item concern the low-pressure population countries of the type of Latin America. It is one of their vital economic development problems.

From its reasonable solution depends, in a certain degree, the "avoidance of unemployment or under-employment through the achievement and maintenance ... etc."

It seems to me it is time to find an economic and human solution for the migration problem, if we sincerely do wish that the economic stability and development represent a means to achieve the spiritual and cultural enrichment of mankind.

I must remark that the six items as stated on the first page of this note do not represent a tentative draft. They summarize some general points that, in my opinion, must be referred to in the proposed draft.
