

CONSULTATION WITH NON-GOVERNMENTALORGANIZATIONS IN CATEGORY A.Note by the Executive Secretary

The operation of the arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations, approved by the Preparatory Committee and set out in document E/PC/T/45 Rev. 1 of 6th May 1947, have proved somewhat unsatisfactory. In the first place, they have imposed on the members constituting the Committee a burden heavier than was anticipated. In the second place, consultations have been lengthy and unsatisfactory because of the absence of any provisions for bringing to the attention of the representatives of the organizations, the authoritative views of the Preparatory Committee on the points made by the organizations.

Having consulted with the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee and with the Chairman of the Consultative Committee, I now venture to put forward the following suggestions for the improvement of the arrangements:-

(a) Delegations not at present represented on the Consultative Committee should appoint representatives to the Committee. These representatives, together with the original members, should constitute a panel, from which there should be selected for each meeting with any of the organizations, seven representatives of the Preparatory Committee.

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Delegations not represented on the Consultative Committee are hereby invited to nominate representatives for this purpose.

(b) As regards sections of the Charter which have already been discussed by sub-committees and by the Commissions, the Secretariat will prepare material as a basis for replies to the non-governmental organizations and will submit this material for approval by the Preparatory Committee.

An attempt on these lines has already been made by the Secretariat for the purpose of discussions of Chapters III and IV with the World Federation of Trade Unions. It proved unsuccessful because the limited time available did not enable the Secretariat formally to present the papers to the Preparatory Committee, and certain members of the Consultative Committee felt that they were unable to accept the Secretariat's views as the basis of a reply to the representative of the World Federation of Trade Unions.

The discussion with the World Federation of Trade Unions is to be resumed on Wednesday 2nd July, Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th.

The Secretariat hopes that delegations will study the Secretariat paper which is being circulated as an appendix to the minutes of the last meeting of the Consultative Committee (E/PC/T/110), so that more rapid progress can be made with the consultations with the World Federation of Trade Unions than has proved possible in the past.