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Forty-fifth session
Items 12, 43, 70 and 111 of
the preliminary list*

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

QUESTION OF NAMIBIA

STRENGTHENING OF SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN
THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION

INTERNATIONAL ACTION TO COMBAT DRUG ABUSE AND
ILLICIT TRAFFICKING

Letter dated 29 June 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to the 83rd Conference of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, 1/ which was held at Nicosia, Cyprus, from 2 to 7 April 1990, at the invitation of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Cyprus. The Conference brought together over 440 members of Parliament from 90 countries and the representatives of 20 observer delegations.

* A/45/50.

1/ Currently composed as follows: Members: the Parliaments of Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya,

Attached are the texts, in English and French, of certain resolutions adopted during the session, which are relevant to items on the provisional agenda of the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly. These resolutions are entitled "Report of the mission to observe the elections in Namibia", "Action to combat drug trafficking", "Employment, vocational training and new technologies and their relevance to promoting sustainable development and social justice" and "The promotion of peace and security in the Mediterranean region in the light of the developments in Europe and the new spirit prevailing internationally". (For the text of the last resolution, see A/45/259-S/21279.)

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex would be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under items 12, 43, 70 and 111 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Andreas MAVROMMATIS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Cyprus
to the United Nations

(continued)

Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe. Associate members: Andean Parliament, European Parliament.

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ANNEX

Inter-Parliamentary Union

REPORT OF THE MISSION TO OBSERVE THE ELECTIONS IN NAMIBIA

(Resolution adopted by the Inter-Parliamentary Council at its
146th session in Nicosia, 7 April 1990)

The Inter-Parliamentary Council,

Having examined the Report of the observer mission of the Inter-Parliamentary Union to Namibia (29 October - 10 November 1989), entitled "Towards the Birth of a Nation",

1. Endorses fully the report of the observer mission;
2. Notes with satisfaction that by having its mission on the spot at a crucial time, the Union carried out a significant political act, thus ending successfully its long-standing efforts, started in 1977, in favour of "free elections in Namibia, under UN auspices, at the earliest possible moment";
3. Expresses its gratitude to the members of the mission and to all those authorities and organizations within Namibia, especially to the Council of Churches of Namibia, and to the United Nations Transition Assistance Group, without whose co-operation, assistance and support the mission could not have accomplished its task;
4. Acclaims the people of Namibia for displaying exceptional determination and maturity in voting for the first time in an election universally recognized as free and fair;
5. Commends the achievement of the Constituent Assembly of Namibia in adopting, in a short time and by consensus, a Constitution which enshrines multiparty democracy and the rule of law;
6. Praises the significant and necessary role of the United Nations and the multinational force it was able to deploy in the process leading to independence;
7. Expresses the hope that the experience gained by the United Nations in Namibia will prove of value in similar situations elsewhere in the world;
8. Calls upon the international community to be ready to respond positively to calls for aid and development from independent Namibia, particularly in the fields of child health, education, literacy and training, and stands ready to provide such assistance as it can to its new Parliament;
9. Looks forward eagerly to the Parliament of Namibia taking its rightful place alongside other Parliaments of the world, as a member of the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

Inter-Parliamentary Union

ACTION TO COMBAT DRUG TRAFFICKING

(Resolution adopted without a vote by the Inter-Parliamentary Conference
in Nicosia, 7 April 1990)

The 83rd Inter-Parliamentary Conference,
representing Parliaments around the world,

Increasingly concerned at the scale of the international problem
of drug abuse and illicit production and trafficking,

Alarmed by the threat this poses to the health of the world
population, particularly the young, and to the political, economic and
social structures of States,

Equally alarmed at the social and economic impact on the family
where stress, broken homes and loneliness all too often result in recourse
to drugs and in turn to physical and mental abuse,

Believing that problems of drug production and trafficking are
inextricably linked to the need to expand trade, particularly in agricul-
tural products for drug crop replacement, to tackle poverty and build pros-
perity, especially in countries going through economic and political tran-
sition,

Realizing that there is no longer any justification for making the
traditional distinction between producing, trafficking and consuming
countries, because all concerned are now affected simultaneously by produc-
tion, trafficking and consumption problems,

Conscious that supply and demand are inseparably linked and con-
stitute a single problem, since demand not only generates but is also fuel-
led by supply,

Aware that drug traffickers are continually exploiting new transit
routes so that an increasing number of countries, large and small, are being
affected,

Also aware that criminal organizations resort to corruption, vio-
lence and the use of arms to reap enormous profits from the illicit drug
trade,

Recognizing that better international co-operation and concerted
action are essential to combat drug abuse and illicit trafficking,

Recalling the resolutions and declarations adopted by the Inter-
Parliamentary Union at its 60th (Rome, 1972), 74th (Ottawa, 1985) and 82nd
Conferences (London, 1989), as well as the Final Declaration and Recommenda-
tions of the Inter-Parliamentary Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Traf-
ficking in the Western Hemisphere (Caracas, 1987),

Expressing its concern at the considerable reduction in the budget
and staff of the UN Division of Narcotic Drugs and the Secretariat of the
International Narcotics Control Board, which threatens their ability to per-
form effectively,

Noting that the United Nations plays a leading role in drug abuse control but that it is hampered by a lack of human and financial resources,

Also noting the need to improve the cost-effectiveness of the UN drug abuse control bodies by rationalizing their structure,

Recalling that the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking (Vienna, June 1987) adopted the Comprehensive Multi-disciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control (CMO), which provides useful guidelines for international co-operation against drugs,

Recognizing the importance of the UN Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, adopted in Vienna in December 1988,

Recognizing specially the importance of removing the profits of the illicit drug trade by tracing, freezing and confiscating the proceeds of drug trafficking which fuel the prosperity and power of organized crime,

Supporting the Political Declaration and Programme of Action on Drugs which was adopted at the UN Special Session on Drugs in February 1990,

Aware of the efforts of countries that produce drugs for scientific and medicinal purposes to prevent the leakage of such substances into the illicit market,

Recognizing the need for international co-operation to control better the export of chemical substances used to manufacture illicit drugs and psychotropic substances,

Realizing that success in reducing the worldwide problem of drug misuse depends upon the effectiveness of community participation in a comprehensive strategy, including the reduction of supply and of demand, particularly among young people,

Aware that education, especially health education, has a crucial part to play in reducing demand,

1. Emphatically condemns the crime of drug trafficking, the activities of the criminal organizations behind it and the laundering of illicit earnings from those activities;
2. Reaffirms its solidarity with Governments and peoples which are combating criminal narcotics production, consumption and trafficking;
3. Calls on all Governments to renew their commitment and intensify their efforts to combat trafficking, reduce demand, suppress production of illicit drugs, strengthen preventive measures and improve treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts;

4. Stresses that any aid rendered by one country to another in the field of action to combat drug production and trafficking must receive the approval of the beneficiary country, respect the sovereignty of States and conform to the principles of the United Nations;
5. Recommends a comprehensive multilateral approach to the drug problem as indispensable to the pursuit of the global struggle against drugs;
6. Calls for improved analysis of results obtained, the study of other approaches to the problem of drug misuse and trafficking, and better dissemination internationally of the results of such analysis;
7. Expresses support for the Declaration of Cartagena for a plan for alternative development signed in February 1990 by the Presidents of Peru, Colombia, Bolivia and the United States of America;
8. Urges all Governments to apply, as appropriate, the recommendations in the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline agreed at the UN International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking (Vienna, 1987);
9. Urgently appeals to all countries that have not yet ratified the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, the 1972 Protocol Amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, and the Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, to do so without delay and to adopt the necessary measures at the domestic level to implement these instruments;
10. Endorses UN General Assembly resolutions 44/140, 44/141 and 44/142 concerning, respectively, the implementation of the UN Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, the global programme of action against illicit narcotic drugs and international action to combat drug abuse and illicit trafficking, as well as the Political Declaration and Global Programme of Action adopted by the UN Special Session on Drugs in February 1990;
11. Recommends that Parliaments urge their respective Governments to ensure that the United Nations drug abuse control bodies are guaranteed sufficient funds to carry out and improve their activities;
12. Calls on developed nations and other donors to ensure that additional funds are made available to the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control;
13. Urges States to introduce the necessary legislation to enable the tracing, freezing and confiscation of the proceeds of drug trafficking and to negotiate and sign bilateral agreements with other States to reciprocate these powers;

14. Requests countries that produce the chemical substances necessary for the manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances to adopt measures which ensure effective control of the export of these substances;
15. Urges States to devote resources to reducing the demand for drugs, as speedily and comprehensively as possible, by social policies and measures aimed particularly at young people focusing, inter alia, on education, especially health education, information, publicity, treatment and rehabilitation, and on unemployment, poverty and hunger;
16. Further urges all Governments and international organizations to reduce trade barriers, expand trade and increase economic and technical aid in order to support alternative development plans, stabilize developing economies and encourage freedom, prosperity and democratic stability, all of which are essential to the success of national and international efforts to tackle all problems;
17. Exhorts Governments, when formulating social policies, to take full account of the special threat that drug abuse poses to family structures;
18. Supports the Heads of State and Government World Summit for Children scheduled to be held in New York in September 1990, at which the comprehensive struggle against drug abuse will be one of the major themes considered;
19. Invites all Governments, public authorities, associations and parties to mark appropriately every year on 26 June the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.

Inter-Parliamentary Union

**EMPLOYMENT, VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND NEW TECHNOLOGIES
AND THEIR RELEVANCE TO PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL JUSTICE**

(Resolution adopted without a vote by the Inter-Parliamentary Conference
in Nicosia, 7 April 1990)

The 83rd Inter-Parliamentary Conference,

Noting that the Inter-Parliamentary Union has on more than one occasion examined various aspects of this issue, and recalling in particular the resolutions adopted by the 64th (September 1977), 67th (September 1980), 70th (October 1983), 74th (September 1985), 75th (April 1986) and 79th (April 1988) Inter-Parliamentary Conferences, as well as the Conclusions and Recommendations adopted by the Inter-Parliamentary Conference on Employment in Africa (Dakar, October 1985),

Also noting that during the past 50 years, two major world trends have emerged: an unprecedented population growth rate and a striking acceleration in the acquisition of scientific knowledge,

Recognizing that, as a consequence of the above trends and of other factors, at present 800 million people are unemployed or underemployed and one billion people are living below the poverty line, while technological advancement continues to gather momentum, requiring constant review and redefinition of the utilization of manpower and planning for future manpower needs,

Also recognizing that wealth creation in agriculture and industry is an increasingly urgent priority in the growing crisis in developing countries due in part to the debt burden,

Considering that employment, training and technology are the foundations of the sustainable development and economic and social progress of States,

Convinced that, in human terms, unemployment and the poverty to which it leads are inadmissible, and that they can create tension capable of threatening social peace,

Noting the importance of education and training in the implementation of employment policies and programmes and the need to harmonize, with a view to effective implementation, teaching and training plans with the present and future needs of the labour market,

Considering that, with regard to the implementation of training policies and programmes, developing countries face several problems which require close international co-operation to enable them to achieve full employment and economic recovery,

Recognizing that education and practical skill-oriented training are two of the keys to increased economic activity, and enhance both output and productivity,

Firmly convinced therefore that priority should be given to training, both in national human resource development strategies and in the support strategies of international and bilateral aid agencies,

Regarding new technology as an important instrument in solving the unemployment problem, and convinced that:

- It must be cheap, appropriate and locally renewable;
- Skills training should be unlimited by gender, race, nationality or creed;
- For lasting impact, technology should be requested by local people;
- Technology transferred should be of proper quality and comply with international standards;
- Technology should be capable of being upgraded or replaced as technological innovations and developments occur,

Referring to the following new technologies that can improve the quality of life:

- Biotechnology and genetic engineering for combating disease, for promoting health, for improving agricultural yields and for developing environment-friendly processes;
- Information and communications technology for rapid and world-wide data exchange;
- Energy technology for meeting energy requirements (e.g. solar energy);
- Transport technology for rapid movement of persons and goods;
- Space technology for locating natural resources or pinpointing environmental damage, and for data transfer;
- Environmental technology for curbing and avoiding pollution at all levels: national, regional and global;
- Technology for modern production processes,

Aware, however, of the potential dangers of improper or irresponsible use of new technologies, e.g.:

- The danger to life created by biotechnology;
- The global threat created by nuclear technology;
- Pollution of the biosphere;
- Surveillance of people through the misuse of information,

Noting that in implementing restructuring programmes, Governments of countries represented in the Inter-Parliamentary Union should take steps to adopt employment-oriented policies and enhance the social protection of the vulnerable sections of the population,

Deeming it necessary for international organizations, in particular the International Labour Organisation, to step up their assistance to developing countries so as to enable the latter to implement policies and programmes likely to expand employment opportunities, develop human resources and promote the utilization and assimilation of appropriate new technologies,

A. Economic and legislative measures for enhancement of employment prospects

1. Invites Governments and Parliaments to pursue employment-oriented policies by encouraging the mobilization of investment, improving productivity, undertaking exchange rate adjustment and promoting flexibility in the labour market;
2. Recommends that countries initiate or further promote a process of socio-economic development characterized by a socially beneficial market structure;
3. Further recommends that the financially, economically and technologically stronger countries support the developing countries to the best of their ability;
4. Calls on all Governments and Parliaments to ensure that employment strategies for both men and women are an integral part of economic and social development strategies, and of plans designed to satisfy the people's basic needs, in conformity with the Declaration of Principles and the Programme of Action adopted by the World Employment Conference and the high-level meeting on employment and adjustment;
5. Also calls on all countries to create or expand the legal prerequisites for guaranteeing the humane and socially just development of society by ensuring that technology develops in a humane way;
6. Considers it imperative that the increased productivity and growth generated by the use of new technologies be accompanied by labour legislation that enables everyone seeking employment to be integrated into the work process;
7. Calls on Governments and Parliaments to accord technology development and transfer the priority they require in all employment strategies;
8. Also calls on creditor countries and international financial institutions to recognize the negative effects of the heavy debt burden on employment and to take active measures to alleviate this burden;

B. Education and Training

9. Considers that training in general is fundamental to the promotion of development and social justice;
10. Calls on Parliaments to urge their respective Governments to link research and training policies to development policies in order to ensure that the persons trained are capable of mastering and promoting technological progress;
11. Stresses the importance of reforming institutional training and promoting enterprise-based training and sandwich courses so as to better meet labour market needs;

12. Calls on all Governments and Parliaments to keep the following considerations in mind when drafting national training policies:
 - The need for training policies to be realistic and flexible enough to cope with unforeseen labour market needs;
 - The need to broaden training to cover remunerated employment as well as self-employment;
13. Also calls on States to promote scientific, technical and vocational teaching so that it may play its true role, which consists of:
 - Training competent administrators in accordance with needs;
 - Training trainers responsible for developing research, and promoting the training of future education administrators and administrators responsible for design and management in companies;
 - Preparing persons to master the channels of development;
 - Developing vocational training centres;
 - Ensuring local production of suitable technologies and efficient transfer of technologies;
14. Calls attention to the need to adopt measures to promote self-development;
15. Suggests that:
 - At school level, schools concentrate on providing a sound general education, imparting broad cognitive and physical skills as a basis for job-specific training in the modern sector, and also provide education relevant to rural employment;
 - At a higher educational level, close relationships be established between institutions and prospective employers of trainees, by involving employers as advisers or in the management of the institutions and in the design of their programmes;
16. Deems it necessary to expand continuing education qualitatively and quantitatively so that it becomes an independent area of education and, in so doing, to take into account the future need for the continuing education of specialists and the increasing need to provide semi-skilled and unskilled workers and the unemployed with opportunities for late qualification;
17. Calls attention to the training needs of advanced technology which should be met by the provision of training for emerging new occupations and training that is broad rather than specialized and is continually adapted;

18. Insists that training should be provided to all men and women, including the disabled, without discrimination as to race, nationality or religion;
19. Draws attention to the fact that the needs of the informal sector should be addressed;
20. Strongly urges all Parliaments to promote the adoption of legislative measures ensuring the effective participation of workers, employers and Governments in the definition and implementation of training policy;
21. Emphasizes the need for special measures to provide handicapped and other disadvantaged young people with the opportunity to acquire a vocational qualification;
22. Stresses the need to provide suitable education and training for children of refugees, foreigners and persons expelled from their countries of origin, and requests international support therefor;

C. New technologies

23. Calls on Governments and Parliaments to:
 - Take into consideration the concept of choice of technologies, the importance of promoting new employment opportunities, the satisfaction of the basic needs of the people and the improvement of working conditions;
 - Ensure that workers or their representatives are involved in the introduction of new technologies;
 - Work to avoid or alleviate, where necessary, the adverse effects of technological progress on employees;
24. Appeals for the introduction of policies that offset the negative impact of adjustment measures on job opportunities for both men and women in technological sectors, in particular through the adoption of measures focusing on the employment potential of young women and of mothers wishing to return to work;
25. Emphasizes the need for special measures to provide mentally and physically handicapped persons and disadvantaged young people with opportunities for careers involving new technologies;
26. Recognizes the importance of making provision for the employment of older workers in new technology sectors;
27. Stresses the need to offer permanent employment choices in technology sectors also to children of refugees, foreigners, displaced persons and those excluded from their countries of origin;

28. Requests States, organizations of the UN system, other international organizations and bilateral agencies to provide, adapt, disseminate and support technologies which can increase productivity, create new employment and spread wealth, especially to the poor, and help to preserve the environment, thus contributing to sustainable development;
29. Further requests them to promote, among local populations, the development and use of technologies, and to devote increased attention to building national capacity in appropriate sciences and technologies.
