

ARTICLE 62 (4)

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TEXT OF ARTICLE 62 (4)

It [the Economic and Social Council] may call, in accordance with the rules prescribed by the United Nations, international conferences on matters falling within its competence.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

1. The material contained in this study relates only to the calling of conferences by the Economic and Social Council on matters falling within its competence. As in the Repertory, no reference has been made here to conferences called by the General Assembly on matters also falling within the Council's competence. 1/ No significant questions have arisen during the period under review which would have required inclusion under the "Analytical Summary of Practice".

I. GENERAL SURVEY

A. General

2. During the period under review, the Economic and Social Council has convened four conferences of States. 2/ In addition, the Secretary-General, pursuant to authority granted under Council resolutions 296 (XI), 462 A (XV) and 557 F (XVIII), has convened four conferences on primary commodity problems. 3/

3. The international conferences of States called by the Council 4/ have dealt with questions concerning slavery and related practices, maintenance obligations, foreign arbitral awards, and cartography. Three 5/ of the conferences were called for the purpose of concluding international conventions; in one case, 6/ the conference was asked in addition "to consider, if time permits, other possible measures for increasing the effectiveness of arbitration in the settlement of private law disputes and to make such recommendations as it may deem desirable".

1/ The conferences convened by the General Assembly on matters also falling within the competence of the Council were: the International Technical Conference on the Conservation of the Living Resources of the Sea, held in Rome in April 1955, and the International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy, held in Geneva in August 1955. The General Assembly also recommended in December 1955 (resolution 912 (X)) that a second international conference for the exchange of technical information regarding the peaceful uses of atomic energy should be held under the auspices of the United Nations in two or three years time.

2/ See annex III A. Two of these conferences had not been held during the period under review, namely, the Second Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Far East (E S C resolution 600 (XXI)), which is to be held in 1958 in Tokyo, and the Conference of Plenipotentiaries to conclude a convention on the recognition and enforcement of foreign arbitral awards (E S C resolution 604 (XXI)), which is to be held at Headquarters in 1958.

3/ See annex III B. The Council (in its resolution 579 B (XX)) also authorized the Secretary-General to convene inter-regional trade consultations of the type described by the Secretary-General in his report to the Council (E S C (XX), annexes, a.i. 2, E/2674). Such consultations are to be convened whenever decided by at least two of the regional economic commissions.

4/ See appendix III A.

5/ The United Nations Conference of Plenipotentiaries on a Supplementary Convention on Slavery, the Slave Trade and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery; the United Nations Conference on Maintenance Obligations; and the conference called to conclude a convention on the recognition and enforcement of foreign arbitral awards.

6/ The conference called by the Council to conclude a convention on foreign arbitral awards.

**** B. Rules prescribed by the United Nations****C. Invitations and participation in connexion with international conferences of States****1. Member States and non-member States**

4. The Council has invited or requested the Secretary-General to invite States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies to participate in all of the international conferences it has called during the period under review. In the case of the conference called to conclude a convention on the recognition and enforcement of foreign arbitral awards, the Council has, in addition, decided to invite other States which are parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice.

**** 2. Dependent territories****3. Specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations**

5. The Council has invited interested specialized agencies to three conferences. 7/ In two 8/ of these conferences, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council, as well as specified organizations, were invited to attend.

4. Inter-governmental organizations

6. The Secretary-General was asked by the Council to invite not only the specialized agencies but also "other inter-governmental organizations" to the Second Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Far East. 9/

**** D. Invitations and participation in connexion with non-governmental conferences****** E. Preparatory and other arrangements****** II. ANALYTICAL SUMMARY OF PRACTICE****** ANNEX I**

Rules for the calling of international conferences of States
(Approved by General Assembly resolution 366 (IV))

**** ANNEX II**

Rules for the calling of non-governmental conferences by the
Economic and Social Council
(Approved by General Assembly resolution 479 (V))

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- 7/ The United Nations Conference on Maintenance Obligations; the conference called to conclude a convention on the recognition and enforcement abroad of foreign arbitral awards; and the Second Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Far East.
- 8/ The United Nations Conference on Maintenance Obligations and the conference called to conclude a convention on the recognition and enforcement of foreign arbitral awards.
- 9/ E S C resolution 600 (XXI).

ANNEX III**List of international conferences of States****A**

1. United Nations Conference of Plenipotentiaries on a Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery, Geneva, August-September 1956

Economic and Social Council 608 (XXI)

2. United Nations Conference on Maintenance Obligations, Headquarters, May-June 1956
3. Second Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Far East, to be held in Tokyo in 1958

Economic and Social Council resolution 600 (XXI)

4. A conference to conclude a convention on the recognition and enforcement of foreign arbitral awards, to be held at Headquarters in 1958

Economic and Social Council resolution 604 (XXI)

B

Inter-governmental conferences on primary commodity problems; United Nations Conference on Olive Oil, Geneva, October 1955; United Nations Wheat Conference, Geneva, October-November 1955, February-March 1956 and London, April 1956; United Nations Sugar Conference, Headquarters, May-June 1956, Geneva, October-November 1956; 10/ Exploratory Meeting on International Trade in Cocoa, Headquarters, May 1956.

Economic and Social Council resolutions 296 (XI), 373 (XIII), 462 A (XV), and 557 F (XVIII)

**** ANNEX IV****List of non-governmental conferences**

10/ The Conference, requested by the International Sugar Council, was convened by the Secretary-General after consultation with the Interim Co-ordinating Committee for International Commodity Arrangements (ICCICA).