ARTICLE 71

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TEXT OF ARTICLE 71

The Economic and Social Council may make suitable arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations which are concerned with matters within its competence. Such arrangements may be made with international organizations and, where appropriate, with national organizations after consultation with the Member of the United Nations concerned.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

1. The arrangements for consultation by the Economic and Social Council with non-governmental organizations in accordance with Article 71 of the Charter and Council resolution 288 B (X) continued in effect during the period under review. Provision was made for consultation by certain types of non-governmental organizations with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). It is described under section II H 3.

I. GENERAL SURVEY

A. The Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

2. At its 1415th plenary meeting on 4 March 1966, the Council adopted resolution 1099 (XL) by which it enlarged the membership of its Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations from seven to thirteen in order to improve the geographical representation and reflect the enlargement of the Council’s membership.

**B. The Purpose of consultation

C. Establishment of consultative relationships

3. As of 1 September 1966, there were 12 non-governmental organizations in category A consultative status, 135 in category B and 221 on the Register of the Secretary-General for ad hoc consultations.

**D. Consultation with the Council, its commissions and ad hoc bodies

**E. Consultations with the Secretariat

II. ANALYTICAL SUMMARY OF PRACTICE

A. Admission to, and review of, consultative status

4. At the time that the Council, by resolution 1099 (XL), enlarged the membership of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, it also amended rule 82 of its rules of procedure. Under the terms of amended rule 82, non-governmental organizations applying for consultative status have an opportunity to submit written statements or be heard by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations at the request of the latter, by means of an oral statement made by a duly authorized representative.

5. At its first meeting, the reconstituted thirteen-member Committee decided henceforth to hold open meetings when considering applications and re-applications for consultative status. It also decided to include in its reports to the Council a brief summary of its decisions together with a record of its votes instead of submitting, as previously, a draft resolution containing the results of its deliberations.

**B. Criteria of eligibility

**C. International organizations within the meaning of Article 71

**D. National organizations within the meaning of Article 71

**E. Non-governmental organizations within the meaning of Article 71

F. Questions concerning consultation with the Council

1. The nature of consultation

6. On several occasions the initiative for consultation came from the General Assembly which appealed to non-governmental organizations in...
consultative status by either inviting or requesting their co-operation on such subjects as the International Co-operation Year, the World campaign against hunger, disease and ignorance and Town-twinning. In one instance, an invitation to undertake specified work related to peaceful uses of outer space was addressed by the General Assembly directly to a particular non-governmental organization on the Register of the Secretary-General for Ad Hoc Consultations.

7. At its fortieth session, the Council adopted resolution 1109 (XL) of 7 March 1966 in which it expressed its appreciation of the contribution of the International Union of Official Travel Organizations (IUOTO), an organization in category B consultative status, and requested the Statistical Commission to study, in co-operation with UNCTAD and IUOTO, the methods most suitable for the purpose of improving statistics on tourism. The Council also requested the Secretary-General to prepare, periodically and at least every three years, in co-operation with IUOTO as appropriate, reports and studies on the development of tourism, and invited IUOTO to continue to co-operate with the United Nations bodies and the specialized agencies and to furnish assistance to Governments to help in the application of the recommendations which might result from the studies undertaken. The Council also noted the proposal of IUOTO that 1967 be designated by the United Nations as "International Tourism Year" and adopted resolution 1108 (XL) of 7 March 1966 in which it recommended that the General Assembly, at its twenty-first session, designate 1967 as "International Tourism Year". This was done by General Assembly resolution 2148 (XXI) of 4 November 1966.

**2. The scope of consultation**

**3. Statements containing complaints against Governments**

**4. The handling of written statements from organizations**

**5. Reports of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to the Council**

**6. The power of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations with respect to items proposed for inclusion in the provisional agenda of the Council**

**7. Council action following the hearing of an organization in category B by the Committee**

**G. Attendance at public meetings of the General Assembly**

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3. Consultation with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

8. By its resolution 1995 (XIX) of 30 December 1964, the General Assembly established the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and, inter alia, authorized its Trade and Development Board to offer to non-governmental organizations concerned with matters of trade, and of trade as related to development, to participate without vote in its deliberations and in those of the subsidiary bodies and working groups established by the Board. Provision was also made for the Secretary-General of the Conference, in consultation with the Bureau of the Board, to prepare from time to time a list of such organizations for approval by the Board. It was also provided that non-governmental organizations might, upon approval of one Board, or of the subsidiary organ concerned, make oral statements on matters within the scope of their activities, and written statements by non-governmental organizations related to items on the agenda of the Board or of its subsidiary organs would be circulated by the Secretariat to members of the Board and the subsidiary organs concerned.

**II. Calling of conferences of non-governmental organizations**

J. Relations with organizations not in consultative status

10. During the period under review, the General Assembly continued to appeal to non-governmental organizations to co-operate in the implementation of its resolutions without reference to whether they had consultative status or not.

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2 The Executive Board now has seventy-five members.


3 See, for example, G A resolutions 1387 (XIV), 1832 (XVII), 1917 (XVIII), 1920 (XVIII), 2037 (XX) and 2043 (XX).