OPINION BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS
UPON THE QUESTION OF VOTING RIGHTS OF NON-MEMBERS

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Employment was called by the Economic and Social Council in accordance with paragraph 4 of Article 62 of the Charter and the Supplementary Rule of Procedure of the General Assembly. The Economic and Social Council expressly decided on 1 August 1947 that voting rights at the Conference should be exercised only by Members of the United Nations attending the Conference. Without expressing any opinion on the Conference's right to adopt its own Rules of Procedure in other matters, it is clear in my view that the Conference is bound by the express resolution of the Economic and Social Council which convoked the Conference and issued the invitations. Although the merits of the resolution on voting rights were debated in the Council, it is noted that both sides assumed that the Council's decision on this point would be binding upon the Conference.

It is my conclusion, therefore, that the Conference does not have the power to grant voting rights to non-Members of the United Nations.