Executive Committee
Second Session

Working Paper for Sub-Committee 3 on Administration

Item 5 of the Agenda - Relations of the ITO with Non-Governmental Organizations

The following is a summary of the oral statement of the Executive Secretary to the Executive Committee supplementing ICITO/EC.2/11.

The Executive Secretary said that he would like to supplement the somewhat inadequate description which was given in document ICITO/EC.2/11 of the practical arrangements which he would suggest for putting into effect the recommendations which he had made regarding relations with non-governmental organizations.

1. The Conference should adopt a list of "consultants" chosen preferably from the Economic and Social Council list of non-governmental organizations with consultative status, on the recommendation of the Director-General with the approval of the Executive Board.

2. The non-governmental organizations thus listed by the Conference should receive invitations to send observers to the Annual Conference of the Organization. They should also be provided with the Conference documentation. These organizations should also have the right to propose items for the Conference agenda; items so proposed would be considered by the Executive Board and the Board should hear the representative of a non-governmental organization which had proposed an item.

3. As regards the activities of the Organization other than the Annual Conference, where specific projects were entrusted to the Director-General or to subsidiary organs of the Organization there should be consultation with any listed non-governmental organization competent in the field of such project. In the first instance such consultations should be undertaken by the Director-General in preparing the documentation of the subsidiary organ of the Organization concerned. The committee or commission concerned could also hear representatives of non-governmental organizations which had a contribution to make to the matter under enquiry.

4. On more general matters the Director-General should have authority to set up, if he thought fit, an advisory committee of representatives of the non-governmental organizations. If such an advisory committee were established it might most conveniently meet just before the Annual Conference.
5. Documentation - The listed non-governmental organizations should receive copies of all unrestricted documents of the Organization. Documents submitted to the Organization by listed non-governmental organizations should be distributed at the discretion of the Director-General, one of whose functions it will be to see that appropriate documentation is available to the Conference. The Director-General would also circulate a list of all communications received from listed non-governmental organizations and any document so listed should receive full distribution at the request of any member government.

6. The Director-General should refer to the Executive Board any difference of view between himself and any listed non-governmental organization regarding the implementation of these arrangements.

7. These arrangements should be subject to review from time to time, and in such review the views of the non-governmental organizations should be given full consideration.