26(1). Establishment of Two ad hoc Committees

The General Assembly decides to establish two ad hoc committees as follows:

(a) League of Nations Committee to consider the possible transfer of certain functions, activities and assets of the League of Nations;

(b) Permanent Headquarters Committee to consider the site of the permanent headquarters of the United Nations.¹

Each Member will have the right to be represented on each of these two Committees.

Eighteenth plenary meeting, 26 January 1946.

27(1). World Shortage of Cereals

The damage caused by war and the dislocation of agricultural production resulting from the shortage and dislocation of labour, the removal of draught animals, the shortage of fertilizers and other circumstances connected with the war have caused a serious fall in world production of wheat. In addition, a large number of countries, including some of those which are normally the largest producers of grain, have suffered serious droughts and have therefore reaped abnormally small crops. The supply of rice is also so short as to threaten a famine in certain areas. There is, moreover, a serious risk of grain production in the coming season being insufficient to prevent continuing hunger. For these reasons the world is faced with conditions which may cause widespread suffering and death and consequently set back all plans for reconstruction.

The General Assembly therefore:

1. Urges all governments and peoples to take immediate and drastic action, both directly and through the international organizations concerned, to conserve supplies, by securing adequate collection of crops from the producers, by saving food and avoiding waste, and to ensure the maximum production of grain in the coming season;

2. Notes that several of the United Nations have recently announced measures to reserve grain supplies for direct human consumption and to secure increased production;

3. Urges all governments to publish as full information as possible regarding their own supplies and requirements of cereals and the steps they have taken or are prepared to take to achieve the objectives expressed in paragraph 1;

4. Requests the international organizations concerned with food and agriculture to publish full information in their possession on the world food position and the future outlook, and to intensify efforts to obtain as full information as possible on this subject, in order to assist governments in determining their short term and long term agricultural policy.

Thirty-third plenary meeting, 14 February 1946.

28(1). Reconstruction of Countries Members of the United Nations Devastated by War

Considering:

that the war of aggression waged on the territories of many Members of the United Nations resulted in the destruction of vast areas of these countries on an unprecedented scale;

that these peace-loving nations, which suffered such an extensive damage, represent nearly one-half of the total population of the world;

that the vast areas representing a big consuming power are virtually eliminated from the normal flow of world trade, so that the whole world economy must be seriously affected;

that the great scale of destruction resulted in most cases in a dangerous lowering in the standard of living and in the health of the population, in a substantial loss of productive capacity and sometimes in the complete destruction of the normal economic activities of the respective countries;

that in order to make good the destruction and so to restore the shaken world economy vast amounts of new capital goods must be invested in the destroyed areas;

that in most cases it would be impossible to deal with the work of reconstruction with the necessary speed and efficiency if the affected countries were limited in this respect to their internal resources and possibilities alone;

that only a full-scale and whole-hearted cooperation of all the United Nations can bring about the right solution of this grave problem;

the General Assembly:

1. recognizes the problem of full reconstruction of the countries belonging to Members of the United Nations which suffered substantial war damage as a grave and urgent matter which should be given very high priority among post-war problems;

2. decides to discuss generally this matter under paragraph 17 of its agenda and to transmit it, at the second part of the first session of the General Assembly, for a close examination by the Second Committee, which shall present to the General Assembly a report resulting from this examination.

3. asks the Economic and Social Council to place this subject on the agenda of its first meeting, as an urgent matter in the economic and social field, according to paragraph 10 of the provisional agenda of the first meeting of the Council, as proposed by the Preparatory Commission.

Twenty-second plenary meeting, 2 February 1946.

29(1). Date of the Next Meeting of the General Assembly

Urgent problems brought before the General Assembly at this session are now being considered by the appropriate organs of the United Nations