

COMMITTEE 2

Chairman : G. A. Duncan (New Zealand).
Vice-Chairman : Eduardo Morillo Safa (Mexico).
Vice-Chairman : Ramón Antonio Vega (Panama).
Secretary : Frederick L. Thomsen (U.S.A.).

- B. Improvement of agricultural marketing, processing, and distribution.

COMMITTEE 3

Chairman : Hervé Alphand (French Delegation).
Vice-Chairman : A. P. van der Post (South Africa).
Vice-Chairman : Alfredo Peñaherrera Vergara (Ecuador).
Secretary : Frederick V. Waugh (U.S.A.).
Assistant Secretary : Faith M. Williams (U.S.A.).

- C. Special measures for wider food distribution—
 1. Improvement of consumption of low-income groups.
 2. International disposition of commodities in over-supply.

COMMITTEE 4

Chairman : M. P. L. Steenberghe (Netherlands).
Vice-Chairman : Hussein Bey M. Enan (Egypt).
Vice-Chairman : Julio Gómez Robles (Guatemala).
Secretary : Robert M. Carr (U.S.A.).

- D. Buffer stocks and commodity arrangements to assure equitable prices and adequate supplies.

SECTION IV

Recommendations for Continuing and Carrying Forward the Work of the Conference

Chairman : Richard Law (Great Britain).
Vice-Chairman : Amadeo López Castro (Cuba).
Reporter : F. L. McDougall (Australia).
Secretary : Loyd V. Steere (U.S.A.).
Assistant Secretary : Benjamin Gerig (U.S.A.).

The final Plenary Session was held on 3rd June, 1943. As a result of the deliberations, as recorded in the minutes and reports of the respective Committees and Sections and of the Plenary Sessions, the United Nations Conference on Food and Agriculture approved the following declaration, resolutions, and recommendations.

I. DECLARATION

This Conference, meeting in the midst of the greatest war ever waged, and in full confidence of victory, has considered the world problems of food and agriculture and declares its belief that the goal of freedom from want of food, suitable and adequate for the health and strength of all peoples, can be achieved.

1. The first task is to complete the winning of the war and to deliver millions of people from tyranny and from hunger. During the period of critical shortage in the aftermath of war, freedom from hunger can be achieved only by urgent and concerted efforts to economize consumption, to increase supplies, and distribute them to the best advantage.

2. Thereafter we must equally concert our efforts to win and maintain freedom from fear and freedom from want. The one cannot be achieved without the other.

3. There has never been enough food for the health of all people. This is justified neither by ignorance nor by the harshness of Nature. Production of food must be greatly expanded; we now have knowledge of the means by which this can be done. It requires imagination and firm will on the part of each Government and people to make use of that knowledge.

4. The first cause of hunger and malnutrition is poverty. It is useless to produce more food unless men and nations provide the markets to absorb it. There must be an expansion of the whole world economy to provide the purchasing-power sufficient to maintain an adequate diet for all. With full employment in all countries, enlarged industrial production, the absence of exploitation, an increasing flow of trade within and between countries, an orderly management of domestic and international investment and currencies, and sustained internal and international economic equilibrium, the food which is produced can be made available to all people.

5. The primary responsibility lies with each nation for seeing that its own people have the food needed for life and health; steps to this end are for national determination. But each nation can fully achieve its goal only if all work together.

6. We commend to our respective Governments and authorities the study and adoption of the findings and recommendations of this Conference and urge the early concerted discussion of the related problems falling outside the scope of this Conference.

7. The first steps toward freedom from want of food must not await the final solution of all other problems. Each advance made in one field will strengthen and quicken advance in all others. Work already begun must be continued. Once the war has been won decisive steps can be taken. We must make ready now.

II. INTERIM AND PERMANENT COMMISSIONS FOR CARRYING OUT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

WHEREAS :

1. Freedom from want is difficult to achieve without concerted action among all like-minded nations to expand and improve production, to increase employment, to raise levels of consumption, and to establish greater freedom in international commerce;

2. The successful carrying-out of the recommendations of the Conference in the field of production, distribution, and consumption of food and other agricultural products in the post-war period will be the most important prerequisite for the achievement of freedom from want, and requires the creation by the Governments and authorities here represented of a permanent organization in the field of food and agriculture; therefore

THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Recommends—

1. That the Governments and authorities here represented recognize and embody in a formal declaration or agreement the obligation to their respective peoples and to one another, henceforth to collaborate in raising levels of nutrition and standards of living of their peoples, and to report to one another on the progress achieved;