

supported in debate by representatives of Chile, Syria, France, the United States, Saudi Arabia, Poland, the Ukrainian S.S.R., and India, some of them, however, laying emphasis on the part to be played by UNESCO in the undertaking of such studies. On the motion of the United States, it was therefore unanimously agreed that the question should be referred to the Economic and Social Council for reference to UNESCO and suitable action.

The most difficult item on the Committee's agenda was the draft constitution of the International Refugee Organization, which was submitted by the Economic and Social Council. It was agreed at the first part of this session of the Assembly at London to refer the problem of refugees and displaced persons to the Economic and Social Council for report. Accordingly, the Economic and Social Council established a Special Committee on Refugees and Displaced Persons, which met in London from 8 April to 1 June, 1946. This Committee agreed to the establishment of an international body which should be a specialized agency of a non-permanent character, and submitted suggestions for a draft constitution. After considering this report the Economic and Social Council at its second session requested the Secretary-General to forward the draft constitution as revised by the Council to Governments for their comments. The Council also established a Committee on the finances of the International Refugee Organization to prepare a provisional operational budget for the first financial year of the organization and scales of contributions from members. The report of this Committee on Finances was also circulated to Governments for their comments. At the third session of the Council the constitution was still further amended in the light of comments received and an *ad hoc* Committee was established to revise the administrative budget. The constitution was then approved for transmission to the General Assembly, together with a resolution relating to interim arrangements and to the report of the *ad hoc* Committee on Finances. In referring the draft constitution to Committee III the General Committee ruled that those articles of the constitution dealing with finances, the budget of the International Refugee Organization, and the provisional scales of contributions should be referred to Committee 5.

Thirty delegates spoke in the general discussion on the constitution, and the debate was largely a reiteration of the arguments presented at London, at the Special Committee and in the sessions of the Economic and Social Council. As at these previous discussions representatives of the Soviet Union and delegates from other countries whose nationals form a large proportion of those in the refugee camps emphasized that the main concern of the Organization should be repatriation, that resettlement is for the unrepatrable, and that not only war criminals, quislings, and traitors, but persons who voluntarily assisted enemy forces, whether for so-called humanitarian reasons or not, should not be the concern of the International Refugee Organization. Mr Vyshinsky, for the Soviet Union, contended that those who refused to