

C. Land Tenure and Land Relationship

5. A very large number of persons in Asian countries are cultivators with uneconomic holdings who are in many cases tenants at will, and the study and formulation of satisfactory systems of tenure and land relationship are of the utmost importance to them.

6. The Conference therefore requests the Governing Body to arrange, in co-operation with the appropriate international organizations, for a study to be made of the effect of systems of land tenure and holdings on the conditions of life and work of those engaged in agricultural work, with a view to determining what modifications might be made in existing land relationships so as to increase production, secure for the actual cultivator a fair return for his labour, and promote social justice.

D. Permanent Agricultural Committee of the International Labour Organization

7. (1) The Asian countries are predominantly agricultural in their economy, and an overwhelming majority of the agricultural producers of the world live in them.

(2) Adequate representation for the Asian region on the Permanent Agricultural Committee of the International Labour Organization is therefore of primary importance.

(3) The Conference accordingly requests the Governing Body to make provision for more adequate representation of the Asian region in the composition of the Permanent Agricultural Committee.

E. Further Action

8. The Conference further requests the Governing Body to consider, in the light of the progress made in the studies undertaken on the basis of this resolution, what aspects of these questions could usefully be considered by succeeding Asian Regional Conferences.

7. RESOLUTION CONCERNING PLANTATION LABOUR

1. Plantation agriculture, producing such important commodities as rubber, cinchona, tea, coffee, and sugar-cane, occupies an important place in the economy of a number of the tropical countries of Asia.

2. The conditions of life and work of the vast number of labourers engaged in many of these plantations in certain countries are unsatisfactory, particularly in respect of recruitment, wages, housing, and freedom of association, and are not adequately regulated by national legislation or otherwise.

3. The Conference therefore requests the Governing Body—

- (a) To call the attention of the Governments concerned to the immediate necessity for enacting appropriate legislation for improving the conditions of plantation workers so as to bring them to a satisfactory level, particularly in respect of recruitment, wages, housing, hours of work, workmen's compensation, maternity benefit, freedom of association, and social security measures; and
- (b) To direct the International Labour Office to undertake, with the assistance of the Governments concerned, a special study of the problems which are peculiar to plantation labour; and
- (c) To give early consideration to the question of the setting-up of an industrial committee to consider the special problems of plantation workers in the Asian countries.

(4) The Conference further requests the Governing Body to consider, in the light of the progress made in the studies undertaken on the basis of this resolution, what aspects of these questions could usefully be considered by succeeding Asian Regional Conferences.