

Commission outlined a set of principles to guide it in future in the important task of co-ordinating activities. It also established an Advisory Committee on Planning and Co-ordination to make recommendations on practical ways of achieving this co-ordination, and also of co-ordinating activities on urgent matters (particularly as regards family and child welfare) not falling within the competence of any specialized agency. In considering this decision the Sixth Session of the Economic and Social Council requested the Social Commission to submit a work programme, arranged in order of priority.

The report of the Temporary Social Welfare Committee, established at the first session of the Commission, decided against recommending the establishment of a special sub-commission on child welfare. Questions of family and child welfare were, however, included by the Commission in the functions of the Advisory Committee on Planning and Co-ordination. In addition, the Commission recommended that the Secretary-General should continue the functions previously carried out by the League of Nations in the field of child welfare and social services and should carry out a series of investigations in this field.

The Commission recommended the continuance during 1948 of the advisory social welfare services previously undertaken by UNRRA, the general opinion being that these services were making a valuable contribution towards overcoming shortages of technical personnel in war-damaged and under-developed countries. The cost of these services was debated at some length, and it was recommended that the question of participation by recipient countries in this cost should be constantly explored.

After hearing reports on the proceedings of the Social Welfare Conference in the South-east Asian Area, held in Singapore in August, 1947, the Commission recommended the Secretary-General to initiate, in co-operation with the specialized agencies and the Trusteeship Council, a programme of studies into social problems in under-developed and economically under-privileged areas and territories.

The question of housing and town and country planning was examined by a Committee under the chairmanship of the New Zealand delegate and, on their recommendation, the Commission accepted proposals defining the interests of the United Nations in this field and authorizing the holding of small meetings of experts on certain problems.