

GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/3857
22 July 1958

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Thirteenth session

WORLD ECONOMIC SITUATION

Communication from the Director-General of
the International Labour Office to the
Secretary-General

Geneva, 3 July 1958

Sir,

I have the honour to communicate to you a resolution concerning Measures to Promote Employment and Action Against Unemployment which was adopted by the Forty-second Session of the International Labour Conference on 21 June 1958 and to request you to transmit it to the Economic and Social Council and to the General Assembly.

(Signed) David A. Morse
Director-General

58-17143

/...

RESOLUTION CONCERNING MEASURES TO PROMOTE
EMPLOYMENT AND ACTION AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT

The General Conference of the International Labour Organisation,
Having adopted in earlier years various Conventions, Recommendations and
resolutions relating to employment and unemployment,

Recalling resolutions dealing with employment adopted at sessions of the
Economic and Social Council and of the General Assembly of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind the importance, as a fundamental social and economic
objective, of the optimum utilization in freedom of human resources as well as
the optimum utilization of material resources,

Realising that change and adjustment occur in the economies of all countries,

Considering that, as a result of economic difficulties in the recent past,
there has been an increase in unemployment and short-time working in a number of
countries throughout the world, which is causing anxiety and a sense of
insecurity not only among the workers directly affected by unemployment but among
the population as a whole,

Considering that substantial progress has been achieved in reducing
employment fluctuations in many countries during recent years,

Recognizing that national economic programmes can have adverse effects upon
employment and income in other States Members of the Organization;

1. Urges member States to promote measures for the maintenance and expansion
of employment in their own countries by methods which will avoid the impairment of
employment opportunities in other countries.

2. Draws to the attention of member States the possibilities of promoting
and maintaining employment by pursuing vigorously such measures as -

- (a) resources development, housing improvements and various other types of
needed investment;
- (b) the reduction of existing barriers to trade in a mutually satisfactory
manner for the purpose of expanding such trade at the fastest feasible
rate; appropriate opportunities for the exchange of technical information
on a reciprocal basis; and the encouragement of the international flow
of capital;

- (c) measures to bring quickly and effectively job openings to the attention of workers and suitable workers available for employment to the attention of employers and to facilitate the mobility of labour;
- (d) technical and vocational training and retraining programmes at the national and international levels;
- (e) reduction of seasonal fluctuations in employment;
- (f) development of an unemployment insurance or compensation programme as well as any other measures ensuring protection to workers and their families while unemployed;
- (g) programmes to maintain purchasing power, including adjustments in fiscal and monetary policies and in social security measures.

3. Emphasizes the importance of member States undertaking studies of changing manpower requirements, including the nature and extent of technological improvements, population and labour force trends, employment, underemployment and the relation of these to productivity and working and living standards.

4. Urges employers' and workers' organizations to examine their policies and actions in relation to their over-all effect on employment and unemployment.

5. Requests the Governing Body of the International Labour Office to ask the Director-General -

- (a) to undertake and arrange for studies of measures to promote and maintain employment, as may be approved from time to time by the Governing Body; and
- (b) to communicate this resolution at an early date to the United Nations and to the other specialized agencies concerned as well as to the governments of member States and through them also to employers' and workers' organizations.
