

A resolution embodying these two proposals was adopted by the Council with Canadian support. Among other things, the resolution called upon the Secretary-General to inform each session of the Council of any action taken and of future plans for the implementation of the programme. The first report of this kind was made to the thirteenth session later in 1951. The Council was informed that iron ore was the first resource chosen for survey.

Arid Lands and International Co-operation for Water Control and Utilization

The fourteenth session of ECOSOC, early in 1952, considered two reports submitted by the Secretary-General — one on international co-operation for water control and utilization, and one on the activities of the United Nations and Specialized Agencies with respect to development of arid land. The Council, because of the close relationship of these two reports, considered them together.

Discussion centred on a United States-Philippine draft resolution which requested the Secretary-General to assume the leadership in the promotion of joint planning for international activity on the development of water resources, to promote the development and exchange of basic water data, to report on the activities of international and national organizations dealing with the development of water resources, and to make recommendations for the better co-ordination of the work of existing international organizations and for work which might be carried out in areas not adequately served by international organizations.

Several delegations, including those of the United Kingdom, France and Canada, considered that the programme set forth in this draft resolution was over-ambitious and would cost a good deal in money and effort. These delegations proposed a series of amendments, many of which were incorporated in a compromise resolution eventually adopted by the Council. The final resolution gave the Secretary-General responsibility for co-ordinating activities on water control and development but limited the amount of work which the United Nations Secretariat would itself have to perform or initiate. ECOSOC will take the question up again in 1954 when the Secretary-General will report on the activities of international organizations with respect to water resources. The report may include recommendations for better co-ordination and balanced development of these activities. The resolution also provided that the Council would continue to give careful attention to the work of the Specialized Agencies, particularly the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization, on the development of arid lands.

Famine

The problem of famine was taken up by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) at its twelfth session in 1951. The Council adopted a Chilean-United States resolution recommending that the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) keep the world food situation under review and make immediate reports to the