12. IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS ON ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL MATTERS

In a resolution presented by the Polish delegation it was proposed that the General Assembly should call upon Member States to implement all recommendations of the General Assembly on economic and social matters and make use of the machinery of the United Nations in settling international economic problems. It was also proposed that Member States should be advised not to establish for these purposes machinery outside of the United Nations. The debate on this resolution gave rise to a vigorous discussion in the Second Committee, in particular concerning the work of the Committee on European Economic Co-operation which had been set up as a result of the Marshall offer of economic assistance in Europe.

The representatives of Poland, Yugoslavia and Byelorussia claimed that this Committee was deciding major matters of economic policy outside of the United Nations and that undue importance was being given to the reconstruction of Germany. It was contended that the existence of this Committee was dividing Europe and aggravating political differences between nations. The Soviet representative contended that the European Recovery Programme was a weapon of "imperialistic" United States policy designed to undermine the independence of democratic countries in Europe. This was categorically denied by the United States representative, who in turn was supported by representatives of those countries which took part in the Paris Conference on European Economic Co-operation.

The Canadian representative expressed the view that the work of the European Economic Committee appeared to be constructive and that international economic action need not be carried out entirely through United Nations machinery. He reserved the Canadian position on the Polish resolution as a whole. Eventually, the United States amendment deleted from the resolution reference