

bring the matter up in Cabinet more or less informally. If, however, you prefer to have the material in the regular Cabinet document form, it can be recast.⁶²

Considerations:

1. There are a good many projects initiated or developed in the Economic and Social Council which are of considerable interest to Canada, both from a general point of view and on account of their financial implications. The most important of these at the moment is the programme of technical assistance in economic development.

2. When this programme of technical assistance in economic development and other similar projects are discussed in the Economic and Social Council, it is desirable that "giving" countries such as Canada should be adequately represented, since otherwise the "receiving" countries are likely to call a very ambitious tune without much thought for those who will eventually pay the piper.

3. The membership of both the United States and New Zealand terminates this fall. We have fairly reliable information that New Zealand will not stand again, and it is accordingly desirable that this seat should be filled by a "have" rather than a "have not" country.

4. During its first term of membership (1946–1948) Canada contributed a good deal to the development of a sensible and efficient approach to general budgetary and administrative matters. It is easier to have proposals modified and improved at the beginning, than to have to fight this battle in the General Assembly itself.

5. Canada can also do something to prevent the Council from becoming merely another forum of propaganda to the detriment of its proper functions.

6. The Departments of Finance and National Health and Welfare, which with External Affairs have the greatest interest in the Council's activities and have done a large part of the work entailed by Canadian membership, would both favour Canada's re-election to the Council.

7. From reports made by the Canadian observer to the Eighth Session, it appears that Canada would have a very good prospect of re-election.

8. The cost of sending delegates to the Economic and Social Council on the basis of one session in Geneva and one in New York is, in round figures, about \$20,000 a year.

Recommendations

It is recommended:

1. that the decision be taken now to stand for re-election to the Economic and Social Council in the fall;⁶³

⁶² Note marginale/Marginal note:
Not necessary [L.B. Pearson]

⁶³ Note marginale/Marginal note:
Agreed. LB P[earson]