

Library of the Secretariat should collect and keep up to date the most complete information possible, including:

- (a) Present and contemplated legislation of different countries and its application;
- (b) The work done by institutions and organisations, both official and unofficial;
- (c) The activities of international bodies; and
- (d) Bibliographical material.

It will be necessary to that end:

- (a) To approach the various Governments;
- (b) To collect full information regarding the activities on this subject of institutions and associations, whether of an official character or due to private initiative, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Secretariat and with the procedure agreed upon with the Governments concerned;
- (c) To be informed of the activities of international bodies;
- (d) To have access to bibliographical information in regard to child welfare questions.

For that purpose, the Secretariat should maintain close contact with the International Labour Office and the other organs of the League, together with the different centres of documentation. The material thus collected should be placed at the disposal of persons in all countries engaged in research or inquiries in respect of child welfare.

The work of collecting information and utilising it will be carried out in accordance with the regulations in force for the organisation of the League of Nations Library and with the plans to be approved from time to time by the Child Welfare Committee, and will cover only such subjects concerned with child welfare as may be approved by that Committee.

To enable the Secretariat to fulfil the function of a centre of information as described, the staff of the Social Questions Section will have to be strengthened. The work will have to be done by an official of not lower rank than Member of Section, who has had special training and experience in regard to child welfare questions. The conditions are essential if the information service desired by the Fifth Committee is to work efficiently.

Other incidental expenditure will also be necessary.

II.

The Assembly approves the report submitted to it by the Fifth Committee on the question of child welfare.

4. RUSSIAN, ARMENIAN, ASSYRIAN, ASSYRO-CHALDEAN AND TURKISH REFUGEES.

The Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Nansen International Office for Refugees on its work during the past year;

Expresses its high appreciation of the important results achieved by the Office for the refugees and for the countries offering them hospitality, in spite of the economic crisis and of the exiguous funds at the disposal of the Office;

Seeing that the Refugee Convention of October 28th, 1933, recognises an international status for the refugees which, *inter alia*, contemplates that measures against foreigners should not, owing to their special situation, be applied rigorously to refugees;

Urges Governments, with a view to an acceleration of the liquidation of the refugee problem, to accede as soon as possible to that Convention;

Considering the opinion expressed by responsible Armenian refugee organisations that the settlement of the Armenian refugees in the Republic of Erivan offers one of the best solutions of the Armenian refugee problem;

Requests the Office to continue its negotiations to that end;

Notes with anxiety the growing practice of certain Governments to expel refugees from their territories, even for minor offences, and the serious consequences thus created for neighbouring States;

Invites Governments to undertake not to expel refugees from their territories until they have obtained visas to enter an adjacent country;

Recognising the increasing difficulty of placing refugees in employment in European countries, and even of maintaining in employment those who already have work;

Requests the Office to continue and develop its efforts to secure the settlement of refugees in overseas countries; and

Urges the Governments of those countries to communicate to the Office any settlement opportunities or prospects existing in their territories;

Appreciating the difficulty experienced by Governments in continuing to support the direct and indirect charges imposed on them by the presence of large numbers of unemployed refugees in their territories;

Recommends the Governments of those countries to consider the advantage of capitalising such charges by placing credits at the disposal of the Office to enable it to settle unemployed refugees in countries willing to receive them;

Notes that the Office could extend its activities to a larger number of refugees if adequate funds were available;

Urges Governments to increase the revenue of the Office by a general application of the Nansen Stamp System; and

Requests the Council to take the necessary steps to ensure that the Secretary-General may be acquainted with the effect interested Governments are able to give to the above recommendations.

5. SLAVERY.

The Assembly,

Notes the Rules of Procedure drawn up by the Advisory Committee of Experts on Slavery and approved by the Council on January 19th, 1934;

Renews its appeal to the Governments of the Members of the League, and non-members parties to the 1926 Slavery Convention to send, without delay, to the League information on all forms of slavery in their own countries, or in other parts of the world, in order that the Advisory Committee can meet early in 1935;

Authorises the Secretary-General each year, should it appear to be necessary, to request Governments to supply further information on slavery within the limits of the provisions of the Assembly resolution of 1932; this action will be taken in agreement with the Chairman of the Advisory Committee;

Requests the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the notice of the Governments of the Members of the League and non-members parties to the 1926 Slavery Convention.

6. PENAL AND PENITENTIARY QUESTIONS.

The Assembly,

Having taken note of the resolution adopted by the International Penal and Penitentiary Commission in August, 1934, concerning the revised Standard Minimum Rules for the treatment of prisoners;

Considering that these rules constitute a minimum below which no State's penitentiary system should fall;

Considering that it is highly desirable that efforts should be made to improve the treatment of prisoners by going beyond that minimum, as has been done in several countries:

1. Recommends Governments to take into consideration the Standard Minimum Rules framed by the International Penal and Penitentiary Commission as a minimum for the treatment of every individual deprived of his liberty;

2. Requests Governments to consider the possibility of adapting their penitentiary system to the Standard Minimum Rules if that system is below the minimum laid down in the said rules;

3. Considers that Governments whose economic or financial situation constitutes an obstacle which prevents them temporarily from complying with this minimum should endeavour to reach it as soon as circumstances permit and at the earliest possible date;

4. Instructs the Secretary-General:

(a) To request Governments to communicate, if possible annually, and, if necessary, with the collaboration of qualified associations, the experience obtained and any other observations relating either to the application of the Standard Minimum Rules or to reforms brought about in penitentiary matters;

(b) To report on these questions to the Assembly and to communicate the information received from Governments to the International Penal and Penitentiary Commission.

7. ASSISTANCE TO INDIGENT FOREIGNERS.

The Assembly,

Having studied with keen interest the work accomplished by the Committee of Experts on Assistance to Indigent Foreigners and the Execution of Maintenance Obligations abroad at its first session, in December, 1933;

Having noted the replies received from twenty of the seventy Governments to which the proposals of the Committee of Experts have been submitted;

Being of opinion that, since so few replies have yet been received, it is not possible to take any decision on the substance of the draft Convention and the fourteen recommendations drawn up by the Committee of Experts;

Expresses the hope that those Governments which have stated that they are in favour of the fourteen recommendations will apply them at the earliest possible moment, and

Instructs the Secretary-General to request those Governments which have not yet sent their observations on this subject to send them to the Secretariat of the League as soon as possible, and to submit those observations to the Committee of Experts for examination at its next session.

VI. Intellectual Co-operation.

WORK OF THE INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION ORGANISATION.

(1) The Assembly:

Approves the programme of work of the Intellectual Co-operation Organisation for the year 1934-35, as set out in the resolutions of the International Committee and the general report of the Director of the Institute;

It is happy to recognise that the work done during the past year by the various bodies constituting the Intellectual Co-operation Organisation has been entirely in keeping with the intentions of the last Assembly and with the higher interests of the League of Nations and culture in general.