

number of meetings, but in a prolongation to more than the three weeks provided for of the meetings which take place every two years. It was also suggested that better representation might be achieved within the present framework. Those are concrete proposals which deserve careful study.

It seems, that this Commission has to choose between two courses: on the one hand, we may discuss the different suggestions and agree upon a recommendation to be sent to the Economic and Social Council; on the other hand, we may note that the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council were reorganized in 1951 and that the Council will re-examine in 1954 the matter of their organization. It seems to us therefore that the Council is particularly well qualified to make a decision in this matter. Without wishing to adopt too formal and legal an attitude, we may refer to Article 68 of the Charter, which reads as follows;

"The Economic and Social Council shall set up commissions in economic and social fields and for the promotion of human rights, and such other commissions as may be required for the performance of its functions

The intention of the Charter, it seems to us, is that the Economic and Social Council should itself decide the number of commissions to be set up for economic and social questions and also the points of detail regarding the duties to be assigned to them.

In her resolution, the representative of Iraq raises the question of the membership of the Commission and suggests that the possibility of increasing the number of members be examined so that better representation of underdeveloped regions and different types of economy and culture may be ensured. No precise details have been given us, however, regarding the number contemplated. Present provisions are for eighteen members, and the same number applies to almost all the other functional commissions. It seems to us that any increase in representation on the Social Commission risks having consequential effects on the membership of the other functional commissions. Indeed, the other commissions may think that increased representation on the Social Commission will be interpreted as indicating that greater importance is attached to its work, and, if only out of a desire for prestige, they might well feel obliged or tempted to ask also for more numerous representation. Moreover, such a change would have financial effects to which attention has already been drawn by other delegations. The report prepared by the Secretary-General on the financial implications of the resolution put forward by the Delegation of Iraq is clear, but we are not entirely convinced that its contents have been studied with sufficient care by the Third Committee. Although the Secretary-General's report deals with the financial effects in so far as the Social Commission is concerned, it is none the less true that still greater expenses may be incurred if other commissions should insist on obtaining a greater number of members.

Another point that my delegation noted particularly is the position in which the Social Commission would find itself in relation to the Economic and Social Council if the number of members in the Commission were to be increased. Article 61 of the Charter states that the Economic and Social Council shall consist of eighteen members. It seems to us that the Council would be placed in a somewhat embarrassing