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establishment of a Committee of Refugees and the Amendment of Rule 40 of the Rules of Procedure

Report
Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs
Rapporteur: Mr O. Bjorn KRAFT, Denmark

A. Draft Resolution presented by the Committee on Rules of Procedure

As from the opening of the Tenth Ordinary Session, a " Committee on Refugees ", consisting of fifteen members, shall be set up. The Social Committee shall thereafter transfer to the Committee on Refugees any outstanding matters relating to questions of over-population and refugees.

Paragraph 1 of Rule 40 of the Rules of Procedure shall therefore be amended and read as follows :

" 10. Committee on Refugees

11. Committee on the Budget."

B. Explanatory Memorandum by M. KRAFT

1. On 25th October 1956, the Assembly adopted Resolution 105, Article 3 of which provided that the work and function of the Committee on Population and Refugees should, as from the opening of the Ninth Session, be transferred to the Social Committee.

2. As a result of events in Hungary in October 1956, however, the refugee problem, which appeared to be on the way to being settled, took a turn for the worse. M. Pernot, former Chairman of the Committee on Population and Refugees, together with several Representatives to the Assembly therefore tabled on 29th April 1957, a motion for a Resolution to prolong theexistence of the Committee on Population and Refugees (Doc. 652).

3. The Committee on Rules of Procedure considered this motion in the course of its meetings of 13th April and 16th October 1957. It took the view that, as a result of the turn of events since the adoption of Resolution 105, it was politically desirable to set up a new committee to deal with refugee problems.

4. Moreover, several members pointed out that general demographic questions, including trends of migration affecting Europe, also came within the Committee's terms of reference.

5. The Committee on Rules of Procedure unanimously, except for two votes, submits the above draft Resolution to the Assembly.

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