

APPENDIX I.—AUTHENTIC TEXTS OF THE DECLARATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE AT ITS 26th SESSION

The Declaration concerning the aims and purposes of the International Labour Organization, here reprinted, was unanimously adopted by the International Labour Conference at its Twenty-sixth Session, held at Philadelphia, from 20 April to 12 May 1944.

The text of the Declaration as here presented is a true copy of the text authenticated by the signatures of the President of the International Labour Conference and of the Acting Director of the International Labour Office.

For the Director of the International Labour Office.

C. W. JENKS,

Legal Adviser of the International Labour Office.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE

DECLARATION CONCERNING THE AIMS AND PURPOSES OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION

The General Conference of the International Labour Organization, meeting in its Twenty-sixth Session in Philadelphia, hereby adopts, this tenth day of May in the year nineteen hundred and forty-four, the present Declaration of the aims and purposes of the International Labour Organization and of the principles which should inspire the policy of its Members.

I

The Conference reaffirms the fundamental principles on which the Organization is based and, in particular, that—

- (a) Labour is not a commodity ;
- (b) Freedom of expression and of association are essential to sustained progress ;
- (c) Poverty anywhere constitutes a danger to prosperity everywhere ;
- (d) The war against want requires to be carried on with unrelenting vigour within each nation, and by continuous and concerted international effort in which the representatives of workers and employers, enjoying equal status with those of Governments, join with them in free discussion and democratic decision with a view to the promotion of the common welfare.

II

Believing that experience has fully demonstrated the truth of the statement in the Constitution of the International Labour Organization that lasting peace can be established only if it is based on social justice, the Conference affirms that—

- (a) All human beings, irrespective of race, creed or sex, have the right to pursue both their material well-being and their spiritual development in conditions of freedom and dignity, of economic security and equal opportunity ;
- (b) The attainment of the conditions in which this shall be possible must constitute the central aim of national and international policy ;
- (c) All national and international policies and measures, in particular those of an economic and financial character, should be judged in this light and accepted only in so far as they may be held to promote and not to hinder the achievement of this fundamental objective ;
- (d) It is a responsibility of the International Labour Organization to examine and consider all international economic and financial policies and measures in the light of this fundamental objective ;
- (e) In discharging the tasks entrusted to it the International Labour Organization, having considered all relevant economic and financial factors, may include in its decisions and recommendations any provisions which it considers appropriate.

III

The Conference recognizes the solemn obligation of the International Labour Organization to further among the nations of the world programmes which will achieve—

- (a) Full employment and the raising of standards of living ;
- (b) The employment of workers in the occupations in which they can have the satisfaction of giving the fullest measure of their skill and attainments and make their greatest contribution to the common well-being ;
- (c) The provision, as a means to the attainment of this end and under adequate guarantees for all concerned, of facilities for training and the transfer of labour, including migration for employment and settlement ;
- (d) Policies in regard to wages and earnings, hours and other conditions of work calculated to ensure a just share of the fruits of progress to all, and a minimum living wage to all employed and in need of such protection ;
- (e) The effective recognition of the right of collective bargaining, the co-operation of management and labour in the continuous improvement of productive efficiency, and the collaboration of workers and employers in the preparation and application of social and economic measures ;
- (f) The extension of social security measures to provide a basic income to all in need of such protection and comprehensive medical care ;
- (g) Adequate protection for the life and health of workers in all occupations ;
- (h) Provision for child welfare and maternity protection ;
- (i) The provision of adequate nutrition, housing and facilities for recreation and culture ;
- (j) The assurance of equality of educational and vocational opportunity.