

International Institute of Agriculture and the International Forestry Centre

The General Assembly of the Institute decided after the Quebec Conference that the above Organization could be liquidated. The Commission considered the actions taken towards liquidation, urged member countries to pay their outstanding contributions, and decided that the remaining funds of the Institute—approximately \$30,000—be used to maintain the library of the Institute in Rome during 1950, with the balance earmarked for maintenance in 1951 if necessary.

Frequency and Timing of Conference Session and Date of Next Session

It has been thought that it might be desirable to hold the session of the Conference every two years rather than on the annual basis prescribed in the Constitution. The Director-General reported on this matter and proposed that in future the Conference should meet in alternate years and preferably in February rather than November. It was generally agreed that biennial Conferences would allow a better implementation of the work of FAO, and accordingly it was agreed to recommend that the Conference meet at least once in every two years with the proviso that the Conference may at any session decide to meet the following year. On the question of the month in which the Conference should be held there was a division of opinion, but a clear majority favoured the first six months of the year over October-November. It was finally agreed that April was the best month.

On the question of the next Conference it was decided to recommend that this be held in April, 1951, at the headquarters of the Organization. There was considerable feeling that it would be better to hold the next Conference in November, 1950, in Washington before the move to Rome, and it was agreed that, if urgent circumstances indicated that this would be preferable, the Conference could be moved forward.

Administrative Tribunal and Appeals Procedure

The Commission recommended that FAO should not establish an independent Tribunal but should consider joining the United Nations Tribunal on which matter the Director-General should report to a subsequent session of the Council, and that the existing FAO Appeals Committee should be continued as the United Nations Tribunal presupposes an internal staff appeals body.

Site of Regional Office for Asia and the Far East

The Director-General reported on possible alternative sites for the Regional Office, but advised that it should remain at Bangkok until the end of 1951. This recommendation was accepted on the understanding that it will be reviewed early in 1951. Several delegates intimated that they will have specific proposals to make on other locations.