The Fifteenth Session (Extraordinary) of the Executive Board was held at Unesco House, Paris on 24 and 25 March 1949.

Members present were: H.E. Dr. C. Parra-Perez, Chairman (in the absence of Sir Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan); M. Roger Seydoux, Vice-Chairman; Professor Paulo Carneiro, Professor Chen Yuan, M. Resat Nuri Guntekin, H.E. Count Stefano Jacini, Dr. Guillermo Nannetti, Professor Alex Photiades, Professor Alf Sommerfelt, Professor Louis Verniers and Dr. E. Ronald Walker. Members represented by deputies were: Professor Stanislaw Arnold by Mr. Henryk Birecki, H.E. M. Victor Doré by M. F. Charpentier, H.E. Shafik Ghorbal Bey by Dr. H.F. El Diwany, Dr. M. Martinez-Baez by M. D. Enrique Freymann, Sir John Maud by M. F.R. Cowell and Dr. George D. Stoddard by Mr. Kenneth Holland.

Observers were present from the United Nations, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the International Labour Organization, the World Health Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization and the International Refugee Organization.

Provisional Summary records are numbered: 15 EX/SR 1 (24 March, 3 p.m.); 15 EX/SR 2 (25 March, 10 a.m.); 15 EX/SR 3 (25 March, 3 p.m.).

Item 2 of Agenda: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The provisional agenda 15 EX/1 was adopted with the addition of item 4: Consultation by the Director-General on Nominations. (15 EX/SR 1)

Item 3 of Agenda: Request of the Secretary-General of the United Nations for submission of proposals as to the possible contribution of Unesco to a co-ordinated plan of action of the United Nations and Specialized Agencies for the economic development of under-developed countries.
(In implementation of Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its Eighth Session on 4 March 1949)

3 (a) REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL (document 15 EX/2)

3 (b) PROPOSALS OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL (document 15 EX/3)

After discussion, draft resolutions were proposed by Dr. E. Ronald Walker (15 EX/4) and M. Roger Seydoux (15 EX/5).

The following resolution was adopted unanimously:

The Executive Board

Raving heard the report of the Director-General;

1. Welcomes with satisfaction the resolution of the Economic and Social Council, dated 4 March 1949, on technical assistance with a view to economic development;

2. Is pleased that the Economic and Social Council, in paragraph 5 (a) of that resolution, recognized the need to give special attention to the social questions which directly condition economic development, no technical progress being of lasting effect unless it is accompanied by corresponding social and cultural progress;

3. Hopes that the financial resources put at the disposal of the United Nations and Specialized Agencies will be comparable to the essential needs of the States concerned;

4. Approves the means of action listed by the Director-General in document 15 EX/3 as revised in the light of the Board's discussions, which form a useful basis of negotiation for the discussions to be held by the various committees and commissions of the United Nations;

5. Requests the Director-General to take account of the observations submitted by the members of the Board at its Fifteenth Session, particularly as regards the collaboration of the States benefiting from the carrying out of the plan and the very great flexibility with which the plan must be executed, since that is an essential factor in the economic and social development of those States;

6. Recommends that the administrative problems raised by the execution of a concerted economic and social plan should be solved by the co-ordination of projects and not by the setting up of new administrative machinery, which might impair the efficient working of the organs responsible for applying it;
7. Asks the Director-General to communicate document 15 EX/3 revised to Member States for information so that they may send the Secretariat their comments on the projects contained in this document, if they so desire; and,

8. Requests the Director-General to report to the Executive Board in due course in order that the latter may have time to consider the concrete proposals which will have to be submitted to the Fourth Session of the General Conference. (15 EX/SR 1, 2 and 3)

Item 4 of Agenda: CONSULTATION BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL ON NOMINATIONS (no document)

The following resolution was adopted:

The Executive Board

Taking into account the need for continuity in the operations of the Organization at a time when the task of the Secretariat is made particularly difficult by the proximity of two sessions of the General Conference,

Authorizes the Director-General to renew, for a period not beyond 30 June 1950, the contracts of those high officials (Deputy Director-General, Assistant Directors-General, Heads of Departments and Bureaux) whose services he considers necessary. (15 EX/SR 3)