

Council Conference Agenda Agreed

The Bureau of the Socialist International concentrated on arrangements for the forthcoming (25-27 May) Council Conference at its meeting in Zurich on 22 March, held at the invitation of the Swiss Social Democratic Party. After detailed discussion of the agenda, it was decided to arrange the debates under three headings, with introductory speakers, as follows:-

1. *International Situation.*

Introductory speakers: HAROLD WILSON (Britain), GOLDA MEIR (Israel), TORSTEN NILSSON (Sweden), CARLOS MORALES (Chile).

2. *Policy for Peace and Co-operation in Europe.*

Introductory speakers: WILLY BRANDT (Germany), DENIS HEALEY (Britain), BRUNO KREISKY (Austria), VAINO LESKINEN (Finland), TRYGVE BRATTELI (Norway), ANDRE COOLS (Belgium), JENS-OTTO KRAG (Denmark), ALVA MYRDAL (Sweden).

3. *Political Cooperation and Economic Progress in the Third World.*

Introductory speakers: OLOF PALME (Sweden), JAN TINBERGEN (Netherlands), ANDRE RESAMPA (Madagascar), HARM BUITER (International Confederation of Free Trade Unions).

The question of invitations to the

Bureau Meeting Attendance

Present at the Zurich Bureau meeting were: KARL CZERNETZ, Austria, ROBERT VERDIER, France, HANS EBERHARD DINGELS, Germany, SIR HARRY NICHOLAS, GWYN MORGAN, JOE GORMLEY, JOHN CHALMERS, TIM RIDOUTT, Great Britain, MICHAEL HARISH, ZVI HARMOR, Israel, PAOLO VITTORELLI, Italy—PSI, ALDO GAROSCI, Italy—PSDI, MAX VAN DER STOEL, Netherlands, K. B. ANDERSEN, Denmark, ULF SUNDQVIST, PAAVO LIPPONEN, Finland, ARTHUR SCHMID, ARNOLD BERTSCHINGER, MASCHA OETTLI, Switzerland, LUCIEN RADOUX, EEC Liaison Bureau, ANNA RUDLING, MARY SQUIRE, ICSDW, BRUNO PITTERMANN, HANS JANITSCHKE, RODNEY BALCOMB, Socialist International.

Council Conference was discussed, and the Bureau decided that the Socialist International would invite representatives of member parties only.

The Bureau also decided that the whole question of visitors, observers and speakers at Council Conferences and Congresses of the Socialist International would be referred to the Congress in 1972.

Karl Czernetz, on behalf of the Austrian Socialist Party, extended an invitation to the Bureau to hold the 1972 Congress of the Socialist International in Vienna towards the end of May next year, which was accepted.

The Bureau dealt with other matters of immediate concern. Lucien Radoux, Chairman of the Liaison Bureau of Socialist Parties of the EEC, announced that it was planned to hold the proposed Congress of the EEC Socialist Parties, in Brussels in June. Invitations would be extended not only to EEC parties but also to the parties in countries applying for membership of the EEC and to the Austrian Socialist Party. The Bureau agreed with this proposal, and also decided that the proposed conference of parties in countries belonging to EFTA and the EEC would take place in Denmark during the late summer or early autumn of this year. Because of impending general elections in Denmark at this time, the Bureau was unable to fix precise dates, but these will be arranged by the Secretariat in consultation with participants.

Lucien Radoux, as Rapporteur of the Study Group on European Security, reported to the Bureau that the group had arrived at an agreed text, with the exception of a single point. This, however, would be referred to the first meeting of the Resolutions Committee of the Council Conference.

The Bureau also dealt with longer-term matters. It discussed the proposal, agreed to by the January meeting of the Bureau, for conferences between experts who were members of parties belonging to the Socialist International. The discussion centred on which items and subjects would best lend themselves to this kind of cooperation.

The Bureau also discussed matters relating to Greece and Luxembourg, and concluded on an optimistic note with a decision to send greetings to the new Norwegian Labour Government and to the Prime Minister of India, after her party's decisive election victory. The message to Indira Gandhi was worded as follows:-

'The Bureau of the Socialist Inter-

national, on behalf of all democratic socialist parties throughout the world, extends its heartiest congratulations on your total victory in the recent general elections in India. The Indian electors, by giving their overwhelming support to you and your policies and programme, have demonstrated beyond any doubt that the only path accept-

able to them is that of democratic socialism. The International sends its best wishes to you and is willing to give its whole-hearted support for all your efforts to build a new India. We hope your party will develop fraternal relations with other democratic socialist parties of the world for cooperation and exchange of ideas.'
