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ANNOTATED AGENDA FOR THE TENTH REGULAR SESSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly's rules of procedure stipulate that the provisional agenda for a regular session shall be drawn up by the Secretary-General and communicated to the members of the United Nations at least 60 days before the opening of the session.

For the tenth regular session of the General Assembly, scheduled to convene at UN Headquarters at 3:00 p.m. on 20 September, a provisional agenda containing 58 items was issued on 22 July (Doc. A/2915). A list of 11 supplementary items (Doc. A/2942) was issued on 29 August.

According to the rules of procedure, the provisional agenda of a regular session shall include: (a) a report by the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization; (b) reports from the principal organs of the UN as well as subsidiary organs of the General Assembly and certain specialized agencies; (c) all items which the Assembly, at previous sessions, has ordered to be included; (d) all items proposed by the other principal organs of the UN; (e) all items proposed by any member of the UN; (f) all items pertaining to the budget for the next financial year and the report on the accounts for the last financial year; (g) all items which the Secretary-General deems it necessary to put before the Assembly; and (h) all items proposed, under the Charter, by states not members of the United Nations.

A rule on supplementary items provides that any member or principal organ of the UN or the Secretary-General may, at least thirty days before the date fixed for the opening of a regular session, request the inclusion of supplementary items in the agenda. These items are placed on a supplementary list, which is communicated to UN members at least 20 days before the date fixed for the opening of the session.

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Another rule allows the inclusion of additional items "of an important and urgent character," proposed less than 30 days before the opening of a regular session or during the session, providing the Assembly so decides by a majority of the members present and voting. Such items may not be considered by the Assembly until a committee has reported upon the question concerned and until a period of seven days has elapsed after inclusion of the item (unless the Assembly decides otherwise by a two-thirds majority).

Items for the Assembly's tenth regular session are listed below in the order in which they appear in the provisional agenda and the supplementary list. This is not necessarily the order in which they will appear on the agenda as adopted by the Assembly. The notes on each item are given as background information.

ITEMS ON THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the session by the Chairman of the delegation of the Netherlands

The Chairman of the delegation from which the President of the previous session was elected presides until the Assembly elects a President for the new session. Dr. Eelco N. van Kleffens, of the Netherlands, was President of the Ninth Regular Session.

2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation

Rule 64 of the Assembly's rules of procedure provides that, "immediately after the opening of the first plenary meeting and immediately preceding the closing of the final plenary meeting of each session of the General Assembly, the President shall invite the representatives to observe one minute of silence dedicated to prayer or meditation."

3. Appointment of a Credentials Committee

This Committee consists of nine members appointed on the proposal of the temporary President. It examines the credentials of representatives and reports to the Assembly.

4. Election of the President

The President is elected by secret ballot and by simple majority. There are no nominations. Past Presidents of the Assembly are: Paul-Henri Spaak, of Belgium (First Regular Session); Oswaldo Aranha, of Brazil (First Special Session and Second Regular Session); José Arce, of Argentina (Second Special Session); Herbert V. Evatt, of Australia (Third Regular Session); Carlos P. Romulo, of the Philippines (Fourth Regular Session); Nasrollah Entezam, of Iran (Fifth Regular Session); Luis Padilla Nervo, of Mexico (Sixth Regular Session); Lester B. Pearson

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of Canada (Seventh Regular Session); Mme. Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit, of India (Eighth Regular Session), and Telco N. van Kleffens, of the Netherlands (Ninth Regular Session).

5. Constitution of the Main Committees and election of officers

There are six Main Committees, generally known by their numbers: the First (Political and Security); the Second (Economic and Financial); the Third (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural); the Fourth (Trusteeship and Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories); the Fifth (Administrative and Budgetary), and the Sixth (Legal). All 60 United Nations member nations are represented on each of the Main Committees, to which are referred items falling within their fields of competence.

The Assembly, acting directly in plenary meetings, deals with items which, for any reason, are not referred to a Committee. The Main Committees discuss proposals in detail and report to the Assembly with their recommendations. On these recommendations, the plenary Assembly takes final action. A two-thirds majority vote of those present and voting is required in plenary meetings for resolutions on important questions, but voting in the Committees is by simple majority, except to reopen discussion on a question, for which a two-thirds majority is needed.

Since many agenda items are primarily of a political character, the Assembly has decided, at every session since the Second, to establish an ad hoc Political Committee to share the work of the First Committee. At the Seventh Session it was agreed that the Chairman of the ad hoc Political Committee should participate with a vote in the proceedings of the General (or Steering) Committee.

Each Main Committee is required to elect a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, and a Rapporteur. Meeting in turn as each of its Main Committees, the Assembly itself elects the Chairman of those Committees by secret ballot. Candidates may be nominated from the floor, but voting is not confined to those so nominated. The other officers are similarly elected, generally at the next meeting of each Committee. Rule 103 of the Rules of Procedure provides that Committee officers "shall be elected on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, experience, and personal competence."

Chairmen of the Main Committees and the ad hoc Political Committee do not vote, but other members of their respective delegations may vote.

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6. Election of Vice-Presidents

The Assembly elects seven Vice-Presidents by simple majority and secret ballot. The President of the Assembly, the Vice-Presidents, and the Chairmen of the Main Committees constitute the General Committee. In electing the Vice-Presidents, the Assembly pays regard to ensuring the representative character of the General Committee. Member countries are elected, not individuals. The heads of the delegations of the countries elected serve as Vice-Presidents.

7. Notification by the Secretary-General under Article 12, paragraph 2, of the Charter

This article of the Charter requires the Secretary-General, with the consent of the Security Council, to notify the Assembly at each session of any matters relative to the maintenance of international peace and security which are being dealt with by the Security Council.

8. Adoption of the agenda

All the items submitted for inclusion in the agenda are considered by the General Committee, which reports to the Assembly with its recommendations. The Assembly adopts the agenda by a majority of members present and voting.

9. Opening of the general debate

At the beginning of each session of the Assembly, there is a general debate in which the heads of delegations usually express the views of their countries on problems of common concern to the membership of the United Nations.

10. Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization

The Charter requires the Secretary-General to report annually to the Assembly on the work of the Organization as a whole. The report for the period from 1 July 1954 to 30 June 1955 (Doc. A/2911) deals with every aspect of United Nations activity under six broad headings -- political and security questions, developments in the economic and social field, questions concerning trusteeship and non-self-governing territories, legal questions, development of public understanding, and administrative and budgetary questions.

11. Report of the Security Council

The report (Doc. A/2935)* covers the period from 16 July 1954 to 15 July 1955 and was adopted by the Security Council at a closed meeting on 11 August. The Charter requires the Council to submit such annual reports, and as in other years,

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* The document has not yet been circulated.

the report is a summary of resolutions approved or rejected and an account of the broad lines of debate. The practice so far is for the Assembly simply to "take note" of the report.

12. Report of the Economic and Social Council

Each year the Assembly examines the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary organs on the basis of the Council's annual report. The Council's report this year (Doc. A/2943)* covers the period from 6 August 1954 to 6 August 1955, in which the Council held two sessions.

The Assembly's usual practice has been to refer individual chapters of the report to its appropriate committees for detailed examination. Besides economic, social and human rights questions, the Council's report deals with organizational matters, coordination of the work of the United Nations and specialized agencies, and relations with these agencies. Other parts of the report deal with non-governmental organizations in consultative relationship with the United Nations and with financial implications of the Council's actions.

13. Report of the Trusteeship Council

The Council's annual report (Doc. A/2933)* on its activities under the international trusteeship system covers its 15th session, held from 25 January to 28 March 1955, and its 16th session, held from 8 June to 22 July 1955. The report describes the Council's annual review of conditions in the 11 trust territories: Tanganyika, Cameroons and Togoland under United Kingdom administration; Cameroons and Togoland under French administration; Ruanda-Urundi under Belgian administration; Somaliland under Italian administration; Western Samoa under New Zealand administration; Nauru and New Guinea under Australian administration, and the Pacific Islands under United States administration.

Other chapters of the report deal with such questions as the examination of petitions; the organization of two visiting missions in 1955 to the trust territories in West Africa; the Togoland unification problem; administrative unions affecting trust territories; the question of participation of the indigenous inhabitants of the trust territories in the work of the Council; offers of scholarships for the educational advancement of the people of the trust territories, and the question of attainment by the trust territories of the objective of self-government or independence. The report also deals with organizational matters.

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* The document has not yet been circulated.

14. Election of three non-permanent members of the Security Council

The Security Council consists of five permanent members (China, France, the USSR, the United Kingdom and the United States) and six non-permanent members elected by the Assembly for two-year terms. The terms of Brazil, New Zealand and Turkey expire at the end of 1955. Election is by two-thirds majority on a secret ballot. The Charter calls for attention to be paid to "the contribution of Members of the United Nations to the maintenance of international peace and security and to the other purposes of the Organization, and also to equitable geographical distribution." Retiring members are not eligible for immediate re-election.

The three other non-permanent members now on the Council which will serve until the end of 1956 are Belgium, Iran and Peru.

So far, the following non-permanent members have served on the Council:

Argentina (1948-49)	Iran (1955-56)
Australia (1946-47)	Lebanon (1953-54)
Belgium (1947-48, 1955-56)	Mexico (1946)
Brazil (1946-47, 1951-52, 1954-55)	Netherlands (1946, 1951-52)
Canada (1948-49)	New Zealand (1954-55)
Chile (1952-53)	Norway (1949-50)
Colombia (1947-48, 1953-54)	Pakistan (1952-53)
Cuba (1949-50)	Peru (1955-56)
Denmark (1953-54)	Poland (1946-47)
Ecuador (1950-51)	Syria (1947-48)
Egypt (1946, 1949-50)	Turkey (1951-52, 1954-55)
Greece (1952-53)	Ukrainian SSR (1948-49)
India (1950-51)	Yugoslavia (1950-51)

15. Election of six members of the Economic and Social Council

Six of the 18 members of the Economic and Social Council retire each year after completing three-year terms of office. Election is by secret ballot, and a two-thirds majority is required. Retiring members are eligible for immediate re-election.

The present members of the Council are Argentina, Australia, China, Czechoslovakia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, France, India, the Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Turkey, the USSR, the United Kingdom, the United States, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

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The six whose terms of office expire at the end of this year are Australia, India, Turkey, the United States, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

16. Election of two members of the Trusteeship Council

The Trusteeship Council consists of United Nations members administering trust territories, permanent members of the Security Council which do not administer trust territories, and as many other non-administering countries, elected by the Assembly for three-year terms, as are required to ensure on the Council an equal number of countries which administer trust territories and of those which do not.

The present members of the Council are Australia, Belgium, France, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States (administering members); China and the USSR (non-administering permanent members of the Security Council), and El Salvador, Haiti, India and Syria. The two members whose terms expire at the end of 1955 are El Salvador and Syria.

Elected members of the Council are eligible for immediate re-election when their terms expire. Election is by secret ballot and by a two-thirds majority.

17. Regulation, limitation and balanced reduction of all armed forces and all armaments. Conclusion of an international convention (treaty) on the reduction of armaments and the prohibition of atomic, hydrogen and other weapons of mass destruction; report of the Disarmament Commission (resolution 808 A (IX) of 4 November 1954)

At its ninth session, the General Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution calling for a "further effort ... to reach agreement on comprehensive and coordinated proposals to be embodied in a draft international disarmament convention ..." The resolution was sponsored jointly by Canada, France, the USSR, the United Kingdom and the United States.

The Assembly asked that the convention provide for (a) the regulation, limitation and major reduction of all armed forces and all conventional armaments; (b) the total prohibition of the use and manufacture of nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction of every type, together with the conversion of existing stocks of nuclear weapons for peaceful purposes; and (c) the establishment of effective international control, through a control organ with rights, powers and functions adequate to guarantee the effective observance of the agreed reductions of all armaments and armed forces and the prohibition of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction, and to ensure the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes only.

The Assembly requested the Disarmament Commission to reconvene its Subcommittee established by Assembly resolution 715 (VIII) of 28 November 1953 for the purpose of

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seeking "an acceptable solution of the disarmament problem. The Subcommittee was asked to take into account the various proposals made in the Subcommittee in 1954 and at the Assembly's ninth session.

The Subcommittee, composed of Canada, France, the USSR, the United Kingdom and the United States, met in London between 25 February and 18 May 1955 and then adjourned until 1 June when it met briefly at UN Headquarters in New York.

The Subcommittee resumed its meetings in New York on 29 August. It will report to the Disarmament Commission which in turn will submit a report to the Security Council and to the Assembly's ninth session.

18. International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy: report of the Secretary-General (Resolution 810 B (IX) of 4 December 1954)

This item stems from the General Assembly resolution adopted unanimously on 4 December 1954 in connection with the US-sponsored item entitled "International Cooperation in Developing the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy."

In the resolution, the Assembly called for an international technical conference of governments to explore means of developing peaceful uses of atomic energy through international cooperation.

In particular, the resolution continued, the conference should study the development of atomic power and consider other technical areas -- biology, medicine, radiation protection and fundamental science -- in which international cooperation might be accomplished most effectively.

The resolution invited all members of the UN or the specialized agencies to participate in the conference and to send experts competent in the atomic energy field. The interested specialized agencies were also invited to be represented. It was left to the Secretary-General, with the advice of a special committee, to determine the site, issue invitations, prepare the agenda and provide the necessary staff and services.

The committee appointed under the resolution comprised representatives of Brazil, Canada, France, India, the USSR, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Finally, the Secretary-General was requested to circulate a report on this conference to all members of the UN and to other governments and specialized agencies participating in the conference.

The International Technical Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy, called for by the resolution, was held in Geneva from 8 to 20 August 1955. Invitations were sent to all 60 UN members and to 24 countries which were members of

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specialized agencies but not of the United Nations. As a result, 73 states and eight specialized agencies were represented at the conference, with 1,400 delegates and 1,400 observers in attendance.

A total of 1,129 abstracts and 1,071 technical papers were submitted by 39 countries, four specialized agencies and the United Nations itself.

The Secretary-General's report on this conference is not yet available.

19. The Korean question (resolution 811 (A) of 11 December 1954)

The UN Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea was established by the General Assembly on 17 October 1950. It consists of Australia, Chile, the Netherlands, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand and Turkey. One of its functions is to represent the United Nations in helping to establish a unified, independent and democratic government of all Korea. The annual report of the Commission to the General Assembly has not yet been issued.

on 11 December 1954,
At its ninth session, the Assembly adopted a resolution which noted that the negotiations at the Korean Political Conference, held in Geneva from 26 April to 15 June 1954, had not resulted in agreement on a final settlement of the Korean question in accordance with the UN objectives in Korea. The Assembly declared that these objectives should be achieved by peaceful methods and noted that the Korean Armistice Agreement of 27 July 1953 provided that it shall remain in force until "expressly superseded wither by mutually acceptable amendments and additions or by provision in an appropriate agreement for a peaceful settlement at a political level between both sides."

The Assembly also approved the report of the Korean Political Conference and expressed the hope that it soon would be possible to make progress toward the objectives of the United Nations in Korea.

20. Treatment of people of Indian origin in the Union of South Africa: report of the Secretary-General (resolution 816 (IX) of 4 November 1954)

This question has been before the General Assembly since 1946. Last year, the Assembly suggested to the Governments of India, Pakistan and the Union of South Africa that they seek a solution of the question by direct negotiations, and that they designate "a Government, agency or person to facilitate contacts between them and assist them in settling the dispute." If, within six months from the adoption of the resolution, no agreement had been reached on the third party, the Secretary-General was to designate a person for this purpose. The Secretary-General was also asked to report to the Assembly at its tenth session on "the results obtained."

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On 29 June 1955, it was announced that the Secretary-General had designated Luis de Faro Jr., of Brazil, to carry out the functions called for by the Assembly's resolution. The Secretary-General's report to the Assembly has not yet been circulated.

21. Admission of new Members to the United Nations: reports of the Security Council and of the Committee of Good Offices (resolution 817 (IX) of 23 November 1954)

In 1953, the General Assembly established a Committee of Good Offices, consisting of Egypt, the Netherlands and Peru, "to consult with members of the Security Council with the object of exploring the possibilities of reaching an understanding which would facilitate the admission of new Members in accordance with Article 4 of the Charter."

Last year, the Assembly asked the Committee of Good Offices to continue its efforts. The Assembly also decided to send the pending applications back to the Security Council "for further consideration and positive recommendations," and suggested that the Council "consider the desirability of invoking the provisions of paragraph 2 of article 28 of the Charter to help resolve the problem." This is the paragraph providing for "periodic" meetings of the Council, at which Members of the Council may, if they so desire, "be represented by a member of the government or by some other specially designated representative."

The reports of the Security Council and the Committee of Good Offices on this question have not yet been submitted.

22. Report of the Director of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (resolutions 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949 and 818 (IX) of 4 December 1954)

Last year, the General Assembly adopted a resolution extending the mandate of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East for another five years, until 30 June 1960, without prejudice to the refugees' right to repatriation or compensation. A relief budget of \$25.1 million and a rehabilitation budget of \$36.2 million were approved for the fiscal year ending 30 June 1955.

One provision in the resolution requested the Governments of the area to continue to cooperate with the Director of the Agency in seeking and carrying out projects capable of supporting substantial numbers of refugees.

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The operations of UNRWA are financed by voluntary contributions by United Nations Members. On the Agency's rolls are more than 887,000 refugees, scattered over more than 100,000 square miles in Egypt, Lebanon, Syria and Jordan.

The resolution asked the Director of the Agency, in consultation with his nine-nation Advisory Commission, to study and report upon the problem of aid for "other claimants for relief, particularly children and needy inhabitants of villages along the demarcation lines."

The Director of UNRWA, Henry R. Labouisse, has not yet submitted his report to the tenth session of the General Assembly. The members of the Agency's Advisory Commission are Belgium, Egypt, France, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States.

23. The question of race conflict in South Africa resulting from the policies of apartheid of the Government of the Union of South Africa: report of the United Nations Commission on the racial situation in the Union of South Africa (resolution 820 (IX) of 14 December 1954)

Last year, the General Assembly commended the three-member Commission, appointed in 1952 to study the racial situation in the Union of South Africa, and noted "with regret" that the Government of the Union of South Africa had "refused to cooperate" with the Commission. The South African Government was asked to reconsider its position, in the light of the principles expressed in the United Nations Charter, and to take into consideration the suggestions of the Commission for a peaceful settlement of the racial problem in South Africa.

The Commission was asked to keep the problem under review and to report to the Assembly again at its tenth session. The Commission's report has not yet been submitted.

Members of the Commission, who serve in their personal capacities and not as representatives of their governments, are: Hernan Santa Cruz (Chile), Chairman and Rapporteur; Henri Laugier (France), and Dantes Bellegarde (Haiti).

24. Economic development of underdeveloped countries:

- (a) Question of the establishment of a special United Nations fund for economic development: report submitted in accordance with resolution 822 (IX) of 11 December 1954

At its last session, the Assembly unanimously expressed the hope that a special United Nations fund for economic development be established as soon as practicable, and extended the appointment of Raymond Scheyven, a former president of the Economic and Social Council, for another year in order that he might continue his consultations with governments and elicit their views on the support which might be

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expected from them for such a fund.

The Assembly asked him to prepare, with the assistance of the Secretary-General and an ad hoc group of experts, a further report giving a full and precise picture of the form or forms, functions and responsibilities which such a fund might have, and especially the methods by which its operations might be integrated with the development plans of the countries receiving assistance from it. Mr. Scheyven was asked to report first to the Economic and Social Council and then to the Assembly which would thus have the comments of the Council before it also.

After studying his report (Doc. A/2906), the Council recommended that the Assembly (a) invite governments of the United Nations and specialized agencies to give careful consideration to the report in question and to transmit their views on the experts' recommendations on the establishment, operation and management of the proposed special fund to the Secretary-General, not later than 31 March 1956; (b) establish an ad hoc committee to analyze the comments of governments and to submit an interim report to the Council's 22nd session (mid-1956) and a final report to the Council's 23rd session (spring 1957). It was understood that the ad hoc committee, in making its reports, would not commit any member government.

(b). Question of the establishment of an international finance corporation: report of the Economic and Social Council (resolution 823 (IX) of 11 December 1954)

At its last session, the Assembly, taking note of a statement of the United States administration of 11 November 1954 and declarations of other countries in support of an international finance corporation, looked forward to its establishment as soon as practicable.

The Assembly asked the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development to prepare draft statutes to govern the corporation, to present the draft to the governments of Bank members for discussion and invite them to indicate the degree of support that might be expected from them in providing the capital for the establishment of the corporation. The Bank was also asked to secure agreement among its members on the draft statutes and to report on the results of its work to the Economic and Social Council. The latter was to report to the Assembly's tenth session.

The draft Articles of Agreement of the proposed Corporation prepared by the International Bank were presented at the Council's 20th session, together with a report from the President of the Bank on the progress made toward the establishment of the Corporation. The Council noted the provisions in the Articles of Agreement

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that the Corporation be established and begin operations when at least 30 governments, with total subscriptions of not less than \$75 million, had signed the Agreement. It also noted that a substantial number of governments had taken specific steps toward acceptance of membership in the Corporation. Expressing its appreciation of the way in which the International Bank had carried out its task, the Council looked forward to the Corporation's establishment as soon as practicable.

(c) Programs of technical assistance: report of the Economic and Social Council (resolution 831 D (IX) of 26 November 1954)

At its last session, the Assembly asked the Economic and Social Council for a report on the progress made in consideration of questions raised in a report by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (Doc. A/2661) dealing with the administration of the Expanded Program of Technical Assistance. Also requested were the comments of the Advisory Committee on the Council's report.

The Advisory Committee's report contained an examination of the administrative expenses and procedures for the Expanded Program and an analysis of administrative weaknesses. The latter, it considered, might be due to constitutional factors. It pointed out that in drafting the Program in 1949, the Council had envisaged the Expanded Program as primarily a United Nations activity, though relying heavily on the cooperation of interested specialized agencies. "The Expanded Program was not intended as a mere amalgam of fragmentary activities." The Committee strongly urged stringent budgetary control over the Program. To ensure effective coordination of the program, it also considered that "a clear and direct line of authority should run from the Secretary-General through whatever Secretariat unit may, in his opinion, be required." The Secretary-General should act, for this purpose, in his capacity as Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Coordination, "exercising the powers of leadership granted to the holder of that office by the Economic and Social Council."

These matters were considered at the Council's 20th session. In its report (Doc. A/2943), to be issued shortly, the Council submits a number of observations on the questions dealt with in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative Budgetary Questions to the Assembly's ninth session. The Council considered that the arrangements it had approved at its 18th session (resolution 542 B II under resolution 542 B II (XVIII)), on the Program's organization and administration offered a satisfactory basis for the conduct of the Program. The Council further

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noted that the Administrative Committee on Coordination had asked the Technical Assistance Board for a review of the experience gained under the Expanded Program and to consider plans for the Program's future development. It therefore requested the Technical Assistance Board, in preparing this review, to take into consideration the pertinent comments made during the last session of the Technical Assistance Committee on such matters as the concentration of resources, recruitment and methods used in carrying out the Program. It is also asked that the review include concrete recommendations for subsequent action, as appropriate, by the Technical Assistance Committee, the Economic and Social Council or the General Assembly. The review was to be submitted for consideration by the Technical Assistance Committee in mid-1956.

The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has not yet drafted its comments on the Council's report.

At its 20th session, the Council also dealt with arrangements for financing the Expanded Program in 1956. It urged states taking part in that operation to continue their support, financial and otherwise, on an expanding basis. It also asked that the next conference at which governments announce their pledges for voluntary contribution to the program be held as early as possible during the Assembly's tenth session.

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25. Report of the Agent-General of the United Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency (resolution 410 A (V) of 1 December 1950)

The United Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency (UNKRA), set up by the General Assembly on 1 December 1950, is charged with the task of helping the Korean people relieve the suffering and repair the damage caused by the conflict in Korea. It is headed by an Agent-General, Lieutenant General John B. Coulter, who is assisted by an Advisory Committee consisting of Canada, India, the United Kingdom, the United States and Uruguay. Funds for UNKRA's operations come from voluntary contributions by governments, non-members as well as members of the United Nations.

At its ninth session, the Assembly stressed its desire that the Agency's programs be implemented as fully as possible and urged all governments to give the financial support needed to continue the Agency's work.

In his report to that session, the Agent-General described the period under review as one of transition from the stage of careful planning to the stage of effective operations. His report to the Assembly's tenth session (Doc. A/2936) has not yet been issued but will carry the story of reconstruction a step further. It will describe the Agency's contributions from 1 September 1954 to 30 June 1955 in the fields of industry, mining, irrigation and flood control, fisheries, education, health, housing and welfare. It will review the economic situation in Korea and comment on UNKRA's financial status.

26. Question of assistance to Libya: report of the Secretary-General (resolution 726 (VIII) of 8 December 1953)

The United Kingdom of Libya, which attained its independence in December 1951 in accordance with a General Assembly decision of 21 November 1949, requires financial and technical aid from abroad to carry out its urgent and economic and social development programs. On 8 December 1953, the Assembly invited all governments willing and in a position to do so to help Libya financially. It also asked the Secretary-General and the specialized agencies concerned to give all possible favorable consideration to Libya's requests for technical aid.

In compliance with another request under this resolution, the Secretary-General will submit a report to the Assembly's tenth session on the question of United Nations aid to Libya. This report, not yet issued, will also give an account of the assistance rendered to Libya.

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27. Report of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (resolutions 428 (V) of 14 December 1950 and 832 (IX) of 21 October 1954)

The High Commissioner's report (Doc. E/2746 and Add.1) was considered by the Economic and Social Council in Geneva last summer and will also be discussed by the General Assembly.

In his report, Dr. G.J. van Heuven Goedhart has presented a plan of operations for 1955 as approved by the Executive Committee for the UN Refugee Fund. The target figure for the Fund this year is \$4,200,000 and, as determined by the Assembly last year, the money is to be devoted to the promotion of permanent solutions to the problems of certain groups of refugees, and also for emergency assistance to the most needy cases.

On 28 July, the High Commissioner informed the Council that as of that date \$1,986,000 had been paid into the Fund and that only 50 per cent of the program planned had been implemented. The Council, by 9 votes to 2 with 7 abstentions, adopted a resolution urging governments to contribute to the UN Refugee Fund so that the approved target might be reached within the established time limits.

In the resolution the Council took note of the progress made in the implementation of last year's Assembly resolution (No. 832 (IX)). Moreover, the Council expressed the hope that, to supplement the efforts under the UNREF program for the economic integration of refugees in their countries of residence, other countries would include refugees in their immigration schemes.

28. Draft International Covenants on Human Rights (resolution 833 (IX) of 4 December 1954)

The draft covenants on human rights -- one on civil and political rights, the other on economic, social and cultural rights -- were prepared over a period of several years by the Commission on Human Rights, which completed its work on the texts in 1954.

Last year, the Assembly's Third Committee devoted 30 meetings to a general debate on the covenants during which various proposals were presented, but not examined in detail. On the initiative of the Committee, the Assembly recommended "that, during the tenth session of the General Assembly, the Third Committee give priority and devote itself mainly to the discussion, article by article, in an agreed order, of the draft international covenants on human rights with a view to their adoption at the earliest possible date." The discussion, the Assembly then decided, should also cover any new articles which may be proposed (resolution 833 (IX)).

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To facilitate its business, the Assembly asked for and will have before it a background document (Doc. A/2929) prepared by the Secretariat. This document includes summaries of the main arguments on all articles made in UN debates ever since the Commission on Human Rights began work on the project in 1947.

29. Recommendations concerning international respect for the right of peoples and nations to self determination: Report of the Economic and Social Council (resolution 837 (IX) of 14 December 1954)

The Assembly will have before it three proposals for the establishment of new United Nations organs to deal with the right to self-determination. These proposals are contained in a resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 29 July of this year.

The Commission on Human Rights has recommended the creation of two commissions: one to conduct a full survey of the status of the permanent sovereignty of peoples and nations over their natural wealth and resources; the other to examine alleged denials of the right to self-determination if any 10 UN member states so request. Furthermore, this commission would provide its good offices for the peaceful rectification of any situation it was required to examine, and if within six months the parties concerned could not be satisfied, the commission would report the facts and make recommendations to the General Assembly.

The Economic and Social Council, in transmitting the two proposals to the Assembly, has submitted a third proposal which would have the Assembly establish an ad hoc commission on self-determination, consisting of five persons to be appointed by the Secretary-General, to conduct a thorough study of the concept of self-determination.

The terms of reference of this commission would include examination of (a) the concept of peoples and nations (b) the essential attributes and applicability of the principle of equal rights and of self-determination, including the rights and duties of states under international law, (c) the relationship between the principle of self-determination and other Charter principles and (d) the economic, social and cultural conditions under which the application of the principle is facilitated.

The Assembly would request the ad hoc commission to report to the Council's 23rd session in the spring of 1957 and to the Assembly's 12th session in the fall of the same year.

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Press Release GA/1265
2 September 1955

30. Question of South West Africa

- (a) Voting procedure on questions relating to reports and petitions concerning the Territory of South West Africa: advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice (resolution 904 (IX) of 23 November 1954)

On 11 October 1954, the General Assembly adopted a special procedure for examining, within the scope of the former League of Nations Mandates System, reports and petitions relating to the Territory of South West Africa. This consisted of six special rules of procedure, one of which provided that decisions of the Assembly on questions relating to such reports and petitions should be made by a two-thirds majority vote, the procedure reserved under the UN Charter for "important questions."

Because several members voiced legal doubts over this voting rule, the Assembly, on 23 November, decided to ask the International Court of Justice whether the two-thirds rule conforms with the Court's earlier opinion in respect to South West Africa. If it did not, the Assembly wanted to know what voting procedure it should adopt. (In July 1950, the Court expressed the opinion that UN supervision of South Africa's administration of this former mandated territory should not exceed that which was exercised under the League Mandates System. Decisions in the League were by unanimous vote, and the Union of South Africa, without implying acceptance of the right of UN supervision, contended last year in the Assembly that the two-thirds rule would give the United Nations greater powers of supervision than those of the League.)

On 7 June 1955, the International Court handed down an advisory opinion in which it unanimously upheld ^{the} voting rule adopted by the Assembly. It stated that the two-thirds voting procedure was a correct interpretation of the Court's advisory opinion of July 1950.

- (b) Report of the Committee on South West Africa (resolution 749 A (VIII) of 28 November 1953 and 851 (IX) of 23 November 1954)

The General Assembly, at its eighth session, established a seven-member committee to examine, within the scope of the former League Mandates System, annual reports and petitions relating to South West Africa. If no report was furnished by the Union of South Africa on its administration of this former mandated territory, the Committee was instructed to examine available information and documentation on conditions in the area.

The Assembly took this action after years of unsuccessful negotiations with South Africa regarding the question of UN supervision over South West Africa, the
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only remaining League mandate which has not either attained independence or been placed under UN trusteeship. South Africa maintains that the mandate had lapsed and, with the demise of the League, it recognized no other international obligation in respect to its administration of the territory.

The Assembly, at its ninth session, examined a report from the Committee on conditions in South West Africa. This report was based on information compiled by the Secretariat. The Assembly renewed an invitation to South Africa to cooperate with the Committee and to submit an annual report on South West Africa.

This year, the Committee has approved a second report (A/2913) on conditions in South West Africa at a series of meetings held from 24 January to 8 June. Like its first report, this one too was based on information compiled by the Secretariat.

The Committee, composed of Brazil, Mexico, Pakistan, Syria, Thailand, United States and Uruguay, will meet again briefly this September to take up any new matters within its competence before reporting to the tenth Assembly session.

31. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under article 73 e of the Charter: reports of the Secretary-General and of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(a) Information on social conditions

The Committee, at its sixth session held from 15 April to 13 May 1955, completed its second cycle of discussions of economic, social and educational conditions in the non-self-governing territories on which reports were submitted to the Secretary-General under article 73 e of the Charter.

In 1949, when the Committee was first established on a three-year basis, the General Assembly agreed that each year it should give particular attention to one of the major subjects within its terms of reference. Following this plan, a report was first adopted on educational conditions. This was followed the next year by a report on economic conditions and in the third year by a report on social conditions. Further reports on each of these subjects were drawn up in 1953, 1954 and in 1955.

The 1955 report (Doc. A/2908), prepared by the Committee this year, was again concerned with social conditions. It deals with such topics as principles of policy, urbanization and industrialization, community development, labor, race relations, public health, nutrition, training of personnel, planning of social development, and international and regional cooperation.

(b) Information on other conditions

In addition to devoting special attention to social conditions, the Committee this year also considered educational and economic conditions in the non-self-governing territories.

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(c) General questions relating to the transmission and examination of information

Under article 73 e of the Charter, member states administering non-self-governing territories transmit annually to the Secretary-General statistical and other information of a technical nature relating to economic, social and educational conditions in the territories for which they are respectively responsible other than those which had been placed under UN trusteeship.

In 1954, the Assembly adopted a resolution noting with satisfaction that some members responsible for the administration of non-self-governing territories had voluntarily transmitted information on the development of self-governing institutions in territories under their charge in addition to information on economic, social and educational conditions. The resolution invited those members which had not done so to voluntarily include such data in the information transmitted by them.

The Assembly, at its ninth session, also adopted a resolution requesting the Committee to consider how the information transmitted under article 73 e on dependent areas could be examined by regional groups of territories. The Committee's practice till now has been to examine the information as it related to the territories as a whole and not individually.

The Committee, at its sixth session, considered this matter, together with its discussion of the question whether to extend its own term which expires at the end of 1955 and the question of allowing wider indigenous participation in the work of the Committee. A clause providing for regional treatment of problems was included in an original draft resolution submitted by Burma, India and Iraq. This clause, however, was later dropped and the final version of the resolution as adopted by the Committee recommended only Assembly renewal of the Committee on the same basis for a further three years.

(d) Offers of study and training facilities under General Assembly resolution 845 (IX) of 22 November 1954

In launching a first UN scholarship plan for students of non-self-governing territories, the General Assembly last year invited member states to extend offers of facilities for study and training. It recommended that administering members make the greatest possible use of such offers and give them appropriate publicity in territories under their administration.

The Assembly resolution asks that such offers be made not only for study and training at the university level but, in the first place, for study at the post-primary level as well as technical and vocational training of immediate practical value.

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The Secretary-General has already received offers from several member states, and he will submit to the tenth Assembly a progress report giving details of the offers made and the extent to which they have been taken up.

32. Consideration of communications relating to the cessation of the transmission of information under article 73 e of the Charter: reports of the Secretary-General and of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories:

(a) Communication from the Government of the Netherlands concerning the Netherlands Antilles and Surinam (resolution 747 (VIII) of 27 November 1953)

The Netherlands Government, pursuant to this 1953 Assembly resolution, transmitted to the Secretary-General on 4 April 1955 a communication relating to a new constitutional relationship between the Netherlands and two of its former dependent territories, Surinam and the Netherlands Antilles. The Netherlands stated that since the two territories are now equal partners in the Kingdom of the Netherlands, no further information on economic, social and educational conditions on them could be sent to the United Nations under article 73 e of the Charter.

The 1953 Assembly resolution invited the Netherlands to provide information on the results of the negotiations then underway between the Netherlands and the two territories with respect to the latters' new status, and requested the Committee to examine the communication.

When considering the Netherlands communication the Committee, at its sixth session, heard further details of the new legal order from the Netherlands delegation which included representatives of the Governments of Surinam and of the Antilles. The Committee, however, agreed to postpone further consideration of the communication until this September when it will take up the matter again before reporting to the tenth Assembly.

(b) Other communications, if any

/None thus far./

(c) Procedures concerning the consideration of communications (resolution 850 (IX) of 22 November 1954)

The Assembly, at its ninth session, adopted a resolution dealing with the general question of the procedure to be followed in cases involving cessation of information. This resolution considered "that, in order to evaluate as fully as possible the opinion of the population as to the status or change in status which they desire, a mission, if the General Assembly deems it desirable, should, in agreement with the administering member, visit the non-self-governing territory before or during the time when the population is called upon to decide on its

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future status or change in status." The Assembly considered that the Committee "might study means by which it could, at the appropriate time, draw the attention of the General Assembly to the forthcoming changes in the status of the territory concerned."

The Committee at its sixth session decided to report to the Assembly that the resolution had wide implications and that it did not have sufficient time to discuss it fully. It suggested that further consideration of the resolution might be deferred to the Committee's session in 1956.

33. Question of the renewal of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories: report of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories (resolution 646 (VII) of 10 December 1952)

The Committee, composed of the members transmitting information under article 73 e of the Charter on dependent territories under their administration, and an equal number of non-administering members elected by the Assembly's Fourth Committee, was first established by the General Assembly on a three-year basis in 1949. At the end of that period, in 1952, it was extended for a further three years, until 1955.

The Committee, at its sixth session, considered the question of its renewal beyond its present terms and recommended that the Assembly continue the Committee on the same basis for a further three-year period.

34. Election, if required, to fill vacancies in the membership of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories

Should the tenth Assembly approve the Committee's recommendation (see item 33) and renew it for a further three-year period, then the Assembly's Fourth Committee will hold elections to fill vacancies in the Committee's present membership.

The Committee at present is composed of Australia, Belgium, France, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States (administering members) and Brazil, Burma, China, Guatemala, India, Iraq and Peru (non-administering members). The terms of Brazil, China, India and Iraq will expire at the end of 1955 and, if the Committee is continued on the same basis, elections will be held for these vacancies.

35. The Togoland unification problem and the future of the trust territory of Togoland under British administration: report of the Trusteeship Council (resolution 860 (IX) of 14 December 1954)

The Assembly in 1954 requested the Trusteeship Council to consider what arrangements should be made in British Togoland for ascertaining the wishes of the population regarding their future status. They would be asked whether they desired

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to join the Gold Coast when it attains independence, to be united with French Togoland, or to have "some other self-governing or independent status."

The Assembly, at its ninth session, considered the future status of British Togoland together with the Togoland unification problem. The latter problem has been before the UN since 1947. It originated in a demand by certain groups of the Ewe people, the largest tribal unit involved, to be united under a single administration. The Ewes are now divided between the two Togolands and the adjoining Gold Coast.

The United Kingdom informed the ninth Assembly that the Gold Coast would attain independence "within a measurable period" and that the people of British Togoland had advanced to a point where they can choose for themselves whether to join the Gold Coast when the latter becomes independent in the next few years. The Assembly decided in this resolution that steps should be taken to sound out the wishes of the people of British Togoland as to their future status. It requested the Council to consider what arrangements should be made for this purpose, to send a special mission to both Togolands to "make a special study of these problems" and to report to the tenth Assembly.

Acting upon the Assembly requests, the Council organized a four-member mission and directed it to carry out the special tasks as stated in the Assembly resolution. The mission is to report to the Council in time for the latter to report to the tenth Assembly. The Council agreed to hold a special session for this purpose.

The mission, composed of S.K. Banerji (India), Chairman, John M. McMillan (Australia), Salah Eddine Tarazi (Syria) and Robert R. Robbins (United States), departed by air from New York on 7 August 1955 for West Africa. It will report to the Council not later than 1 November 1955.

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36. Financial report and accounts, and reports of the Board of Auditors

(a) United Nations, for the financial year ended 31 December 1954

The report (Doc. A/2901) shows that obligations incurred for 1954 amounted to \$48,510,009 compared with total appropriations of \$48,528,980. The obligations incurred were less by \$123,189 than income credited for the year, represented by member's contributions and miscellaneous income earned. The balance on surplus account at 31 December 1954 was \$1,421,792. Of this amount \$1,193,070 was credited to members' contributions for 1955 and \$228,722 is the balance available for credit to members against 1956 contributions.

(b) United Nations Children's Fund, for the financial year ended 31 December 1954

The financial report on UNICEF (Doc. A/2905) shows that the principal of the Fund on 31 December 1954 amounted to \$28,226,658, representing a net increase of \$569,747 in the level of the Fund during the year.

(c) United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, for the financial year ended 30 June 1955

The report will be issued during the Assembly session.

(d) United Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency, for the financial year ended 30 June 1955

The report will be issued during the Assembly session.

(e) United Nations Refugee Emergency Fund, for the financial year ended 31 December 1954

The report (Doc. A/2900) shows that as of 31 December 1954 the surplus in the Refugee Emergency Fund (superseded on 1 January 1955 by the Refugee Fund) amounted to \$238,530.99. Expenditures during the year amounted to \$400,673.25.

37. Supplementary estimates for the financial year 1955

A report on supplementary expenses not included in the regular budget appropriations for 1955 will be submitted by the Secretary-General in the course of the Assembly session.

38. Budget Estimates for the financial year 1956

The estimated gross budget (Doc. A/2904) prepared by the Secretary-General totals \$46,278,000. Income is estimated at \$6,873,600, leaving a net budget of \$39,404,400. The 1956 estimate is \$685,800 less than the approved appropriations for 1955 totaling \$46,963,800.

The Secretary-General's estimates have been reviewed by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions which has submitted a report (Doc. A/2921) recommending an overall reduction of \$261,400 below the figure proposed by the Secretary-General.

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39. Appointments to fill vacancies in the membership of subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly

(a) Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

Three of the nine members of this Committee retire each year (see Doc. A/2925). Members whose terms of office expire at the end of 1955 are Carlos Blanco (Cuba), Arthur H. Clough (United Kingdom), and William O. Hall (United States).

(b) Committee on Contributions

This is a 10-member Committee whose members also retire by rotation and are eligible for reappointment (Doc. A/2926). Members whose terms of office expire at the end of 1955 are S.M. Burke (Pakistan), Jiri Nosek (Czechoslovakia) and Stuart A. Rice (United States).

(c) Board of Auditors

The Board consists of three members (Doc. A/2928). At each regular session, the Assembly appoints an auditor to take office from 1 July of the following year for a three-year term. The election this year will be to fill the vacancy caused by the expiration of the term of office of the Auditor-General of Canada.

(d) Investments Committee: confirmation of the appointment made by the Secretary-General

The Investments Committee consists of three members appointed by the Secretary-General after consultation with the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. The appointment is subject to the approval of the Assembly. The vacancy caused by the expiration of the three-year term of Ivar Rooth, Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, is to be filled.

(e) Administrative Tribunal

The Tribunal is composed of seven members appointed by the Assembly for three-year terms (Doc. A/2927). Those members whose terms of office expire at the end of 1955 are Djalal Abdoh (Iran), Madame Paul Bastid (France) and Omar Loutfi (Egypt).

(f) United Nations Staff Pension Committee

There are nine members and nine alternate members of the Staff Pension Committee. The terms of office of the following three members and three alternates expire at the end of 1955: members -- T.W. Cutts (Australia), R.T. Cristobal (Philippines) and Francisco A. Forteza (Uruguay); alternates -- Arthur H. Clough (United Kingdom), Warren B. Irons (United States) and Fazlollah Nouredin Kea (Iran).

40. Report of the Negotiating Committee for Extra-Budgetary Funds

Certain of the activities of the UN and the specialized agencies are financed by voluntary contributions of member governments. Such activities, not provided for

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in the regular budgets of the UN or the agencies, include the UN Children's Fund, the Expanded Program of Technical Assistance, the UN Korean Reconstruction Agency, the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees, and the UN Refugee Fund. To assist in obtaining funds for these programs, the Assembly during its ninth session again requested the President to appoint a Negotiating Committee for Extra-Budgetary Funds to serve until the close of the tenth Assembly session. The President accordingly appointed a committee composed of Australia, Canada, Colombia, France, Lebanon, Pakistan, the United Kingdom, the United States and Uruguay.

In the Committee's report to the Assembly (Doc. A/2945), the following statement of pledges, as at 10 August 1955, is given:

	<u>Pledges</u>	<u>Payments</u>
Expanded Program of Technical Assistance	27,984,758	14,065,642
UN Children's Fund	9,612,927	5,744,337
UN Relief and Works Agency		
for 1954 - 1955	23,841,500	23,555,114
for 1955 - 1956	200,851	10,000
UN Korean Reconstruction Agency (as of 1 August)	212,064,629	138,890,865
UN Refugee Fund for 1955	2,543,174	508,974

41. Headquarters of the United Nations: report of the Secretary-General (resolution 877 (IX) of 4 December 1954)

The report by the Secretary-General (Doc. A/2948) points out that the largest single construction project carried out in 1955 was the conversion of space in the basement area for use as a permanent warehouse to meet the needs of various services. Two projects, the Secretary-General states, will receive high priority in 1956 -- redevelopment of the podium wall in the General Assembly hall and the modification of the first basement in the north end of the Assembly building. Apart from this, less expensive projects to be undertaken next year will include alterations and wiring of several conference rooms, alteration of the meditation room and provision of a memorial plaque for those who died in the service of the UN.

42. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations: report of the Committee on Contributions (resolution 876 (IX) of 4 December 1954)

The costs of the United Nations are borne by all member states. Each regular session of the Assembly determines, on the basis of a report from its Committee on Contributions, the scale of assessments -- expressed in percentages of the total cost -- for all the members.

The report of the Committee on Contributions, containing a recommended scale of assessments for 1956, has not yet been issued.

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43. Review of audit procedures of the United Nations and the specialized agencies: reports of the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (resolution 871 (IX) of 29 October 1954)

The question of possible changes in the audit procedure of the United Nations and the specialized agencies was postponed to the tenth session of the Assembly after the Secretary-General reported that he had no concrete proposals to make to the 1954 session. He stated that he would be in a better position to discuss the matter with the Advisory Committee during the course of 1955, when he would have the advice of the Assembly regarding internal organization of the work of the Secretariat at Headquarters and the benefit from the survey of offices and activities away from Headquarters.

44. United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

(a) Annual report of the UN Joint Staff Pension Board

A report on the sixth session of the Joint Staff Pension Board is contained in Doc. A/2914.

(b) Report of the UN Joint Staff Pension Board on the third actuarial valuation of the UN Joint Staff Pension Fund as of 30 September 1954

The principal of the Fund for the nine-month period ended 30 September 1954 increased from \$37,220,563 to \$43,449,512. Active membership in the Fund as of the same date was 8,513 persons from the seven participating organizations.

(c) Amendments to the Regulations of the UN Joint Staff Pension Fund: report of the UN Joint Staff Pension Board, including report on article XI (resolution 772 (VIII) of 27 November 1953)

Recommendations to the General Assembly for amendments to the Regulation of the Joint Staff Pension Fund are contained in Annex II to Document A/2914.

(d) Acceptance by the specialized agencies of the jurisdiction of the UN Administrative Tribunal in matters involving applications alleging non-observance of the regulations of the UN Joint Staff Pension Fund: report of the Secretary-General (resolution 771 (VIII) of 27 November 1953)

This report has not yet been issued.

45. Review of the Staff regulations and of the principles and standards progressively applied thereto; report of the Secretary-General (resolution 782 C (VIII) of 9 December 1953)

During the eighth session of the General Assembly several amendments to Staff Regulations were approved and the Assembly decided to undertake during the tenth session a review "both of the principles and standards progressively developed and applied" in the implementation of the regulations and of the Staff Regulations themselves. The review will be based on a report to be submitted by the Secretary-General and on the comments thereon of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

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46. Administrative and budgetary co-ordination between the United Nations and the specialized agencies: reports of the Secretary-General and of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

A separate report on the 1956 budgets of eight specialized agencies will be submitted during the Assembly session. In its first report to the tenth session (Doc. A/2921), the Advisory Committee states that the total of the appropriations which the states members of the eight specialized agencies and the United Nations will be called upon to make in respect of 1956 may be in the neighborhood of \$88 million.

47. Audit reports relating to expenditure by specialized agencies of technical assistance funds allocated from the Special Account (resolution 519 A (VI) of 12 January 1952)

The General Assembly in 1952 approved financial arrangements for the allocation of funds contributed by governments for the Expanded Program of Technical Assistance. Under these arrangements \$10,000,000 of contributions received for the second financial period were allocated on an agreed basis to the various participating organizations. The balance was placed in a Special Account for allocation by the Technical Assistance Board.

The audit reports called for under this item relate to expenditure by specialized agencies of funds from the Special Account.

48. Organization of the Secretariat: report of the Secretary-General (resolution 386 (IX) of 17 December 1954)

The Secretary-General was asked to report to the Assembly on the progress of the re-organization of the Secretariat. The report, not yet released, is expected to contain the results of the work of a Survey Group which reviewed during 1955 UN offices and activities external to Headquarters.

49. Use of income derived from the Staff Assessment Plan: report of the Secretary-General (resolution 893 (IX) of 17 December 1954)

The ninth session of the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to continue his negotiations with those member states which have not yet become a party to the Convention on Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations or adopted alternative measures to grant all UN staff members ^{relief} from national income taxation, and to submit a report as soon as possible before the opening of the tenth regular session of the Assembly.

The Secretary-General's report (Doc. A/2946) contains summaries of seven replies to a letter the Secretary-General addressed to the 16 states which have not yet acceded to the Convention, asking to be informed whether they expected to accede before the opening of the tenth session. Oral consultations, of a preliminary character, have been proceeding with representatives of the United States during which it has been noted that the practical effect of the income tax systems of

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the 16 states concerned "has been such that the United Nations has been called upon to reimburse only the United States staff, particularly at Headquarters, for taxes paid on their United Nations income."

Recalling the wish of the General Assembly to reach a definitive solution to the problem during the tenth session, the Secretary-General stated in his letter that it had been felt that the Assembly would consider means whereby members which have not acceded or otherwise granted tax exemption to their nationals on the UN staff, should cease, on 1 January 1956, to receive by way of deduction from their annual contributions the benefit of the revenue derived from the Staff Assessment Plan.

50. Report of the Special Committee on Review of Administrative Tribunal Judgments (resolution 888 (IX) of 17 December 1954)

The Special Committee was instructed by the ninth General Assembly to study the question of judicial review of future judgments of the Administrative Tribunal.

At the conclusion of a two-week session, held in April 1955, the Committee approved two new articles to the Statutes of the Tribunal. The first (Doc.A/2909) provides that a member state, the Secretary-General or the person in respect of whom a judgment has been rendered may apply to a special committee for review of a judgment if, in their view, the Tribunal "has exceeded its jurisdiction or competence, or has erred on a question of law relating to the provision of the Charter, or has committed a fundamental error in procedure..." If there is a "substantial basis" for the review application, the Committee would request an advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice.

A second amendment to the Statute provides that the Secretary-General or the applicant concerned may apply to the Tribunal for a revision of a judgment on the basis of the discovery of some decisive fact which was unknown at the time the judgment was rendered.

51. Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its seventh session

The Commission, which is entrusted with the task of developing and codifying international law, held its seventh session in Geneva from 2 May to 8 July 1955. Its report (Doc. A/CN.4/94) reviews work on two main topics:

(a) Regime of the High Seas

Continuing its efforts to codify maritime law, the Commission drew up a draft code of 38 provisional articles, with comments, to be submitted to governments for observations. The text defines the high seas and freedom of the high seas, with 21 articles on the right of navigation, including eight provisions on piracy, 10 articles on fishing and five on submarine cables and pipelines. The Commission also decided to communicate the section on fishing, with an annex, to a number of technical bodies which were represented by observers at the International Technical

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Conference on the Conservation of the Living Resources of the Sea, held in Rome last spring. The articles on fishing include a set of provisions on living resources of the sea which were drafted by the Commission in the light of the results arrived at by the Rome conference. (For text of draft code, see pages 6-37 of Doc. A/CN.4/94.)

The report states that the Commission decided it was not competent to examine the charges set forth in the documents transmitted by the General Assembly in connection with the complaint of violation of the freedom of navigation in the area of the China Seas. On the general question of whether warships could commit acts of piracy, the report added, the Commission had stated its position in Art. 14 (defining piracy) of the draft on Regime of the High Seas. The General Assembly, under its resolution 821 (IX) of 17 December 1954, had forwarded to the Commission the records pertaining to the Ad Hoc Political Committee's discussion of Poland's complaint.

(b) Regime of the Territorial Sea

The Commission progressed in its work on this project by amending some of the provisional articles, drawn up at the 1954 session, in the light of comments received from governments earlier this year. It also drafted new articles on questions previously postponed, concerning the breadth of the territorial sea, bays, groups of islands and the delimitation of the territorial sea at the mouths of rivers. These articles are being submitted to governments for comments before final consideration of the draft at the Commission's eighth session. (The draft articles are on pages 40-56.)

In pursuance of General Assembly Resolution 899 (IX), the International Law Commission will submit a final report on both of these topics -- Regime of the High Seas and Regime of the Territorial Sea -- and all related problems to the eleventh session of the Assembly.

Other action

The Commission drafted for consideration of the General Assembly an amendment to Article 12 of the Statute to provide for transferring the Commission's headquarters from New York to Geneva. It also recommended an amendment to Statute Art. 10 providing for future election of ILC members for five (rather than three) years. It decided to begin the study of two topics, "State Responsibility" and "Consular Intercourse and Immunities". Resolutions on publication of documents of the Commission and on collaboration with Inter-American bodies were submitted in the report.

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52. Question of the correction of votes in the General Assembly and its Committees: report of the Secretary-General (resolution 901 (IX) of 14 December 1954)

In resolution 901 (IX), the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit at the tenth session a report (a) on the wording and application of the rules in force in other inter-governmental organizations and in parliaments concerning the announcement of the results of votes and the conditions for corrections and the effects thereof; (b) on possible provisions designed to prevent and correct any mistakes which might occur during the voting procedure in the General Assembly and its committees.

This resolution came about as the result of the Assembly's discussion of an item, proposed by France at the ninth session, concerning a new rule on corrections of vote.

The report of the Secretary-General, which is not yet available, includes a detailed survey of voting practices in national parliaments. The second part of the document is devoted to the problem of correcting votes as it applies to the General Assembly.

53. Arbitral procedure: comments of governments on the draft of arbitral procedure prepared by the International Law Commission (resolution 797 (VIII) of 7 December 1953)

Following completion of the draft convention on arbitral procedure by the International Law Commission at its 1953 session, the General Assembly decided in resolution 797 (VIII) that the said draft should be transmitted, together with the observations made in the Sixth Committee at the eighth Assembly session, to the member states for comments. The resolution also asked the Secretary-General to circulate to member states any comments received from governments and to include the question in the provisional agenda of the tenth session of the Assembly.

As a result, comments on the draft convention on arbitral procedure have been received from thirteen governments: Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Denmark, Greece, India, Netherlands, Sweden, the United Kingdom and Yugoslavia. These replies are reproduced in Doc. A/2399 and Add. 1.

The International Law Commission, at its first session in 1949 selected arbitral procedure as one of the topics of codification of international law. A first draft of the convention was adopted by the Commission at its 1952 session and was transmitted to governments for comment. The present draft convention (contained in A/2456, pages 9-11) includes a number of substantial changes approved by the Commission in 1953 following consideration of governmental comments on the first draft.

In its report which forwarded the present draft convention to the Assembly, the Commission expressed the view that, with regard to the basic features of the law of
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arbitral procedure, the draft is no more than a codification of existing law. According to established practice, the Commission stated, international arbitration is a procedure for the settlement of disputes between states by a binding award on the basis of law and as the result of an undertaking voluntarily accepted. The traditional law is also maintained (in the draft) that the arbitrators chosen should be either freely selected by the parties or, at least, that the parties should have been given the opportunity of a free choice of arbitrators. The same principle of free determination by the parties applies to the competence of the arbitral tribunal, the law to be applied, and the procedure to be followed by the tribunal.

In addition, the Law Commission has pointed out, the present draft proceeds to develop international law with regard to devising machinery calculated to safeguard the effectiveness of the obligation, freely undertaken, to submit to arbitration an existing or future dispute. Without expressly departing from any established rule, the Commission notes it has gone in this respect outside the existing law.

According to the comments now received from governments, some of them have taken the view that the Commission in its draft convention went too far beyond the traditional concept of international arbitration. On the other hand, other governments expressed themselves in favor of the principles laid down in the proposed instrument.

54. Question of the continuation of the United Nations Tribunal in Libya:
report of the Secretary-General (resolution 792 (VIII) of 23 October 1955)

The General Assembly, in its resolution 388 (V) on the economic and financial provisions relating to Libya, set up a United Nations Tribunal in Libya and defined its functions.

At its eighth session, the General Assembly adopted a resolution (792 (VIII)) noting that the governments of Italy and Libya considered that the Tribunal should be continued for a further period. The resolution resolved to continue the Tribunal and requested the Secretary-General, after consultation with the governments concerned regarding the future of the body, to report to the Assembly at its tenth session.

The report has not yet been issued.

Resolution 388 (V), which was adopted on 15 December 1950, established a Tribunal of three persons to be selected by the Secretary-General from three states not directly interested in the administration of Libya. Its functions were: (a) to give to the administering powers, the Libyan Government after its establishment, and the Italian government, on request by any of those authorities, such

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instructions as may be required to give effect to (economic and financial provisions of) resolution 388 (V); (b) to decide all disputes arising between the said authorities concerning the interpretation and application of the resolution. It was specified that the Tribunal was to be seized of any such dispute on the unilateral request of one of those authorities.

55. Registration and publication of treaties and international agreements:
item proposed by the Secretary-General

The Assembly in 1946 adopted rules for the application of Article 102 of the Charter, calling for the registration and publication of every treaty or international agreement entered into by one or more members of the United Nations after 24 October 1945. Because of the increasing number of such treaties with a resulting rise in annual expenditures for publication, the General Assembly in 1950 requested the Secretary-General to continue, as economically as possible, to publish all treaties in their full and unabridged form, provided however that in the reproduction of annexes, he may employ less expensive methods of reproduction.

The attention of the Assembly was again drawn to the problem in 1954 when the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Question pointed out that considerable arrears in printing treaty volumes would be carried over to 1955. At that time the Chairman of the Publications Board informed the Assembly that the Secretariat should have a further year in which to study trends and to determine whether it was advisable to change the speed at which the volumes of the treaty series were published.

A preliminary report on the subject submitting tentative suggestions for reducing the volume of material for inclusion in the treaty series has been considered by the Advisory Committee preliminary to discussion by the tenth session. The detailed comments of the Advisory Committee will be submitted following receipt of the Secretary-General's definitive proposals.

56. Proposal to call a General Conference of the Members of the United Nations for the purpose of reviewing the Charter (Article 109 of the Charter)

Paragraph 3 of article 109 of the Charter provides that "if such a conference has not been held before the tenth annual session of the General Assembly following the coming into force of the present Charter, the proposal to call such a conference shall be placed on the agenda of that session of the General Assembly, and the conference shall be held if so decided by a majority vote of the members of the General Assembly and by a vote of any seven members of the Security Council." In accordance with this, the item has been placed on the provisional agenda.

In 1953 the Assembly asked the Secretary-General to prepare certain documentation to facilitate consideration of the question of calling a general conference. A note by the Secretary-General (Doc. A/2919) lists documentation already prepared,
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including "The Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs," in five volumes.

Under article 109, any alteration of the Charter recommended by a two-thirds vote of such a general conference "shall take effect when ratified in accordance with their respective constitutional processes by two-thirds of the members of the United Nations including all the permanent members of the Security Council."

57. Personnel Questions: item proposed by the Secretary-General

The General Assembly in 1954 requested the International Civil Service Advisory Board to consider appropriate measures for providing children of staff members with special facilities for the study of their mother tongue in cases where they are obliged to attend local schools in which instruction is given in another language.

In preparing a report to the tenth session on the staff regulations, the Secretary-General was asked to give special consideration to the question whether measures should be taken to make a larger number of staff members eligible for the education grant.

The report of the Secretary-General has not yet been issued.

58. Application of the Federal Republic of Germany for membership in the International Civil Aviation Organization: item proposed by the Secretary-General

In accordance with article II of the Agreement between the UN and the International Civil Aviation Organization, an application from the government of the Federal Republic of Germany for admission to participation in the Convention on International Civil Aviation was transmitted to the Secretary-General for presentation to the General Assembly. The application was approved by the ninth session of the ICAO Assembly, subject to the approval of the General Assembly.

The Secretary-General points out in his explanatory memorandum (Doc. A/2912) that the General Assembly at earlier sessions had decided to inform ICAO that it had no objection to the admission to the specialized agency of other non-members of the United Nations, namely, Italy, Austria and Japan.

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SUPPLEMENTARY LIST OF ITEMS

1. Application, under the auspices of the United Nations, of the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples in the case of the population of Cyprus: item proposed by Greece

Greece first brought this item to the General Assembly last year, referring in its explanatory memorandum to "the repeatedly and solemnly expressed will of the overwhelming majority of the people of Cyprus for union with Greece, which they regard as their mother-country." The Greek government said it was requesting that the people of Cyprus "be allowed to express themselves on their future."

The Assembly considered the item and then adopted a resolution, reading in part: "The General Assembly, considering that, for the time being, it does not appear appropriate to adopt a resolution on the question of Cyprus, decides not to consider further the item ..."

Greece has again requested inscription of the item in the agenda of the tenth session of the Assembly (Doc. A/2920).

2. The question of Morocco: item proposed by Afghanistan, Burma, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Liberia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Thailand and Yemen

In their explanatory memorandum (Doc. A/2923 and Add.1), the fifteen delegations declare that "for many years the Moroccan people, under French rule, have been deprived of basic rights of self-determination," and that the attempt to maintain by force a regime contrary to the wishes of the people of Morocco has led to "a steadily increasing threat to peace."

The Moroccan item has been before the General Assembly since its seventh session in 1952. At its ninth session in 1954, the Assembly passed a resolution (812 (IX)) which noted that "some delegations declared that negotiations between France and Morocco will be initiated regarding this question," and expressed confidence that a satisfactory solution would be achieved. For this reason, the Assembly decided "to postpone for the time being further consideration of the item." This resolution was adopted by 55 votes in favor, none against with 4 abstentions.

3. The question of Algeria: item proposed by Afghanistan, Burma, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Thailand and Yemen

The explanatory memorandum (Doc. A/2924 and Add.1) of the 14 sponsoring delegations claim that the situation in Algeria is deteriorating and that this had

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become "a cause for growing concern."

The people of Algeria, the memorandum goes on to say, could not be said to have exercised their right to self-determination as envisaged in the UN Charter. Matters in Algeria had now reached the point, the memorandum charges, in which the only method of affirming France's presence in Algeria is by show of force.

The continuance of this situation, the 14 delegations declare, "is creating a serious threat to peace in the Mediterranean area."

4. Coordination of information relating to the effects of atomic radiation upon human health and safety: item proposed by the United States

In an explanatory memorandum (Doc. A/2931) the United States said it would propose that the tenth General Assembly "take steps to establish procedures for the receipt and assembly of radiological information collected by the various states and the results of their studies of radiation effects upon human health and safety."

5. The question of West Irian (West New Guinea): item proposed by Afghanistan, Burma, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Liberia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Thailand and Yemen

This item was first brought before the Assembly at its ninth session in 1954 by Indonesia. Indonesia declared at the time that "the claim that the Netherlands government now has sovereignty over West Irian cannot be accepted inasmuch as the Charter of the Transfer of Sovereignty has 'unconditionally' transferred complete sovereignty over Indonesia -- the former Dutch East Indies -- from the Netherlands to the new Indonesian Republic."

A resolution on this item, adopted in the First Committee by 34 votes in favor, 14 against with 10 abstentions, failed to receive the necessary two-thirds majority in the Assembly on 10 December 1954, and was therefore considered to have been rejected. This resolution, after expressing hope that Indonesia and the Netherlands "will pursue their endeavors" to find a solution to the dispute "in conformity with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations," requested the parties to report progress to the tenth session of the Assembly.

In their explanatory memorandum (Doc. A/2932), the 15 delegations who now request the placing of this item on the agenda of the tenth session declare the fact "that West Irian was legally and even constitutionally a part of the territory of the Netherlands East Indies -- now called Indonesia -- is ... undeniable ..." The Netherlands government, they charge, has turned a "deaf ear" to "earnest and reasonable" appeals made in the interests of peace. The situation in West Irian, they claim, has remained virtually unchanged. Netherlands colonial rule over the territory had become even more evident.

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The sponsors of the item declare that they feel it therefore only appropriate to bring this question before the Assembly "with a view to bringing both parties concerned together in resumed negotiations for a peaceful solution of this serious political dispute."

6. Progress in developing international cooperation for the peaceful uses of atomic energy; reports of Governments: item proposed by the United States

The ninth Assembly, in unanimously adopting its resolution on international cooperation in developing the peaceful uses of atomic energy, expressed the hope that the International Atomic Energy Agency, envisaged by President Eisenhower in his address of 8 December 1953 to the General Assembly, would be established without delay. The resolution (810 A (IX)) also suggested that members of the United Nations be informed on the progress achieved in the establishment of the Agency.

In its explanatory memorandum (Doc. A/2938) on the item submitted for the tenth session, the US delegation notes that "during the past year historic steps have been taken to promote the peaceful uses of atomic energy for the benefit of all mankind."

"Significant progress," the memorandum declares, has also been made toward the establishment of an International Atomic Energy Agency. In recognition of the interest demonstrated by the General Assembly in this field, the US memorandum says, the United States believes that member states would appreciate the opportunity to be further informed of new developments.

7. Establishment and maintenance of a United Nations Memorial Cemetery in Korea: item proposed by Australia, Belgium, Canada, Colombia, Ethiopia, France, Greece, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the Philippines, the Union of South Africa, Thailand, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States

In an explanatory memorandum (Doc. A/2939), the 15 delegations note that the graves of nearly 2,000 men who served with forces which fought under the United Nations Command are in a cemetery at Tanggok, near Pusan, in the Republic of Korea.

The memorandum includes a suggested draft resolution, for the cemetery to be "established and maintained as a United Nations Memorial Cemetery in honor of the dead."

8. The question of the safety of commercial aircraft flying in the vicinity of, or inadvertently crossing, international frontiers: item proposed by Israel

In an explanatory memorandum (Doc. A/2940), Israel notes that in recent years a number of commercial aircraft "innocently deviating from fixed flight plans in the vicinity of or across international frontiers" have been shot down, resulting in serious loss of life and causing grave international friction.

The memorandum suggests a study of this question by the Secretary-General, in consultation with the specialized agencies concerned and any other body he may deem appropriate, with the Secretary-General to report his findings and recommendations to the eleventh Regular Session of the General Assembly.

9. (a) Reports of the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission in Korea, and
(b) Problem of ex-prisoners of the Korean war: items proposed by India

The request for inscription of these items stated that the Government of India intended to suggest, at the appropriate meeting of the General Committee, that these items be included as sub-items of Item 19, The Korean Question (Doc. A/2941).

10. Advisory services in the field of human rights (Economic and Social Council resolution 586 (XX) of 29 July 1955)

Last July, the Economic and Social Council decided to recommend to the General Assembly the adoption of a resolution on technical assistance to aid member states in furthering the effective observance of human rights.

Technical assistance activities relating to the promotion of women's rights, freedom of information, and prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities are already authorized under earlier General Assembly resolutions. Now the Council has proposed that these activities be consolidated with a new "broad program of assistance in the field of human rights", to be known as "Advisory Services in the Field of Human Rights."

Provided that no adequate assistance is available through a specialized agency, the Secretary-General would be authorized, at the request of governments, to render assistance "in any subject in the field of human rights", by providing services of experts, fellowships and scholarships and by organizing seminars.

Under the proposed resolution, the Secretary-General would be asked to take the new program into account when preparing the budgetary estimates of the United Nations.

11. Draft convention on the nationality of married women (Economic and Social Council resolution 587 (XX) of 3 August 1955)

By a vote of 17 in favor to 1 against (United States), the Economic and Social Council last August recommended that the General Assembly adopt an international convention on the nationality of married women. At the same time, the Council submitted to the Assembly for its consideration a draft convention prepared by the Commission on the Status of Women.

For several years the Commission has been concerned over the hardships of women who by marrying or divorcing a man of another nationality may, through conflicts of laws, find themselves stateless, aliens in their own country, or having two nationalities.

Last April, the Commission approved the substance of a draft convention, based on a text originally proposed by Cuba, which provides that a wife's nationality need not depend automatically on her husband's or be affected by a change in his nationality. This means that a woman would not lose her own nationality
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automatically when marrying an alien, nor would she be compelled to acquire his nationality against her will. However, the wife would be permitted to acquire her husband's nationality through special naturalization procedures, if she wished, subject to limitations "in the interests of national security and public policy." At the same time, the situation would not be altered in countries where an alien wife may, as a matter of right, acquire her husband's nationality.

In addition to the substantive articles which had been approved by the Commission, the Commission referred to the Council proposed final clauses. The Council felt that the detailed examination of all the articles should be left to the Assembly.

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