

COMMITTEE I

SUB-COMMITTEE ON RULES OF PROCEDURE
CONCERNING LANGUAGES

The Secretariat submits the following Working Paper for consideration by the sub-committee, setting forth:

A. LANGUAGE RULES

adopted at San Francisco by the Steering Committee to the United Nations Conference

B. LANGUAGE RULES

proposed in the report of the Executive Committee to the Preparatory Commission

C. DRAFT RULES

prepared by the Secretariat for the sub-committee.

Rule 1

In meetings of the General Assembly, speeches can be delivered in any of the five Charter languages.* They will be interpreted by Secretariat interpreters as indicated below:

- (a) A speech in English or in French will be interpreted
 - (i) into French or English from the platform
 - (ii) into the other Charter languages by telephone, simultaneously with the first interpretation provided under (i) above;
- (b) A speech delivered in Chinese, Russian or Spanish will be interpreted into English from the platform and into the other Charter languages by telephone, simultaneously with the English interpretation given from the platform.

This provision applies to all meetings held in English speaking countries. Mutatis mutandis, should meetings take place in Chinese, French, Russian or Spanish speaking countries, the interpretation from the platform shall be given in the language of the Country and the others by telephone.

Rule 2

If a Delegate has handed in the text of his speech to the Secretariat in four copies, four hours at least before the meeting at which he is due to speak, if he undertakes to make no change in the speech when he delivers it, and if he so requests, interpretation from the platform may be dispensed with. The four interpretations would then be made by telephone simultaneously with the delivery of the speech.

Rule 3

1. Any Delegate may speak in a language other than Charter languages. In this case, he must himself provide for interpretation into one at least of the Charter languages. If

* Charter languages are the languages in which the Charter was drawn up and signed at San Francisco, i.e. Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

the interpretation provided by such Delegate is in English or in French, it will be delivered from the platform, according to Rule I (a)(i). Interpretations into the other Charter languages will be delivered by telephone according to Rule I (a)(ii). If the interpretation provided by the Delegate is in Chinese, Russian or Spanish, Rule I (b) will be followed.

2. In such case, any interpretations by Secretariat interpreters shall be based on the first interpretation into one of the Charter languages provided by the Speaker, unless Secretariat interpreters available can interpret directly from the original language, or unless the Speaker has furnished written translation of his speech into all or any of the Charter languages, under his own responsibility.

Rule 4

A "master" verbatim record of all speeches shall be made in the language of the original speech. A translation of this record into any other Charter language shall be furnished if requested by any Delegation. If a Delegate speaks in a language other than a Charter language, he will have the choice of the Charter language in which the verbatim record of his speech shall be made.

Rule 5

Mimeographed copies of the "master" verbatim record shall be furnished to Delegations. If, after twenty-four hours from their dispatch, no modification is requested by the Speaker, the record shall be regarded as agreed and final.

Rule 6

The Journal of the General Assembly shall be issued in English and in French. Publication of the Journal in other Charter languages will be undertaken as soon as staff and facilities are available.

Rule 7

All draft resolutions and other important documents to be considered by the General Assembly shall be made available in all five Charter languages. Upon the request of any Delegation, any other document shall also be made available in any or all of these languages.

Rule 8

Documents of the General Assembly shall also, if the General Assembly so decides, be published in any language other than Charter languages.

Rule 9

The same languages rules shall apply to main Committees as well as to plenary meetings. Other Committees or Sub-Committees may adopt simpler rules.
