



Thirteenth session  
Item 49

## RELATIONS WITH INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Report by the Secretary-General

1. The Secretary-General was requested at earlier sessions of the Council, to report on the following inter-governmental organizations:

(a) Central Bureau, International 1:1,000,000 Map of the World

Under the Council's resolution 261 B (IX) the Secretary-General was requested to examine the possibility of the integration or absorption of the Central Bureau, International 1:1,000,000 Map of the World, into the United Nations, in the light of the Council's decision for the co-ordination of cartographic services. The Secretary-General's report on this organization is submitted as Annex I to this document.

(b) Inter-American Organizations

In resolution 286 (X) the Council inter alia noted with satisfaction the progress made by the OAS in integrating and simplifying the structure of the Inter-American system and in developing the relations of the Inter-American organizations with the United Nations and the specialized agencies. It further requested the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Secretary-General of OAS, to provide the Council as appropriate with further information on this subject. This report of the Secretary-General is submitted as Annex II to the present document.

(c) Permanent Committee of International Congresses on Military Medicine and Pharmacy

By resolution 333 B (XI), the Council requested the Secretary-General to report to the 13th session on the feasibility of closer relations between the Permanent Committee and the Council for Co-ordination of International Congresses of Medical Sciences. This report is submitted

/as Annex III  
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as Annex III to this document.

2. The Council, in its resolutions 333 A, B, D, E and F (XI), further requested that in the next reports of UNESCO, WHO and FAO to the Council, accounts of consultations on relationships with certain inter-governmental organizations should be included as follows:

(a) UNESCO as regards the International Union for the Protection of the Rights of Authors and their Literary and Artistic Works;

(b) WHO as regards the Permanent Committee of International Congresses on Military Medicine and Pharmacy;

(c) FAO as regards the International Office of Epizootics, the International Seed-Testing Association and the International Commission for the Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean Sea.

3. The 1951 edition of the List of Inter-Governmental Organizations in the Economic and Social Fields, which the Secretary-General was requested in resolution 262 (IX) to submit periodically to the Council, is contained in document E/1999.

4. With reference to the various inter-governmental commodity study groups listed in section VI of the List of Inter-Governmental Organizations, attention is called to the report by the Secretary-General in connexion with the item on the Council's agenda concerning the "appropriate procedures for convening study groups and international commodity conferences" (E/ ). In this report certain observations have been made concerning the problem of the future status of these study groups.

5.- It will be noted that under resolution 283 (X) Member Governments are requested to report not later than October 1951 on the steps which have been taken by them to implement recommendations of the Council on economic and social matters. The Secretary-General suggests that the implementation of the Council's recommendations concerning the termination, integration or absorption of certain inter-governmental organizations might best be reviewed at the summer session of the Council in 1952.

/RELATIONS

RELATIONS WITH INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Report by the Secretary-General

ANNEX I

CENTRAL BUREAU OF ONE-MILLIONTH MAP OF THE WORLD

A. INTRODUCTION

1. At its Ninth Session, the Economic and Social Council considered the Report of the Secretary-General on relations with Inter-Governmental Organizations (E/1318, E/1318/Add.1) prepared in accordance with the Council's Resolution 171 (VII). The following Resolution [261 B (IX)]<sup>1</sup>, relating to the Central Bureau, International One-Millionth Map of the World, was adopted by the Council on 27 August 1949:

"The Economic and Social Council,

"Having noted that a number of States have expressed views in favour of the absorption or integration of the Central Bureau, International One-Millionth Map of the World into the United Nations,

"Requests the Secretary-General to examine the possibility of such absorption or integration in the light of the Council's decisions on the co-ordination of cartographic services."

2. In pursuance of this Resolution, the Secretariat has consulted with the Central Bureau. The present summary of the activities and organization of that Bureau is based to a great extent on information transmitted by its President.<sup>1/</sup>

B. FUNCTIONS AND ORGANIZATION OF THE CENTRAL BUREAU, INTERNATIONAL ONE-MILLIONTH MAP OF THE WORLD

3. The essential functions of the Bureau are to serve as a liaison between governments for the exchange of information and to assist them in co-ordinating the publication of maps on the scale of 1-to-1 million, using established standards of symbols, conventional signs, sheet lines, etc. The actual production of maps is the responsibility of the governments concerned. The Bureau disseminates information and processes requests for cartographic material. It has no other technical or executive functions.

4. The uniform standards to be used in the production of 1-to-1 million maps

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<sup>1/</sup> The communication from the Central Bureau is attached to this Annex.

/were established

were established and reviewed at international conferences. The latest conference was held in 1928 at which virtually all resolutions adopted by the two previous conferences were confirmed (1909, 1913). The two progress reports issued by the Central Bureau for 1938 and 1939-48 show that 360 sheets of one-millionth maps have been published by various governments. The index map for the International One-Millionth Map of the World contained in the "Catalogue des cartes en service" published in 1949 by the "Institut géographique national" (France) indicates that:

247 sheets of maps have been issued in final edition (These conform with the specifications of the Resolutions adopted in 1913);

134 sheets of maps had been issued in provisional edition up to 1940;

233 additional sheets of maps were issued in provisional edition during the period 1940-45.

The statistics given by the "Institut géographique national" report a larger total number of sheets of maps issued than indicated by the reports of the Central Bureau. Even accepting the figure given by the former, at least 200 sheets of maps are still needed to complete the coverage of the five continents and important islands. It should be pointed out also that many of the published maps are no longer up-to-date and therefore need to be revised.

5. According to information received, 18 of the 39 adhering countries, namely Australia, Canada, Denmark, Eire, Finland, France, Indo-China, Germany, Greece, India, Italy, Norway, Pakistan, Portugal, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America have been in contact with the Bureau. No information has been received by the Bureau since 1939 from the other 21 adhering countries.

6. The staff of the Central Bureau is composed of three members, none of whom is employed on a permanent basis. The Director-General of the Ordnance Survey of the British Government has been the President of the Bureau since its establishment. A secretary and a clerk are appointed by him from his staff to give part time assistance to the Bureau.

7. The Central Bureau is maintained by an annual subscription of £10 from each Member Government. The subscriptions have been irregular and few in recent years.

8. The technical material accumulated by the Bureau consists of International maps and reports. Most of these were destroyed during the Second World War and

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it will be necessary to rebuild the technical collection with the addition of up-to-date documents.

C. UNITED NATIONS ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF CARTOGRAPHY

9. In February 1949, the Economic and Social Council adopted Resolution 131 (VI) by which the Governments of Member States were invited to stimulate the accurate survey and mapping of their national territories, and the Secretary-General was requested to take appropriate action to further such efforts by promoting the exchange of technical information and by other means including the development of uniform international standards. Furthermore, by Resolution 261 A (IX), the Secretary-General was instructed to consult with governments concerning the calling of regional meetings of governmental representatives in the field of cartography, to establish a United Nations Cartographic Office which would assume the function of an international clearing house, to constitute a panel of consultants, who would be experts in the various fields of cartography and on whom the Cartographic Office might call individually for counsel on specific problems, and to publish periodical summaries on cartography that would constitute a report on the activities, progress and plans in this field.

10. The necessary budget for the establishment of the above-mentioned Cartographic Office was approved by the General Assembly at its fifth session and a unit was set up in the Department of Social Affairs to undertake the work. Consultations with governments on regional cartographic meetings are under way and most of the replies, so far received are in favour of calling such meetings. A provisional list for a panel of experts has been constituted on the basis of specific recommendations of member and non-member governments. The first issue of the periodical summaries on cartography has been prepared under the title of "International Cartography" and will be ready for distribution during the summer of 1951.

D. CONCLUSIONS

11. In discharging its duties, the United Nations Cartographic Office will have to keep in constant and close relation with the competent governmental agencies and national and international organizations. The preparation of the regional meetings on cartography contemplated by the Council will afford the Cartographic

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Office an opportunity for studying periodically with government authorities cartographic problems of an international nature. Furthermore, one of the aspects of the programme of co-ordination of cartographic services envisaged by the Economic and Social Council involves the stimulation of the publication, on a more regular basis than heretofore, of international series of maps. If so desired, the liaison and co-ordination work that has been carried out so far by the Central Bureau in respect of the One-Millionth Map could be assumed by the United Nations Cartographic Office, without the necessity of additional budgetary provision.

12. Since the Central Bureau is an independent inter-governmental organization, the transfer of its functions to the United Nations would require the approval of its Members. Should the Council feel that such transfer were desirable, it would be necessary for it to recommend to the governments members of the Central Bureau that they take appropriate action.

COMMUNICATION RECEIVED FROM THE CENTRAL BUREAU

ONE-MILLIONTH INTERNATIONAL MAP OF THE WORLD

(22 December 1949)

"Thank you for your letter SCA 168/1/03/TIT of the 18th October to which I am replying in my capacity as President of the Central Bureau 1/1 Million International Map of the World.

"If the International 1/1 Million Map of the World is to be continued, and it seems to be much to the advantages of the nations concerned in it that it should, then I consider it essential that the functions of the Central Bureau for the International 1/1 Million Map should continue to be performed by some means. The maps are produced nationally, and in consequence a central body is needed, if only to disseminate information, process requests for cartographic material and take such executive international action as may be necessary from time to time.

"Should your examination of the problem show that absorption or integration of the Bureau into the United Nations is possible, it would seem necessary to consult the Governments adhering to the convention, some of which are, I understand, not members of the United Nations, so that their agreement to the transfer of the Central Bureau may be obtained. In order that these Governments may have the proper data upon which to reach a decision and may be not unfavourably disposed towards the proposition, I would like to be able to give them sufficient information about the way in which the Secretary-General of the United Nations proposes that the tasks of the Bureau shall be carried out in future. Would you be so kind, when you have reached your conclusions about this, as to provide me with a short statement of the way in which it is intended to continue the work of the Central Bureau. It would also seem advisable for you to send me at the appropriate time a formal request to hand over the Central Bureau so that I may invite the member nations of the International 1/1 Million Map of the World to give me their formal instructions.

"I think the most practical way of handing over the Central Bureau to the United Nations would be for a representative of the United Nations to come to this Office, look over the records, documents and assets, and then to decide what he wishes transferred and how he would like the transference made. It may be that you have representatives in Europe who could act for you. I do not

/anticipate

anticipate that any elaborate hand-over will be necessary or that it will take very long.

"The specific information you ask for in your letter is as follows:

"(a) The Bureau has no need to deal direct with any International Organisations. It deals direct with the responsible authorities appointed for the purpose by each of the adhering Nations. Details of the Nations that adhere and the responsible authorities (many of which are, of course, represented on various international bodies) are contained in the report attached at Appendix A.\* The nature of the Central Bureau's co-operation with these authorities is that of servant for the purpose of co-ordinating the publication by Member States of the International 1/1 Million Map of the World.

"(b) The staff working at the Central Bureau in the period of maximum activity has always been three. They have been able to give only a proportion of their time to the work of the Bureau. The Director General of the Ordnance Survey has always been the President of the Bureau and he has appointed one officer of his staff as secretary and one clerical officer of his staff as clerk to the Bureau.

"(c) The technical material now in the possession of the Bureau consists of copies of sheets of the International 1/1 Million Map and some copies of reports of the Central Bureau and other relevant reports. A detail list is attached at Appendix B.\* The material destroyed during the war consisted of International 1/1 Million Maps and reports, but the exact details are not known.

"(d) The work of the Bureau is one of co-ordinating the work of various national organisations that make maps, so that your question (d) is not applicable. I give you, however, at Appendix C\* the names of the Presidents, Secretaries and clerks of the Bureau since its inception in 1913.

... "I am also enclosing at Appendix D for your information a summary of the history of the International 1/1 Million Map from 1909 to 1949."

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\* Appendices A, B and C have not been reproduced in this document.



## Appendix D

### History of the International 1/1,000,000 Map

#### Origins of the International Map

The International Map Committee assembled in London in November 1909, having been appointed by their respective Governments to record the system on which the International Map of the World, on the scale of 1/M, should be produced. They submitted a number of resolutions, which were published by H.M.S.O. in February 1910 in a paper entitled "Resolutions and Proceedings of the International Map Committee, November 1909".

A Second International Conference was held in Paris in December 1913, the proceedings of which are published in a booklet entitled "Carte du Monde au Millionieme Comptes Rendus des Séances de la Deuxieme Conference Internationale", published in 1914. This Conference reviewed the previous resolutions and produced a new set of resolutions specifying the uniform symbols, conventional signs and sheet lines to be adopted by all nations for use on the International Map.

#### The setting up of the Central Bureau and its duties

It was at this 1913 Conference that the Central Bureau was approved, its main function being to serve as a liaison between Governments for the exchange of information, and to assist them in co-ordinating publication of the maps in a standardised form.

It should be noted that the Central Bureau has no technical functions or executive functions.

#### The 1928 Conference

A conference on the Carte du Monde met in London in July 1928 to answer questions relating to the International Map raised in the Geographical Congress of Cairo in 1925, and to discuss any other matters affecting the resolutions governing the production of the Map. The meeting confirmed virtually all the resolutions made in 1909 and 1913. The only alterations made were for the purpose of stricter and clearer definition or of expanding certain resolutions to meet modern conditions.

The full Report of the Commission is contained in the 1928 Report of the Central Bureau.

/Period 1928 - 1948

Period 1928 - 1948

No further changes have been made to the resolutions governing the production of the Map, and they are now badly in need of review to meet modern conditions.

International Geographical Congress - Lisbon 1949

At the International Geographical Congress held in Lisbon in 1949 a resolution was passed proposing the establishment of a Population Map of the World at a scale of 1/M, and a second resolution was passed supporting the proposition that the International 1/M Map be reviewed in conjunction with other mapping at this scale, with special reference to the need for a 1/M base map for a variety of Geographical overprints such as population and plant ecology. Subsequently, in the general assembly of the Union a new Commission was formed to make this review.

The Report of this Commission will have to include resolutions designed to

- (a) avoid duplication, if possible, with other 1/M mapping such as the International Aeronautical maps produced by ICAO,
- (b) make the design of the International 1/M suitable for the provision of base maps for other Geographical overprints in many colours, and
- (c) re-organize the Central Bureau so as to ensure close liaison with the United Nations on cartographic matters.

The Work of the Central Bureau

During the 1914-1918 war work was kept going on the 1/M International Map in some countries which were not affected by the war, but in some cases the work was found to be not in strict conformity with the specification.

In many countries the work was naturally brought to a standstill. The Central Bureau had little knowledge of what was happening until the close of hostilities. In December 1919 a circular letter was sent to all concerned, asking them to give the Central Bureau information on any progress. It proved to be a matter of some difficulty to get into touch with all, and a further circular was sent out in October 1920, the last reply being received in March 1921.

The project was only starting to function when the war broke out in 1914, so it was not until 1921 that the first Annual Report was published. This reprinted the resolutions of the 1909 Conference as amended by the 1913 Conference.

From then on, Reports were published annually until that for the year 1938,

/The 1938 Report

The 1938 Report included a statement on the present state of the International Map by Major Sanceau, who was then Secretary of the Central Bureau.

The offices of the Central Bureau at Southampton, with their contents including the whole collection of the International 1/M Maps, were destroyed during the Second World War of 1939-45.

The Central Bureau is now situated in the Ordnance Survey Office, Leatherhead Road, Chessington, Surrey.

A very short Report for the period 1939-48 was issued by the Central Bureau. In this, the President asked for information in order to bring his records up to date, but there are still a number of countries from whom information has not yet been received.

Regarding the financial side, only a very few subscriptions were received during the 1914-18 war, and by the 31st March, 1923 only £173 had been received. In a few cases only, countries paid back-subscriptions from 1914.

Up to the outbreak of the 1939 war countries whose subscriptions were outstanding were continually being reminded, but since then no action has been taken in this respect. The subscription up to 1928 was 160 francs or £6 sterling, but in 1928 this was raised to £10 sterling or its equivalent. Diplomatic action was taken through the Foreign Office to obtain adherence from various countries to the increased subscription.

The number of countries which had formally adhered to the projects of the Carte du Monde au Millionieme is 41, and none of these has resigned its membership, though many are in arrears with their subscriptions.

The adherence to the project of the Carte du Monde comprises no more than that the various Sovereign States thus adhering agree to produce or assist in the production of a map of their territories at a scale of 1/M in a particular style, the specification of which has been drawn up by delegates of the various countries concerned in specially convened Congresses, and imparted in resolutions universally passed at those Congresses.

The production of the map does not proceed according to any formal programme. It is entirely within the discretion of the adhering countries to decide whether any production will be undertaken and what sheets will be done first. It is however, the normal practice for countries to report their intentions to the Bureau, especially when the sheets they contemplate producing contain parts of adjoining territories. In such cases the Bureau arranges with the same adjoining countries to supply to the producing country the necessary information in a suitable form.

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## RELATIONS WITH INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

### Report by the Secretary-General

#### Annex II

#### INTER-AMERICAN SPECIALIZED ORGANIZATIONS

1. In accordance with ECOSOC resolution 262 P (IX), the Secretary-General undertook discussions with the Secretary-General of the Organization of American States (OAS) on the future status of twelve\* inter-American organizations including the establishment of possible relationships with the United Nations or the specialized agencies.
2. The Secretary-General's report to the tenth session of the Council is contained in document E/1574/Annex II of 11 January 1950. The Council then adopted resolution 286 (X) which, inter alia "noted with satisfaction the progress made by the OAS in integrating and simplifying the structure of the inter-American system and in developing the relations of the inter-American organizations with the United Nations and the specialized agencies". In the same resolution, the Council requested the Secretary-General "in consultation with the Secretary-General of the OAS, to provide the Council, as appropriate, with further information on this subject."
3. The Secretary-General, after consultation with the Secretary-General of OAS, proposes to include in the present report:
  - (a) an account of developments since January 1950; and
  - (b) a summary of the present status of inter-American organizations.
- (a) Developments since January 1950
4. The Committee on Inter-American Organizations which was created by the Council of OAS in 1948 on an ad hoc basis to "make a complete survey of the status and activities of the existing Inter-American organizations ... and to set up a register of inter-American specialized organizations" has now been given the status of a permanent committee of the Council. The Committee has undertaken studies of all but one of the thirteen inter-American organizations considered by ECOSOC.

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\* To these twelve organizations the Council added at its eleventh session the Inter-American Commission of Women.

5. The draft Agreement between the Inter-American Indian Institute and the Council of OAS, by which the Institute would be included in the Register of Inter-American Specialized Organizations, has not yet been ratified by the Institute, since only seven out of its fourteen Member governments have so far approved it.
6. The Pan-American Sanitary Organization has been recognized as an Inter-American Specialized Organization and its status as the regional organization of WHO has been accepted by the OAS.
7. The Pan-American Railway Committee, which has long been inactive, has been pronounced defunct and its functions have been given to the semi-governmental Pan-American Railway Congress Association.
8. The OAS, through the representative of Cuba, is consulting the members of the Inter-American Radio Office regarding the future status of that office.
9. The Pan-American Aeronautical Commission, which has never met, has been formally declared non-existent.
10. The Council of OAS has recognized the Inter-American Commission of Women as an inter-American specialized organization. The relevant draft agreement has been approved by the OAS and is awaiting formal approval by the Commission.
11. The Nutrition Institute of Central America and Panama has not yet been the object of any study by the OAS because its limited regional character does not entitle it to be classified as a "Specialized Inter-American Organization".

(b) Summary of the present status of Inter-American Organizations

12. The Council of OAS has recognized the following organizations for inclusion in its "Register of Inter-American Specialized Organizations":

Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences

Pan-American Institute of Geography and History

American International Institute for the Protection of Childhood

Pan-American Sanitary Organization

Inter-American Commission of Women.

13. Negotiations are being conducted with a view to according similar recognition to the following:

Inter-American Indian Institute.

/14. The following

14. The following have ceased to be independent organizations:  
The Inter-American Juridical Committee (which has become the  
Permanent Committee of the Inter-American Council of Jurists)  
Pan-American Railway Committee (whose functions have been transferred  
to the Pan-American Railway Congress Association).
15. The Council of OAS has declared the following non-existent:  
Inter-American Trade-Mark Bureau  
Central Pan-American Bureau of Eugenics and Homiculture  
Pan-American Aeronautical Commission.
16. The Committee on Inter-American Organizations has not yet completed its  
studies on the following:  
Inter-American Radio Office.

Relations with Inter-Governmental Organizations

Report by the Secretary-General

ANNEX III

PERMANENT COMMITTEE OF INTERNATIONAL CONGRESSES  
ON MILITARY MEDICINE AND PHARMACY

1. In its resolution 333 B (XI) the Council requested the Secretary-General to submit a report to the 13th session of the Council on the feasibility of closer relations between the Permanent Committee of International Congresses on Military Medicine and Pharmacy and the Council for Co-ordination of International Congresses of Medical Sciences (CCICMS).
2. A brief description of the Permanent Committee may be found in the List of Inter-Governmental Organizations in the Economic and Social Fields (E/1999). Similarly, the purposes and functions of the CCICMS have been described in the report of the Secretary-General to the 11th session of the Council on this subject (E/1686, Annex II).
3. In his previous report, the Secretary-General, in line with the suggestion of the Director-General of WHO, recommended that "consideration be given to the possibility of closer relations being developed between the bodies concerned through the CCICMS which is jointly sponsored by UNESCO and WHO". At that time it was noted that the Permanent Committee of International Congresses on Military Medicine and Pharmacy had participated in the Constituent Assembly which established the CCICMS and was eligible for membership in this Council. Since then, the Permanent Committee has ratified the statute of the CCICMS becoming a member of the CCICMS as of 31 October 1950.
4. The CCICMS has now granted the forthcoming International Congress on Military Medicine and Pharmacy a subsidy of \$1,900, to cover part of the congress expenses.
5. In the Council's resolution 333 B (XI) the World Health Organization was also invited to report at the 13th session on any progress made in the establishment of official relations between WHO and the Permanent Committee. The Secretary-General has been informed by the Director-General of WHO that the WHO Executive Board has decided to postpone consideration of this matter until after the next International Congress of Military Medicine and Pharmacy at Vichy on 23-25 June 1951, at which time the status of that organization is expected to be clarified.

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