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INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

RELATIONS WITH INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Report by the Secretary-General

1. The Council, at its 13th session, acting on the recommendation of its Co-ordination Committee (E/2117), requested the following reports:

- (a) International Seed-Testing Association: a further report from FAO on its relations with the Association; 1952
- (b) International Commission for the Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean Sea: a further report from FAO;
- (c) International Committee for Colorado Beetle Control: a further report by the Secretary-General concerning the establishment of a formal inter-governmental plant protection organization in Europe, which is to supersede the International Committee;
- (d) International Central Bureau for the Control of the Liquor Traffic in Africa: further information from the Belgian Government concerning the result of its consultations with the other governments concerned;
- (e) International Conference for Technical Uniformity on Railways: a further report from the Economic Commission for Europe, through the Secretary-General, on progress made in its studies relating to the future status of this organization;
- (f) Danube Commission: a further report from the Secretary-General concerning its status;

- (g) International Union for the Publication of Customs Tariffs:
a further report from the Secretary-General concerning the possible relationships between the Union and the GATT;
- (h) Inter-American Indian Institute, and Inter-American Radio Office: further reports by the Secretary-General on the status of these two organizations.
2. The reports of FAO and of the Secretary-General on the above organizations are submitted respectively as Annex I and Annex II.
3. Under Council resolution 412 A.I (XIII), the Council urged that every effort be made by all governments concerned to find a formula acceptable to both the International Office of Epizootics and FAO with a view to establishing a single, effective international system for the collection and dissemination of information and for the co-ordination of activities for the control of animal diseases. The Director-General of FAO would, in the normal course of events, be including in his annual report to the Council at its sixteenth session a section on developments in this matter. Since the Council's consideration of this matter has been advanced to its fifteenth session, the Director-General has submitted a progress report, which has now been included in Annex I.
4. Under Council resolution 412 A.II (XIII), the Secretary-General was called upon to effect, in collaboration with the President of the Central Bureau of the International Map of the World on the Millionth Scale, the transfer of the records, documents, maps and assets of the Central Bureau to the United Nations Cartographic Office at the earliest possible date, and to report the action taken thereon to an early session of the Council. A report by the Secretary-General on this matter is submitted as Annex III to this document.

INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

ANNEX I

Report by FAO on relations with certain inter-governmental organizations

The following report has been received from the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization.

(1) International Seed Testing Association (ISTA)

The question of FAO's relations with the International Seed Testing Association was raised for the first time in 1946 at a meeting of the Emergency Economic Committee for Europe (EECE) in Copenhagen, when a resolution was passed including the following paragraph:

"The sub-committee on seeds of EECE recognizes a common interest between ISTA and FAO. Accordingly it is the hope of this sub-committee that arrangements may be worked out whereby the work of ISTA and of FAO may be discussed between them and co-ordinated into a close association".

This matter was again raised in 1948 at an ISTA meeting in Gothenburg, Sweden, by the United States Government in its letter of invitation to hold the Ninth International Seed Testing Congress at Washington in 1950. The letter expressed the view that, because of the lapse of time since the last meeting of ISTA, it would seem desirable to set up a committee to examine the internal structure of the association and make recommendations with a view to making its activities more effective and, in this connexion, explore the possibilities of the future relationship of the association to FAO. Such a committee was appointed, and at its first meeting held at Belfast in 1949, a new constitution was drafted for the consideration of the General Assembly of ISTA at Washington in 1950.

At the Washington meeting the following resolution was adopted:

"The General Assembly of the International Seed Testing Association, considering the interest of Governments in the work

of the Association and noting that recommendations for international action in the field of agriculture are channelled by governments through FAO, -

- (i) suggests to the countries participating in the work of ISTA/that they examine the possibilities of a close co-operation between ISTA and FAO, including the possibility of ISTA eventually becoming a technical commission of FAO;
- (ii) requests the President of ISTA, or a member of the Association designated by him, to consult with the Director-General of FAO with a view to developing methods of collaboration between ISTA and FAO;
- (iii) directs the Secretary-General of the General Assembly of ISTA to circulate this resolution and the documentation pertaining thereto to all governments participating in the work of ISTA and to the Director-General of FAO".

In implementation of this resolution, ISTA and FAO each appointed a representative to discuss ways and means of establishing closer co-operation between the two organizations, and an informal understanding was reached, acceptable to both organizations, which now forms the basis for relations between them: -

"(1) Collaboration: It is proposed that there be collaboration on technical matters between ISTA and FAO through committee chairmen or officers of ISTA acting as liaison officers for ISTA to make direct contact with the seed specialists of FAO;

(2) Nomenclature: It is proposed that the committee on nomenclature of ISTA collaborate with FAO in an effort to effect greater uniformity and a better understanding of the common and scientific names used for species of crops and weeds throughout the world;

- (3) Technical Assistance: FAO is carrying on a programme of providing technical assistance to under-developed countries. ISTA could suggest to FAO where persons from such countries may study to obtain technical training in seed technology. ISTA should also be informed as to which qualified stations would be able to receive persons for such training, and the time when such training could be given most conveniently. Any further necessary detailed arrangements involving entry into the country, visa, and diplomatic arrangements should be made by FAO;
- (4) Plant Quarantine: FAO is carrying out a programme designed to restrict the dissemination of plant diseases. There is a need for co-operation with seed testing stations to carry out that part of the programme which pertains to seed-borne diseases;
- (5) International Certificates: ISTA has sponsored international certificates to accompany seeds in international commerce. The certificates have, in the past, been available through the Secretary of ISTA. No definite decision was made with respect to the future of the ISTA plans pertaining to international certificates, but it was proposed that the certificates be regarded by members, as well as non-member countries, as a model certificate to be used to accompany seeds in international commerce. For the purpose of fostering orderly trading in seeds, it is proposed that all countries engaged in the international commerce in seeds be encouraged by FAO to use international certificates or models thereof;
- (6) Publications: It is proposed that there be a free exchange of publications dealing with seed technology between FAO and ISTA as well as member countries of ISTA and FAO. It is proposed that the Secretary of ISTA be the liaison member for this project". With regard to the question of integration, the position at the ISTA meeting at Washington in 1950 was probably adequately expressed by

the following excerpt of the statement made by the United States representative at that meeting:

"Most of the governments represented here have subscribed to a recent resolution by the United Nations General Assembly at its session last fall on the subject of proliferation of activities. This resolution in turn re-inforced previous action taken by the Economic and Social Council looking toward the termination and integration of certain inter-governmental organizations with the United Nations or the Specialized Agencies. The Economic and Social Council adopted the view that 'the establishment of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies having wide responsibilities in economic, social and related fields made desirable a re-examination by member governments of possible duplication or dispersion of efforts between these organizations and other existing inter-governmental organizations'. No study was made of ISTA because it was not classified as an inter-governmental organization and hence no recommendation has been made regarding it".*

Summary

1. Co-operation: There is a sincere wish for co-operation between the two organizations along the lines of the six-point understanding mentioned above. This co-operation is now facilitated since FAO has a seed specialist on the staff of its Plant Production Branch. Co-operation would probably be enhanced if the FAO seed specialist was recognized as a member ex-officio of the more important technical committees of ISTA so as to be kept informed at all times on progress in the actual work of ISTA.
2. Integration: The question of integration has not been considered since the ISTA meeting at Washington in 1950. During their discussions of ways and means of establishing a closer co-operation between ISTA and FAO, the representatives of the two organizations omitted the question of integration since it was felt to be a matter to be decided by the governments participating in the work of ISTA.

* The Council added ISTA to the list of Inter-Governmental Organizations at its eleventh session in July 1950.

(2) International Commission for the Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean Sea, and General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean

When the possibility of establishing a regional fisheries council for the Mediterranean area was discussed at Rome in 1949, the International Commission for the Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean Sea had not met since 1938 due to World War II and, later on, due to procedure difficulties. On 28 February 1951, on the initiative of the French Government, a meeting of the Commission was convened in Paris. It was then decided that the Commission would resume its activities and would collaborate closely, whenever necessary, with the General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean.

The General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean came into being on 20 February 1952, with the fifth notification of acceptance of the agreement. Since then, the inaugural meeting has been held at Rhodes, Greece, from 21 to 24 July 1952.

It must be pointed out that the scopes of the two organizations differ considerably: while the Commission is a purely scientific body, mostly interested in academic studies, the Council is oriented towards scientific and technical research leading directly to an increase of production. Owing to this fundamental difference, duplication can be avoided.

The election of the Secretary-General of the Commission (Mr. Le Gall, of France) as Chairman of the General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean shows that a close collaboration is already achieved between the two bodies.

(3) International Office of Epizootics

In accordance with Resolution No. 86 of the Sixth Session of the FAO Conference, a Committee of Ten Nations met in Rome, 10 to 13 November 1952, to consider the co-ordination of the work of FAO and the International Office of Epizootics (IOE). The Committee was divided as to the extent of such co-ordination but was unanimous in its recommendation for the adoption of an interim agreement for improved co-operative relationship between FAO and IOE.

The Committee suggested that competent bodies of both organizations should discuss the possibility of IOE becoming a technical branch or commission of the FAO and pointed out that, as such, IOE would cover the interests of governments which are members of the FAO but not members of IOE. Furthermore the Committee recommended that the FAO Council authorize the Director-General to prepare a proposed permanent plan for the organic integration of IOE with FAO for discussion informally with the Director of IOE.

The Committee drafted an Agreement, effective immediately pending approval by the Committee of IOE and the FAO Council, according to which IOE would be primarily responsible for the collection and prompt dissemination of information and statistics on the incidence and spread of livestock diseases throughout the world; study methods for the control of major diseases; and act as a consulting body to FAO. On the other hand, FAO would be responsible for a comprehensive programme for the improvement of livestock production; for assisting member governments in developing programmes for the control of serious diseases; and for arranging with other international organizations for the co-ordination of international activities in the control of animal diseases.

The recommendations made by the Committee were favourably considered and supported by the FAO Council.

ANNEX II

The following reports are submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with the request of the Council at its thirteenth session (E/2117):

(1) The Establishment of a Formal Inter-Governmental Plant Protection Organization In Europe To Supersede the International Committee on Colorado Beetle Control

The following report is submitted to the Council on the basis of information provided by the Director-General of FAO:

The International Committee on Colorado Beetle Control was established on an informal basis in October 1947 upon the recommendation of the First International Conference on the Control of the Colorado Beetle, held at Brussels. During a FAO meeting held in Paris in June 1949, the former European Regional Office of FAO was requested by the Governments concerned to take measures to co-ordinate the activities of the international bodies in the field of plant protection. FAO was then interested in the establishment of a regional plant protection organization in Europe, which would co-operate with FAO in certain of its responsibilities provided for in the proposed international plant protection Convention,* under active consideration at that time. Among the international bodies in the plant protection field then operating in Europe, the International Colorado Beetle Committee appeared to be the one most suited to assume such an over-all responsibility. Accordingly, FAO participated in the Fourth European Colorado Beetle Conference held at Florence in January 1950, when the problem of reorganizing the Committee was discussed. A resolution to this effect was introduced and unanimously adopted, providing for the reconstitution of the Colorado Beetle Committee into a European Plant Protection Organization as an inter-governmental body to deal with problems of regional importance in the field of plant protection.

At the International Conference on Plant Quarantine Regulations, convened jointly by FAO and the Netherlands Government at the Hague in April-May 1950, the desirability of establishing a permanent European Plant

* The International Plant Protection Convention was adopted by the Sixth Session of the FAO Conference in Rome, Nov.-Dec. 1951 and came into force on 3 April 1952.

Protection Organization was again recommended. A draft Convention to this end was given provisional consideration by the European delegations to the Conference. This draft was later distributed by the Netherlands Government to the various European Governments.

The actual transformation of the International Colorado Beetle Committee into the European Plant Protection Organization took effect on 1 July 1950. The Convention establishing this Organization on a formal inter-governmental basis was signed in Paris on 18 April 1951. A summary of information concerning the European Plant Protection Organization is contained in the 1953 edition of the List of Inter-Governmental Organizations in the Economic and Social Fields (E/2361).

The Organization is an autonomous agency independent of FAO, but close collaboration is maintained between them in plant protection problems affecting European interests. Provision for such co-operation is contained in the International Plant Protection Convention, Article VIII of which reads as follows:

- "1. The Contracting Governments undertake to co-operate with one another in establishing regional plant protection organizations in appropriate areas.
- "2. The regional plant protection organizations shall function as the co-ordinating bodies in the areas covered and shall participate in various activities to achieve the objectives of this Convention."

In administering its responsibilities under the International Plant Protection Convention, FAO consults with the Organization on matters involving European interests. In particular, close collaboration has been established in the circulation of information concerning the incidence, spread and control of plant pests and diseases of economic importance. In this regard, FAO has established a World Reporting Service on Plant Diseases and Pests under the provisions of the International Convention. The Organization is charged with the responsibility of gathering and transmitting to FAO the desired information from its European member states. This arrangement ensures that the regional reporting system will be integrated fully into the World Reporting Service.

When future progress justifies it, FAO will give consideration to the possibility of integrating still further the work of the Organization with FAO's wider activities, without prejudicing the autonomy of the Organization.

(2) International Central Bureau for the Control of the Liquor Traffic in Africa

Council Resolution 333 G (XI) invited the Belgian Government "to consult with the parties to the Convention relating to the liquor traffic in Africa, signed at St. Germain-en-Laye on 10 September 1919, concerning the present value of the International Central Bureau for the Control of the Liquor Traffic in Africa and their interest in maintaining it".

The Council, at its thirteenth session, acting on the recommendation of the representative of Belgium at the Co-ordination Committee (E/AC.24/SR.73), deferred further consideration of the status of the International Central Bureau, pending further information from the Belgian Government on the result of its consultations with the other governments concerned.

The Secretary-General has advised the Belgian Government that the Council may wish to consider this question at its fifteenth session, and has expressed the hope that further information from the Belgian Government concerning the result of its consultations with the other governments concerned may be received for that session.

(3) International Conference For the Technical Uniformity On Railways

In March 1950, the Sub-Committee on Railroad Transport of the Economic Commission for Europe adopted a resolution in which it stated that it considered it inadvisable to take a decision on the subject of the organization and function of European international railway transport bodies "until a decision has been reached on the future of the Economic Commission for Europe and of its Inland Transport Committee which is the European inter-governmental organization with the widest competence in that field". Since then, the Council, at its thirteenth session, took a decision to continue the Economic Commission for Europe, but no government raised subsequently the question of the future status of the International Conference for the Technical Uniformity on Railways. The Executive Secretary of ECE is placing on the agenda of the tenth session of the Inland Transport Committee, which opens on 26 May 1953, an item on the future status of this organization.

(4) Danube Commission

At its thirteenth session, the Council noted that the Danube Commission, established under the Convention of 1948, had been tentatively included in the List of Inter-Governmental Organizations, subject to the approval of the Council. As a result of the debate, the Secretary-General was asked to submit further information on the Commission, so as to enable the Council to reach a final decision on the matter.

The information presented below has been gathered by the Secretary-General from material available in the Secretariat. No reply has been received so far to a communication addressed by the Secretariat to the Danube Commission Authorities requesting more information on the Commission.

The first inter-governmental body dealing with the lower or the maritime part of the Danube was the European Commission of the Danube established by the Treaty of Peace signed in Paris in 1856. After World War I, at a conference held in Paris, a convention was adopted on 23 July 1921 instituting the Definitive Statute of the Danube. The following States were parties to this Convention: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Roumania and Yugoslavia. The Convention continued the existence of the European Danube Commission established under the Treaty of 1856, with a membership which comprised France, Great Britain, Italy and Roumania. By a decision of these four countries in the Commission, Germany was admitted to the Commission in March 1939. The 1921 Convention also established an International Danube Commission, composed of representatives of the riparian States and also France, Great Britain, and Italy, whose jurisdiction was to extend over the navigable fluvial part of the Danube. Germany withdrew from that Commission in 1936. Mention may also be made of the P Permanent Technical Hydraulic System Commission of the Danube established by the Treaty of Trianon in 1920. Its composition and functions were the subject of a convention signed in Paris in 1923, which provided that the Commission consist of representatives of Austria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Roumania and Yugoslavia and of a Chairman appointed by the Council of the League of Nations. The Commission was charged with maintaining and improving the uniform character of the Hydraulic System with special reference to deforestation and afforestation and also with the maintenance of the hydraulic service and the service of information on floods.

After the Second World War, in accordance with the provisions of the Balkan Peace Treaties, a conference was held in 1948 in Belgrade to discuss the future administration of the Danube. A new convention, regarding the regime of the Danube, was signed at the conclusion of this conference, on 18 August 1948 by representatives of the following States: Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Roumania, the Ukrainian SSR, the USSR and Yugoslavia. Apart from the aforementioned, the following States participated in this conference but did not sign the Convention: France, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. Austria was represented by an observer. The Convention stipulated that the regime established by it should be applicable to the navigable part of the Danube from Ulm to the Black Sea and that, except for traffic between ports of the same States, the navigation of the Danube shall be free and open for the nationals, vessels of commerce and goods of all States on a footing of equality with regard to port and navigation charges and conditions for merchant shipping. The Convention further established a Commission of the Danube composed of representatives of the following States: Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Roumania, the Ukrainian SSR, the USSR and Yugoslavia. A representative of Austria is to be admitted to the Commission after the settlement of the question of the treaty with Austria. In accordance with the provisions of the Convention of Belgrade, the Commission of the Danube was to prepare a general plan of major works in the interest of navigation and to carry out such works as are necessary to normal navigation and which a Danubian State would not be able to undertake itself. Furthermore, the Convention stated that it was a function of the Commission to establish a uniform administration of the waterways along the whole navigable length of the Danube; to fix the fundamental rules relative to navigation on the river, including those of pilotage, taking into account the special requirements of each sector; and to unify the rules of river supervision, - thus endowing the Commission with responsibility in the field of navigation on the Danube River.

The Government of the United States on 16 November 1949, on the occasion of the first meeting of the Danube Commission established as a result of the inter-governmental accord reached at Belgrade in 1948, officially informed the Secretary-General that they do not recognize this convention as having any valid international effect and that they still consider the status of the Danube Commission established by the 1921 Convention to be in force for the entire Danube River.

In a communication dated 2 January 1952 the United Kingdom Government, referring to the debate on inter-governmental organizations at the thirteenth session of the Economic and Social Council, officially informed the Secretary-General that they regard the 1921 Convention as being still in force between the United Kingdom and its signatories and consequently do not recognize the Danube Commission created by the Danube Convention of 1948 "insofar as it usurps rights or exercises functions properly belonging to the International and the European Commissions of the Danube set up by the 1921 Convention".

During the discussion in the Co-ordination Committee of the Council the representative of the USSR stated his opinion that as "the Commission had a special special status resting on post-war settlements it could not, therefore, be included in the list". It would seem however that there is nothing in the relevant Council resolutions which indicates that an exception to inclusion should be made for this reason.

It will be noted that during the discussions in the Co-ordination Committee both the United States and the United Kingdom representatives favoured including the Danube Commission on the list, since they did not question the existence of the Commission as an inter-governmental organization.

The Secretary-General proposed the inclusion in the List of the Danube Commission, created under the inter-governmental accord reached at Belgrade in 1948, because he was of the opinion that it falls within the category of "inter-governmental organizations in the economic, social, cultural, educational, health and related fields having responsibilities similar to those of the United Nations and the specialized agencies", as prescribed in the Council's resolution 128 (VI).

(5) International Union for the Publication of Customs Tariffs

The following report is submitted to the Council on the basis of information provided by the Executive Secretary of the Contracting Parties to GATT:-

In 1948 a draft agreement was prepared which was intended to establish formal relations between the International Customs Tariffs Bureau, (which is the executive organ of the Union) and the Interim Commission for the International Trade Organization. Owing to the delay in the establishment of ITO, it has been impossible to implement this draft agreement. While no formal relations exist between the Union and the Contracting Parties to GATT, close and mutually profitable working relations have been maintained between the secretariats of the two organizations.

On 13 August 1949, the Contracting Parties to GATT adopted the following resolution aimed at strengthening the financial position of the Bureau, which now appears to be satisfactory and at facilitating the regular transmittal of tariffs schedules by the Bureau's member governments:

"The CONTRACTING PARTIES to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade:

Having regard to the importance of the work of the International Customs Tariff Bureau in Brussels and the services it has rendered to international organizations, government departments and the business world,

Having regard to the necessity for maintaining the high standard of this work and even extending the publication of customs tariffs and changes in tariff schedules,

Considering that the funds at present available to the Bureau are not sufficient to attain this object,

Considering that, owing to the delay in the establishment of the International Trade Organization, the financial assistance which the latter would afford the Bureau will also be delayed,

Considering the Resolution adopted by the Executive Committee of the Interim Commission of the International Trade Organization on 14 September 1948 (Document ICITO/EC 2/SC 3/8),

Considering that the work of the Bureau should be continued until such time as the relationship between the Bureau and the International Trade Organization may be determined and brought into effect,

Considering that certain countries parties to the Convention of 5 July 1890 are still in arrears with their subscriptions,

Considering that the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs is charged under the 1890 Convention with the adoption of the measures necessary for the organization and operation of the Bureau,

Considering that certain States parties to the 1890 Convention do not comply with their obligation under that Convention to transmit directly to the Bureau without delay two copies of their customs tariffs brought up to date with any changes therein,

Considering that it is desirable to facilitate the work of the Bureau to the greatest possible extent,

Recommend the Contracting Parties signatories to the 1890 Convention:

- (1) to arrange to pay up as promptly as possible any arrears of subscriptions due to the Bureau,
- (2) to give sympathetic consideration to any proposal to convene in Brussels before the end of 1949 a conference of delegates of countries parties to the 1890 Convention, its Agenda to include the examination of the method for financing the Bureau pending the establishment of the International Trade Organization,
- (3) to communicate regularly any changes in their customs tariff schedules, using standard forms for such notification."

The GATT Secretariat has been able to assist the Bureau in another direction. In the past the Bureau has experienced difficulty in obtaining the documentation it required from Governments. By writing to these Governments and stressing the importance of the Bureau's work, the GATT Secretariat was instrumental in persuading them to furnish much of the documentation required. The Bureau, on its part, has been helpful to the Contracting Parties in undertaking and completing expeditiously the translation of the schedules of tariff concessions resulting from the negotiations at Torquay in 1950-1951 and in the compilation of the consolidated schedules which were published in January 1952. This work was undertaken by the Bureau on the basis of reimbursement for services rendered.

As a part of the working arrangements thus established between the two Secretariats, the Bureau submits to the GATT Secretariat each year its programme of work and takes due account of the latter's comments as to the priority to be given to various tasks.

(6) Inter-American Indian Institute

The draft agreement between the Inter-American Indian Institute and the Council of the Organization of American States, which had been awaiting ratification at the time of the thirteenth session of the Economic and Social Council, has now been approved both by the Council of OAS and by the Institute, and is now awaiting formal signature before entering into force. The Council of OAS, on 17 December 1952, adopted a resolution to include the Institute on its Register of Inter-American Specialized Organizations.

(7) Inter-American Radio Office

According to information received from the Secretary-General of OAS, as of 17 December 1952, the status of the Inter-American Radio Office was still under study by the OAS Council, which has withheld a final decision on the matter pending the convening of the next Inter-American Telecommunication Conference. This Conference, which was to have taken place in Montevideo towards the end of 1952, has been postponed.

ANNEX III

CENTRAL BUREAU, INTERNATIONAL MAP OF THE WORLD
ON THE MILLIONTH SCALE

Report by the Secretary-General

1. In Resolution 412 B (XIII), the Economic and Social Council requested the Secretary-General to invite the President of the Central Bureau, International Map of the World on the Millionth Scale to seek the assent of those Governments which have maintained contact with the Central Bureau since the end of World War II to transfer the work of the Central Bureau to the United Nations Cartographic Office, and called upon the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the President of the Central Bureau, to effect, at the earliest practical date, the transfer of the records, documents, maps and assets of the Central Bureau to the United Nations Cartographic Office and to report the action taken thereon to an early session of the Council. The Secretary-General was also requested to submit recommendations to an early session of the Council on appropriate means for furthering the completion of the International Map of the World on the Millionth Scale, taking into account the views of such consultants on cartographic questions as he may wish to seek.
2. In pursuance of this Resolution, the Secretary-General on 20 October 1951 transmitted the text thereof to the President of the Central Bureau and invited his co-operation in implementing the Council's recommendations.
3. On 24 March 1952, the President of the Central Bureau requested all countries adhering to the Convention of the International Map to give their assent to the above-mentioned transfer. In the same communication, countries were informed that should no reply be received by 1 June 1952, he would assume that the country concerned was not averse to the transfer.
4. The following is a summary of the results of the inquiry made by the President of the Central Bureau, as communicated to the Secretariat on 14 November 1952:
 - (a) Twenty-one members - Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ireland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, India, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, U.S.A. - replied that they were in favour of the transfer or offered no objection thereto;

(b) Three members made no observation - Northern Ireland, Union of South Africa and Venezuela;

(c) Two members, who are not at present Members of the United Nations, namely, Finland, and Italy, replied agreeing to the transfer provided they were assured that the United Nations would give the same service to them as is now given by the Central Bureau;

(d) No reply has been received from the remaining twenty-three countries - Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Indo-China, Indonesia, Japan, Monaco, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Rhodesia, Roumania, Spain, Uruguay, and Yugoslavia.

The President of the Central Bureau has pointed out that "all the countries which have subscribed since the end of World War II have agreed to the transfer".

5. The detailed arrangement for the carrying out of the transfer is being negotiated with the Central Bureau. The President of the Central Bureau has stated that he is ready to start the transfer of the office as soon as an agreement is reached. The task will consist of the transfer of the following:

- (a) the map collection;
- (b) the past reports;
- (c) the files;
- (d) the funds.

6. With regard to item (d), the President expected to have a small credit balance of a few hundred pounds sterling. He also expressed the view that it would be convenient for national budgetary reasons to transfer the funds after 5 April 1953.

7. The question of the International Map of the World on the Millionth Scale has been examined at the VIIIth General Assembly of the International Geographical Union and the XVIIth International Geographical Congress. With respect to the transfer of the Central Bureau to the United Nations, the IGU Commission on the One-Millionth Map of the World unanimously adopted a Resolution recommending, inter alia, that "the International Geographical Union do

everything in its power to facilitate the transfer". 1/ 2/

8. A final report on the taking over of the Central Bureau by the United Nations will be submitted to the Council as soon as action thereon is completed.

9. The Secretary-General's Report on means for furthering the completion of the International Map of the World on the Millionth Scale appears in Document E/2362.

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- 1/ The full text of the Resolution is reproduced in the annex to the Secretary-General's Report on means for furthering the completion of the International Map of the World on the Millionth Scale (Document E/2362).
- 2/ The International Map of the World on the Millionth Scale was originated at the Vth International Geographical Congress in 1891 and has been supported by the subsequent Congresses and the International Geographical Union's meetings.