

# UNITED NATIONS

## ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL



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TRANSFER TO THE UNITED NATIONS OF THE FUNCTIONS  
AND ASSETS OF THE CENTRAL BUREAU, INTERNATIONAL  
ONE-MILLIONTH MAP OF THE WORLD ON THE MILLIONTH  
SCALE

### Final report by the Secretary-General

1. By its resolution 412 AII (XIII) the Economic and Social Council requested the Secretary-General, inter alia, (a) "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"; (b) "in collaboration with the President of the Central Bureau, to effect the transfer of the records, documents, maps and assets of the Central Bureau to the United Nations Cartographic Office" and (c) "to report the action taken thereon...". A report on progress made up to 30 March 1953 (E/2366, Annex III) was submitted to the Council which took note of it at its XVth session [Resolution 476 B (XV)].
2. The Protocol of Transfer, the text of which is reproduced in Annex I hereof, was signed by the Central Bureau and the United Nations on 23 July 1953.
3. On 14 August 1953 the President of the Central Bureau informed the governments of the Adhering Countries to the International Map of the World that: (a) "the Central Bureau shall cease to function as on 30th September 1953 on which date the Cartographic Office of the United Nations shall assume the functions normally performed by the Central Bureau"; (b) "as from 30th September 1953 future contributions and contributions in arrears should be paid to the United Nations to which the right to receive and dispose of such contributions has been transferred".
4. The main files of the Central Bureau and the reconstituted Map Collection together with other technical data were received at Headquarters in September 1953. This material is listed in Annex II of this document.

ANNEX I

PROTOCOL CONCERNING THE TRANSFER TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
OF THE FUNCTIONS HITHERTO PERFORMED BY THE CENTRAL  
BUREAU OF THE INTERNATIONAL MAP OF THE WORLD ON THE  
MILLIONTH SCALE

The Secretary-General of the United Nations and the President of the  
Central Bureau of the International Map of the World on the Millionth Scale,  
Desiring to give effect to resolution 412 A II (XIII) of the Economic and  
Social Council recommending a transfer to the United Nations Cartographic Office  
of the functions hitherto performed by the Central Bureau,  
Have agreed as follows:

Article I

Scope of this Agreement

The Central Bureau of the International Map of the World on the Millionth  
Scale hereinafter referred to as "Central Bureau" shall cease to function as of  
30 September 1953 on which date the United Nations Cartographic Office shall  
assume the functions normally performed by the Central Bureau.

Article II

Obligations of the United Nations

1. Without restricting the generality of the preceding article, the  
functions to be assumed by the United Nations Cartographic Office shall be the  
following:

- (a) To serve as liaison between governments for the exchange of  
information, including the publication of an annual progress report on the  
International Map of the World on the Millionth Scale, and to assist them in  
co-ordinating the publication of the Map.
- (b) To render advice at the request of governments on the fair drawings  
of the sheets before publication. The actual production of maps shall in all  
cases be the responsibility of the governments concerned.

2. The United Nations Cartographic Office shall perform the above services in relation to governments previously entitled to request such services from the Central Bureau and subject to such decisions, policies and directives as have been or may be laid down by the competent organs of the United Nations.

### Article III

#### Obligations of the Central Bureau

1. The Central Bureau shall transfer to the United Nations its maps, files and other technical documents in accordance with the arrangements agreed to in an exchange of letters between the Central Bureau and the United Nations Secretariat, dated 7 July and 17 July 1953 respectively.

2. In addition, the Central Bureau shall transfer all its assets to the United Nations together with a complete financial statement. The United Nations shall not be responsible for any debts or liabilities of the Central Bureau.

3. The Central Bureau shall inform the governments previously entitled to request services from it that, as of 30 September 1953, future contributions and contributions in arrears should be paid to the United Nations, to which the right to receive and dispose of such contributions is hereby transferred.

Signed in two copies, at London, on the 23rd day of July one thousand nine hundred and fifty-three.

(signed)

R. L. BROWN

President,  
Central Bureau of the International  
Map of the World on the Millionth  
Scale

(signed)

A.G. KATZIN

Acting Assistant Secretary-General  
Department of Social Affairs  
On behalf of the Secretary-General

ANNEX II

LIST OF MATERIAL<sup>1/</sup> TRANSFERRED TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
BY THE CENTRAL BUREAU, INTERNATIONAL MAP OF THE  
WORLD ON THE MILLIONTH SCALE

Central Bureau Files (23 folders)	
Map collection (550 maps)	
International Map Committee, Resolutions and Proceedings, London November 1909	1
Conference Carte du Monde, Paris December 1913 (Book)	1
Conference Carte du Monde, Paris December 1913 (Folder)	1
Reports for the years 1921 to 1936 inclusive	1 copy of each
1937	8
1938	7
1939 - 48	288
1949 - 51	159
Map of Roman Empire, London Congress 1935	6
International Map Roman Empire, London Congress	12
20 technical publications	
Indexes, labels, list of published sheets,...etc.	

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<sup>1/</sup> Detailed information is available at the Cartographic Office, Department  
of Social Affairs.

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5. On 28 October 1953, the Central Bureau paid over to the United Nations the sum of E436.3s.9d. representing its assets as of 30 September 1953.

6. The Cartographic Office is now in communication with the responsible agencies of the Adhering Countries to the International Map and of other governments as well as with the interested international governmental and non-governmental organizations, with a view to completing the Map. One of the first steps taken was to bring up-to-date the basic information on the status of IMW publication and to constitute a complete collection of the published sheets. The work of preparing proposals for bringing up-to-date the specifications which govern the production of the Map is also being undertaken in accordance with Council Resolution 476 B (XV).