

INTERIM ARRANGEMENTS ON THE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES OF THE
UNITED NATIONS CONCLUDED WITH THE SWISS FEDERAL COUNCIL
AND ON AGREEMENTS CONCERNING THE ARIANA SITE

JOINT REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
AND THE NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE

Report of the Sixth Committee

Rapporteur: Professor K. H. BAILEY (Australia)

1. The report of the Secretary-General on negotiations with the Swiss Federal Council (document A/175) contains the Interim Arrangement on Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations in Switzerland and the Agreement on the Ariana Site, which were drawn up in April by the Negotiating Committee on League of Nations Assets and representatives of the Swiss Federal Council, and which entered into force on the date of their signature by the Secretary-General (1 July 1946). The report also contains a review of later discussions between the Secretary-General and the Swiss Federal authorities and the text of two letters dated 22 October 1946 from the Head of the Political Department, the first dealing with a point of interpretation of the Interim Arrangement on Privileges and Immunities and the second dealing with the question of radio facilities for the United Nations in Switzerland.
2. The General Assembly, at its forty-sixth plenary meeting on 31 October 1946 referred the Secretary-General's report to the Sixth Committee; it was given detailed consideration by a Sub-Committee. The report of this Sub-Committee was presented to the Sixth Committee by its Rapporteur, Jonkherr G. Baelaerts van Blokland.
3. The Committee is of the opinion that the Interim Arrangement on Privileges and Immunities and the Agreement on the Ariana Site are entirely satisfactory, and that an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation

of the results obtained should be conveyed to the Secretary-General and to the Negotiating Committee on League of Nations Assets, as well as to the Swiss Federal authorities. In view of the purposes which it is proposed that the United Nations Office in Geneva should serve, the Committee is further of the opinion that it can recommend approval of the interpretation of the Interim Arrangement contained in the letter from the Head of the Federal Political Department referred to above.

4. The question of radio facilities for the United Nations in Switzerland has legal as well as administrative aspects. The Committee does not feel it necessary to discuss the matter at this stage, in the hope that assurances concerning the transfer to the United Nations of wave-lengths previously registered for the use of Radio Nations may shortly be received from the Swiss Federal authorities, as requested by the Secretary-General. Once the assurances have been received, the matter of radio facilities will fall entirely within the competence of the Fifth Committee.

5. The Sixth Committee recommends the adoption by the General Assembly of the following resolution:

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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HAS TAKEN NOTE with satisfaction of the report by the
Secretary-General on the negotiations with the Swiss Federal Council.

CONSIDERS that the documents set out in that report, including the letter of 22 October 1946 from the Head of the Swiss Federal Political Department relating to the use of the United Nations buildings in Geneva, constitute a satisfactory basis for the activities of the United Nations in Switzerland;

THEREFORE APPROVES the arrangements concluded with the
Swiss Federal Council.