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ORGANIZATION AND WORK OF THE SECRETARIAT: REPORT OF THE
COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS APPOINTED UNDER GENERAL ASSEMBLY
RESOLUTION 1446 (XIV) AND PROVISIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS
THEREON BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Fifteenth report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary
Questions to the General Assembly at its fifteenth session

1. The specific responsibilities assigned to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions under General Assembly resolution 1446 (XIV) of 5 December 1959 on the organization and management of the work of the Secretariat of the United Nations derive from the following two provisions of that resolution:

- (a) The request in operative paragraph 2 that the Secretary-General consult with the Advisory Committee on the arrangements to be made for the appointment and functioning of the committee of experts; and
- (b) The request in operative paragraph 4 that the Advisory Committee submit its observations on the review and on the related reports of the Secretary-General.

2. As regards (a) above, the Advisory Committee had occasion in June 1960 to consider a preliminary report from the Secretary-General on the arrangements to be made and on the related budgetary requirements for 1960. At that time, the Committee agreed that the Secretary-General's provisional decision to enlarge the membership of the committee of experts from six to eight was a matter for confirmation by the General Assembly, but that, pending such confirmation, there would be advantage in proceeding with the review. The Advisory Committee also concurred in the necessary expenditures to enable the committee of experts to start its work.

3. In regard to its second obligation (see para. 1 (b) above), the Advisory Committee would recall that operative paragraph 3 of resolution 1446 (XIV) envisaged a report by the committee of experts to the General Assembly at its fifteenth session, together with the Secretary-General's provisional recommendations thereon, bearing in mind that the Secretary-General's final recommendations, together with further reports of the committee of experts, were to be presented to the General Assembly at its sixteenth session. However, in the absence of specific recommendations in the reports before the General Assembly at its present session (A/4536 and annex), there is no occasion for the Advisory Committee to comment, pending submission of the final reports of the committee of experts and the Secretary-General, at present scheduled for May 1961. In the meantime, the Advisory Committee would invite attention, as the Secretary-General has done (A/4536, para. 7), to paragraph 6 of the report of the committee of experts (A/4536, annex), in which that committee states its assumption that the Secretary-General will not be requested to undertake studies, etc., involving additional expenses, or expansion of the regular staff of the Secretariat, except in cases of real urgency, until after the General Assembly has had the opportunity of examining that committee's final report. This position is fully in accord with the approach advocated by the Advisory Committee in paragraph 29 of its report on the 1961 budget estimates.^{1/}

^{1/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifteenth Session, Supplement No. 7 (A/4408).