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PATTERN OF CONFERENCES

Report of the Secretary-General

1. Under the terms of paragraph 6 of its resolution 2609 (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General:

"(a) To complete the study provided for in Economic and Social Council resolution 1460 (XLVII) by widening its field of application to the whole area of conferences and meetings held by subsidiary organs of the General Assembly;

"(b) To incorporate in the study, taking into account views expressed in and suggestions presented to the General Assembly as well as other relevant considerations, proposals concerning the calendar of conferences for 1971 and the following years, which would allow for the most rational and economic use possible of the administrative premises and staff assigned to conference and meetings services both at Headquarters in New York and at the United Nations Office at Geneva."

2. To complete the study called for in paragraph 6 (a) of the resolution, the Secretary-General submitted two reports - one to the Economic and Social Council and one to the General Assembly.<sup>1/</sup>

3. With regard to paragraph 6 (b) of the resolution, the Secretary-General explained in his report to the General Assembly<sup>2/</sup> that certain actions undertaken at the request, or with the approval, of the Assembly would affect the review of the pattern of conferences. Primarily among these are: (a) the completion of additional conference facilities in the United Nations Office at Geneva and (b) the study of the optimum distribution of Secretariat functions between

<sup>1/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fifth Session, Annexes, agenda item 75, document A/8183.

<sup>2/</sup> Ibid., para. 20.  
71-19973

United Nations Headquarters in New York, the United Nations Office at Geneva and any other location.

4. The Secretary-General would like to inform the General Assembly that the additional conference facilities being constructed at Geneva will not be fully available for use until 1973 and that the study of the optimum distribution of Secretariat functions between Headquarters in New York, Geneva and other locations, as reported in document A/C.5/1372, will be undertaken during 1972.

5. For these reasons the Secretary-General recommends that the pattern of conferences as established in paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 2609 (XXIV) of 16 December 1969 be extended for another year and that the question of proposals concerning the calendar of conferences requested in paragraph 6 (b) above be reverted to at the twenty-seventh session of the General Assembly.

6. Later in the current session the calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 1972 and preliminary calendars for 1973 and 1974 will be submitted to the General Assembly for approval, as an addendum to the present report. The later submission is required in order to permit the calendar to reflect as fully as possible any conferences or meetings which may result from decisions of the General Assembly during the twenty-sixth session.

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