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STATISTICAL DATA AND OTHER INFORMATION
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Assessment of Turkey

The following communication has been addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations by the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations:

"The Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and upon instructions from his Government has the honour to provide here below additional information concerning the over assessment of Turkey's quota to the United Nations budgets which was brought to the attention of the Secretary-General in the note of 2 November 1960.

The interested Turkish authorities have proceeded to further studies in order to elucidate the reasons why the assessments for Turkey's contribution to the United Nations budgets are out of proportion with an equitable and realistic quota.

The most important factor in the preparatory estimates by the Secretariat with a view of arriving at a final national assessment is the per capita income of a Member State expressed in U.S. dollars. All subsequent adjustments are dependent on the accuracy of this basic figure.

Turkey's quota to United Nations budgets for the years 59-61 were assessed at 0,59. The per capita income which formed the main figure in this assessment was assumed to be 217 dollars on the basis of a dollar parity of the Turkish currency unit ranging from 3.56 to 4.55 for the years 1955 to 1957.

In reality, during that period, the real value of the Turkish lira was on the average of 15 T.L. to one dollar as compared with the official value set at 2.80. The Secretariat made an effort to compensate for the obvious

discrepancy between the artificially set official rates and the actual value of the Turkish monetary unit but, in spite of this effort, the net result has still been an overestimation of the equitable share of Turkey in proportion of 1 to 3.

At the present time, after the official devaluation of the Turkish currency in 1958, the rate of exchange is set at 9 liras to 1 dollar. Although this official rate is far below the effective value mentioned above, still it would in itself necessitate a reassessment of the Turkish quota by at least one half in comparison with the former rate of exchange computed by the Secretariat.

However, the reasons for a request by the competent Turkish authorities for a complete revision of Turkey's quota to the United Nations budgets are not confined to this natural readjustment based on the devaluation by $\frac{2}{3}$ of the Turkish currency. The Turkish authorities, at the same time, wish to draw the attention of the Committee on Contributions to the extremely difficult situation Turkey finds itself at the present time in providing for its basic necessities in foreign exchange. The latest official figures based on the estimate of the Turkish authorities show that for a long period of time Turkish exports (approximately 250 million dollars per year) will cover only about one half of the minimum requirements of imports (approximately 500 million dollars).

Furthermore, Turkey's foreign exchange deficit will be increased by 30-40 million dollars in invisible payments and 110-120 million dollars for servicing foreign debts every year for many decades to come.

As it will be seen from the information supplied above, the Turkish share in the United Nations budgets for the last three years' period has constituted a very heavy burden among Turkey's commitments in foreign exchange. During the last years Turkey has made prompt payments of all its obligations to the United Nations, including its quota for UNEF and the ONUC, in spite of the fact that the Turkish quota was not in proportion with an equitable distribution. At the present time when the Turkish Government is facing financial hardship and in line with the latest statistical figures provided above a reduction of the Turkish share to at least $\frac{1}{3}$ of the present quota of 0,59 would equitably redress the existing disparity.

The Permanent Representative of Turkey is confident that the Committee on Contributions and the Secretariat will give due consideration to the situation stated above.

New York, 15 May 1961"
