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COMMITTEE ON CONTRIBUTIONS
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ASSESSMENT OF NON-MEMBER STATES

Report of the Secretary-General

1. The Economic and Social Council on 20 July 1971 adopted resolution 1600 (LI) 1/ by which it decided to add the Swiss Confederation to the list of members of the Economic Commission for Europe on condition:

"that this State offers itself as a candidate and agrees to pay each year an equitable contribution, the total amount of which will be determined periodically by the General Assembly in accordance with the procedure established by the Assembly in similar cases".

2. On 24 March 1972, the Swiss Confederation complied with the above conditions and effective that date became a member of the Economic Commission for Europe. The Swiss Confederation participated in the annual session of the Economic Commission for Europe from 17 to 28 April 1972.

3. The procedure established by the General Assembly for the assessment of non-member States that are members of the regional economic commissions or other United Nations bodies is for the Committee on Contributions to recommend a rate of assessment, which is subject to consultation with the Government concerned and to approval by the General Assembly.

4. The Committee on Contributions in its report to the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth session recommended percentage rates at which non-member States might be called upon to contribute towards the 1971, 1972 and 1973 expenses of the United Nations activities in which they participated, including a rate of

1/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 1.

0.84 per cent for Switzerland. 2/ These rates were accepted by the Governments concerned and adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 265 (XXV) of 4 December 1970, which also lists the activities to which each non-member State is required to contribute.

5. In its report the Committee also drew "the attention of the General Assembly to the possibility of using the rates specified in paragraph 42 above for any other United Nations activities in which non-member States might participate and to which they may be required to contribute". 3/

6. The Committee may therefore wish to recommend that Switzerland should be called upon to contribute to the expenses of the Economic Commission for Europe at the rate of 0.84 per cent, which has already been established for its contribution to other United Nations activities in which it participates.

7. The Committee will also have to consider if Switzerland should contribute to the Economic Commission for Europe at the rate of 0.84 per cent for the years 1972 and 1973, or if it should contribute only a proportionate share for the year 1972, having become a member on 24 March 1972.

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 11, para. 42.

3/ Ibid., para. 44.