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PENUEL E.N. MALAFA APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION CENTRE IN LUSAKA

(The following is being released in Lusaka, Lagos, Yaounde and New York.)

Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim has appointed Penuel Malafa as Director of the United Nations Information Centre in Lusaka. He will succeed Athmani Magoma, former Director of the Centre, who has been reassigned to another post in the Secretariat.

Mr. Malafa serves at present as Director of the United Nations Information Centre in Lagos --- a post which he has held since 1970. He joined the United Nations Secretariat in 1968. He served initially as an Information Officer in the Press and Publications Division of the Department of Public Information following which he was assigned to Lagos as Centre Director.

Prior to joining the United Nations, Mr. Malafa served in a variety of information posts with the Nigerian Government, joining that service in 1948 after four years of teaching. From 1958 to 1961, he was Head of the Southern Cameroons Information Service. In 1961 he was reassigned to the Federal Ministry of Information in Lagos as Senior Publicity Officer, becoming Assistant Director of Information in 1966.

During the years 1962 to 1964, he served as Press Secretary to the President of Migeria and in October 1967 he represented the Nigerian Government at a Seminar on "Information about Africa and Asia in Europe", organized by the Vienna Institute for Development. He was an Associate Lecturer in Government Information at the Institute of Mass Communication, University of Lagos, 1967-1968.

A national of the United Republic of Cameroon, Mr. Malafa was born in Victoria on 13 November 1923. He received his secondary education in Nigeria, later obtaining a BA degree in Journalism and Political Science from the University of Iowa in 1956. During the fall semester of the 1956-1957 academic year, Mr. Malafa did graduate work in government at New York University. He is married and has four children.

Nr. Malafa is expected to take up his new post in Lusaka in May 1981. * *** *

Note: A photograph of Mr. Malafa may be obtained from the Photo Distribution Section, Room 989.