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GENERAL ASSEMBLY

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

FOURTEENTH REGULAR SESSION

15 September 1959

(For use of information media -- not an official record)

A.F.

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE
FOURTEENTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The Fourteenth Regular Session of the General Assembly will open on Tuesday, 15 September 1959 at the Headquarters of the United Nations, New York.

The General Assembly's rules of procedure stipulate that the provisional agenda for a regular session shall be drawn up by the Secretary-General and communicated to the members of the United Nations at least 60 days before the opening of the session.

For the coming session, a provisional agenda of 63 items was issued on 17 July 1959 (Doc. A/4150).

The rules of procedure also provide that any member or principal organ of the United Nations, or the Secretary-General, may, at least 30 days before the opening date of a regular session, request the inclusion of supplementary items on the agenda. The list of supplementary items has to be communicated to members at least 20 days before the opening of a regular session.

The items on the supplementary list--which has not yet been issued--will be given with annotations in an addendum to this release.

Another rule of procedure allows the inclusion of additional items "of an important and urgent character," proposed less than 30 days before the opening of a regular session, or during the session, provided that the Assembly so decides by a majority of the members present and voting. Any such additional item may not be considered by the Assembly until a Committee has reported upon the question concerned and until a period of seven days has elapsed after inclusion of the item, unless the Assembly decides otherwise by a two-thirds majority vote.

Items for the Assembly's Fourteenth Regular Session are listed below in the order in which they appear on the provisional agenda. This is not necessarily the order in which they will appear on the agenda as adopted by the General Assembly.

The notes on each item are given as background information.

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ITEMS ON THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA (DOC. A/4150)

Opening of the session by the Chairman of the delegation of Lebanon

1. The Chairman of the delegation from which the President of the previous session was elected presides until the Assembly elects a President for the new session. Dr. Charles Malik of Lebanon was President of the Thirteenth Regular Session.

2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation

Rule 64 of the Assembly's rules of procedure provides that, "immediately after the opening of the first plenary meeting and immediately preceding the closing of the final plenary meeting of each session of the General Assembly, the President shall invite the representatives to observe one minute of silence dedicated to prayer or meditation."

3. Credentials of representatives to the Fourteenth Session of the General Assembly

(a) Appointment of the Credentials Committee

(b) Report of the Credentials Committee

At the beginning of each session, the Assembly appoints, on the proposal of the President, a committee of nine members to examine the credentials of representatives and to report to the Assembly.

4. Election of the President

The President is elected by secret ballot and by a simple majority. There are no nominations.

The following is a list of past Assembly Presidents: Paul-Henri Spaak of Belgium (First Regular Session); Oswaldo Aranha of Brazil (First Special Session and Second Regular Session); Jose Arce of Argentina (Second Special Session); Herbert V. Evatt of Australia (Third Regular Session); Carlos P. Romulo of the Philippines (Fourth Regular Session); Nasrollah Entezam of Iran (Fifth Regular Session); Luis Padilla Nervo of Mexico (Sixth Regular Session); Lester B. Pearson of Canada (Seventh Regular Session); Mme. Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit of India (Eighth Regular Session); Eelco H. van Kleffens of the Netherlands (Ninth Regular Session); Jose Maza of Chile (Tenth Regular Session); Prince Wan Waithayakon of Thailand (Eleventh Regular Session and First and Second Emergency Special Sessions); Sir Leslie Munro of New Zealand (Twelfth Regular Session and Third Emergency Special Session); Dr Charles Malik of Lebanon (Thirteenth Regular Session).

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5. Constitution of the Main Committees and election of officers

The Assembly has seven Main Committees, as follows: the First (Political and Security); the Special Political Committee; the Second (Economic and Financial); the Third (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural); the Fourth (Trusteeship and Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories); the Fifth (Administrative and Budgetary); and the Sixth (Legal). All 82 member nations are represented on each of the Main Committees, to which are referred items falling within their fields of competence.

The Assembly, acting directly in plenary meetings, deals with items which, for any reason, are not referred to a committee. The Main Committees discuss proposals in detail and report recommendations to the Assembly where final action is taken. A two-thirds majority vote of those present and voting is required in plenary meetings for resolutions on important questions, but voting in the committees is by simple majority, except to reopen discussion on a question, for which a two-thirds majority is needed.

Each Main Committee elects a chairman, a vice-chairman and a rapporteur on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, experience, and personal competence. The chairmen are elected at the first meetings of the Main Committees which are convened in quick succession for the purpose in the plenary Assembly hall without the Assembly delegates leaving their seats. Election of the vice-chairmen and rapporteurs takes place at subsequent meetings of the committees, usually the second meeting. Election of Committee officers is by secret ballot.

6. Election of Vice-Presidents

The forthcoming Assembly will elect thirteen Vice-Presidents. Originally the rules of procedure provided for seven Vice-Presidents. In 1956 the number was increased to eight. In December 1957, the Assembly decided to amend rules 31 and 36 of its rules of procedure to provide for an increase to thirteen Vice-Presidents. In making this decision the Assembly took into account the considerable increase in the membership of the United Nations and expressed the belief that the General Committee -- which is composed of the President, the Vice-Presidents and the Chairmen of the Main Committees -- should be enlarged. In an annex to the resolution, the Assembly specified that the thirteen Vice-Presidents shall be elected according to the following pattern:

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1. (a) Four representatives from Asian and African States;
(b) One representative from an Eastern European State;
(c) Two representatives from Latin American States;
(d) Two representatives from Western European and other States;
(e) Five representatives from the permanent members of the Security Council.

2. The region from which the President is elected will, however, reduce by one the number of Vice-Presidents allocated to that region.

3. At least one of the Vice-Presidents in categories (a) or (d), or the President or one of the Chairmen of the Main Committees, will be from a Commonwealth country, without altering the geographical distribution of seats in the General Committee, as defined in (1) and (2) above and in paragraph 1 of the resolution.

Paragraph 1 of the resolution confirms the practice established with regard to the distribution of the chairmanships of the Main Committees, namely, two from Latin American States, two from Asian and African States, two from Western European and other States, and one from an Eastern European State.

The Vice-Presidents are elected by simple majority and secret ballot. Member countries are elected, not individuals. The heads of the delegations of the countries elected serve as Vice-Presidents.

The President, the 13 Vice-Presidents and the seven Chairmen of the Main Committees constitute the General Committee. Among its functions are to consider the provisional agenda, together with the supplementary list, and make recommendations to the General Assembly with regard to each item proposed, concerning its inclusion in the agenda, the rejection of the request for inclusion, or the inclusion of the item in the provisional agenda of a future session. In the same manner, it examines requests for the inclusion of additional items in the agenda. In considering matters relating to the agenda, the General Committee may not discuss the substance of any item, except in so far as this bears upon the question of its inclusion in the agenda and what priority should be accorded to an item which is recommended for inclusion. It also makes recommendations to the General Assembly on the closing date of the session; assists the President and the General Assembly in drawing up the agenda for each plenary meeting, and in the continuation of the proceedings of all committees of the General Assembly. It does not, however, decide any political question.

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7. Notification by the Secretary-General under Article 12, paragraph 2, of the Charter

This article of the Charter requires the Secretary-General, with the consent of the Security Council, to notify the Assembly at each session of any matters relative to the maintenance of international peace and security which are being dealt with by the Security Council.

8. Adoption of the Agenda

All the items submitted for inclusion in the agenda are considered by the General Committee (see above) which reports to the Assembly with its recommendations. The Assembly adopts the agenda by a majority of members present and voting.

9. Opening of the general debate

At the beginning of each session of the Assembly, there is a general debate in which the heads of delegations usually express the views of their countries on problems of common concern to the membership of the United Nations.

10. Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization

The Charter requires the Secretary-General to report annually to the Assembly on the work of the Organization as a whole. The report for the period from 16 June 1958 to 15 June 1959 (Doc. A/4132) deals with all aspects of United Nations activity under five broad headings: political and security questions, economic and social developments, questions concerning trusteeship and non-self-governing territories, legal questions, and administrative and budgetary questions.

11. Report of the Security Council

The report, not yet issued, will cover the period from 16 July 1958 to 15 July 1959. The Charter requires the Council to submit such annual reports and, as in other years, the report will summarize the resolutions approved or rejected and the Council's discussions. The practice so far is for the Assembly simply to "take note" of the Council's report.

12. Report of the Economic and Social Council

The report (Doc. A/4143) covers the period 1 August 1958 to 31 July 1959. This includes the Council's work at its resumed 26th session, the 27th session, and the first part of the 28th session, with various recommendations submitted to the General Assembly. The report will be issued later. Its 10 chapters cover the following subjects: constitutional and organizational questions; world economic situation; economic development of underdeveloped countries; regional economic activity; other economic activity; social questions; human rights; coordination and relations with specialized agencies; NGO's; financial implications of action taken by the Council.

13. Report of the Trusteeship Council

The Council's annual report (Doc. A/4100) covers the work of its eighth special session (13 to 16 October 1958), ninth special session (6 to 7 November 1958), 23rd regular session (30 January to 20 March 1959) and 24th regular session (2 June to 6 August 1959). The report includes an account of the Council's annual review of conditions in nine of the ten remaining trust territories: Tanganyika and Cameroons under United Kingdom administration; Cameroons and Togoland under French administration; Ruanda-Urundi under Belgian administration; Somaliland under Italian administration; Western Samoa under New Zealand administration and Nauru and New Guinea under Australian administration.

In the case of the tenth trust territory, the Pacific Islands administered by the United States, the Council reports to the Security Council, as this is a strategic trust territory.

Other chapters of the report deal with such questions as the examination of petitions; the organization of visiting missions to trust territories in West Africa and the Pacific; administrative unions affecting trust territories; the effects of the European Economic Community on the development of certain trust territories; offers of scholarships for the educational advancement of peoples of the trust territories; and the dissemination in the territories of information on the United Nations and the trusteeship system.

14. Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency

On 14 November 1957, the General Assembly approved the agreement governing the relationship between the United Nations and the International Atomic Energy Agency, which came into being on 29 July 1957. By Article I of the agreement, the United Nations recognizes the IAEA as the agency "responsible for international activities concerned with the peaceful uses of atomic energy...without prejudice to the rights and responsibilities of the United Nations in this field under the Charter of the United Nations." Under Article III, the IAEA is enjoined to keep the UN informed of its activities and to submit reports covering its activities to the General Assembly at each regular session.

The report of the Agency to the coming General Assembly has not yet been issued.

15. Election of three non-permanent members of the Security Council

The Security Council consists of five permanent members (China, France, the USSR, the United Kingdom and the United States) and six non-permanent members elected by the Assembly for two-year terms.

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The terms of Canada, Japan and Panama expire at the end of 1959. Election is by two-thirds majority on a secret ballot. The Charter calls for attention to be paid to "the contribution of members of the United Nations to the maintenance of international peace and security and to the other purposes of the Organization, and also to equitable geographical distribution." Retiring members are not eligible for immediate re-election.

The three other non-permanent Council members which serve until the end of 1960 are Argentina, Italy and Tunisia.

So far, the following non-permanent members have served on the Council:

Argentina (1948-49, 1959-60)	Lebanon (1953-54)
Australia (1946-47, 1956-57)	Mexico (1946)
Belgium (1947-48, 1955-56)	Netherlands (1946, 1951-52)
Brazil (1946-47, 1951-52, 1954-55)	New Zealand (1954-55)
Canada (1948-49, 1958-59)	Norway (1949-50)
Chile (1952-53)	Pakistan (1952-53)
Colombia (1947-48, 1953-54, 1957-58)	Panama (1958-59)
Cuba (1949-50, 1956-57)	Peru (1955-56)
Denmark (1953-54)	Philippines (1957)
Ecuador (1950-51)	Poland (1946-47)
Egypt (1946, 1949-50)	Sweden (1957-58)
Greece (1952-53)	Syria (1947-48)
India (1950-51)	Tunisia (1959-60)
Iran (1955-56)	Turkey (1951-52, 1954-55)
Iraq (1957-58)	Ukrainian SSR (1948-49)
Italy (1959-60)	Yugoslavia (1950-51, 1956)
Japan (1958-59)	

16. Election of six members of the Economic and Social Council

Six of the 18 members of the Economic and Social Council retire each year after completing three-year terms of office. Election is by two-thirds majority on a secret ballot. Retiring members are eligible for immediate re-election.

The present members of the Council are Afghanistan, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Finland, France, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, Poland, Spain, the Sudan, the USSR, the United Kingdom, the United States and Yugoslavia.

The six members whose terms of office expire at the end of this year are Finland, Mexico, Pakistan, Poland, the USSR and the United Kingdom.

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17. Election of two members of the Trusteeship Council

A footnote to this agenda item reads: "Procedure to be devised in order to comply with the provisions of Article 86 of the Charter as France and Italy will cease to be Administering Authorities in 1960, the former on 27 April and the latter on 2 December 1960."

Article 86 of the Charter sets out the composition of the Trusteeship Council, as follows: United Nations members administering trust territories, permanent members of the Security Council, and as many other non-administering members elected by the General Assembly for three-year terms as are required to ensure on the Council an equal number of countries which administer trust territories and of those which do not.

The present members of the Council are:

Australia, Belgium, France, Italy, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States (administering members);

China and the USSR (permanent members of the Security Council not administering trust territories);

Burma, Haiti, India, Paraguay and the United Arab Republic (elected non-administering members).

The terms of Haiti and India expire at the end of this year.

18. Election of a member of the International Court of Justice to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Judge Jose Gustavo Guerrero

The Security Council, at a meeting on 25 November 1958, adopted a resolution which noted with regret the death of Judge Guerrero, of the International Court of Justice, and decided that the election to fill the vacancy shall take place during the Fourteenth Session of the General Assembly, or during a special session before it (Doc. A/4011).

According to the Charter, elections to the International Court of Justice take place simultaneously in the Security Council and the General Assembly. Election, held by secret ballot, requires an absolute majority of votes in both organs.

Judge Guerrero's uncompleted term of office runs to 5 February 1964. A list of candidates nominated by national groups to fill the vacancy can be found in Doc. A/4179.

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19. Question of amending the United Nations Charter, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 108 of the Charter, to increase the number of non-permanent members of the Security Council and the number of votes required for decisions of the Council /resolution 1299 (XIII) of 10 December 1958/
20. Question of amending the United Nations Charter, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 108 of the Charter, to increase the membership of the Economic and Social Council /resolutions 1299 (XIII) and 1300 (XIII) of 10 December 1958/
21. Question of amending the Statute of the International Court of Justice, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 108 of the Charter of the United Nations and Article 69 of the Statute of the Court, with respect to an increase in the number of judges of the International Court of Justice /resolution 1299 (XIII) of 10 December 1958/

These three items were first placed on the agenda of the Eleventh Session of the Assembly, in 1956, but postponed to the Twelfth Session, postponed again until the Thirteenth Session, and then again postponed until the Fourteenth Session.

Article 108 provides that amendments to the Charter shall come into force "when they have been adopted by a vote of two-thirds of the members of the General Assembly and ratified in accordance with their respective constitutional processes by two-thirds of the members of the United Nations, including all the permanent members of the Security Council."

Last year, the Assembly adopted a resolution -- 1299 (XIII) --- taking note of the feeling of "many members" that there should be an increase in the size of some of the organs of the United Nations, in view of the increase in the membership of the Organization in recent years. The resolution noted, however, that such an increase would necessitate amendments of the Charter which would require "a larger area of agreement than prevails at present." Therefore, consideration of the three items was postponed until the Fourteenth Session.

In a second resolution -- 1300 (XIII) -- the Assembly expressed the view that an increase in the membership of the Economic and Social Council is "desirable" in order to achieve a wider representation and thus to make the Council a more effective organ for carrying out its obligations under the Charter.

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22. Report of the Committee on Arrangements for a Conference for the Purpose of Reviewing the Charter /resolution 1136 (XII) of 14 October 1957/

In 1957, the General Assembly decided to keep in being this Committee, composed of all the Members of the United Nations, which was established in 1955. The Committee was asked to report to the Assembly, with recommendations, not later than at the Fourteenth Session.

The Committee is scheduled to meet early in September before the opening of the General Assembly.

23. Interim Report of the Secretary-General evaluating the Second United Nations International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy in relation to the holding of similar conferences in the future /resolution 1344 (XIII) of 13 December 1958/

At the last session, the General Assembly recorded its satisfaction with the contribution made by the Second United Nations International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy -- held from 1 to 13 September 1958, in Geneva -- to the free international exchange of scientific and technical information and to expanded international cooperation in this field.

The Secretary-General and the United Nations Scientific Advisory Committee, established by the Assembly to advise and assist him on matters in this field, were asked to undertake, in consultation with the International Atomic Energy Agency and the interested specialized agencies, a thorough evaluation of the Conference "in relation to the need, nature and timing of similar conferences." An interim report was requested for the Fourteenth Session of the Assembly and a report on the results of the study for the Fifteenth Session.

The interim report is not yet available.

24. Progress report of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation /resolution 1347 (XIII) of 13 December 1958/

The report (Doc. A/4119) outlines plans for the Committee's future work, and cites the need for further information on numerous specific problems related to radiation resulting from fallout, medical applications, and natural sources, as well as for further genetic and biological studies. It also states that the Committee will continue to report annually to the Assembly and will submit a further comprehensive report in 1962.

The Committee was established by the Assembly on 3 December 1955 to collect, study and disseminate information on the effects of atomic radiation.

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Its 15 member states are: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Czechoslovakia, France, India, Japan, Mexico, Sweden, the USSR, the United Arab Republic, the United Kingdom and the United States.

25. Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space
/resolution 1348 (XIII) of 13 December 1958/

This Committee was asked by the Assembly to report on, among other things: the activities and resources of the United Nations, of its specialized agencies and of other international bodies, relating to the peaceful uses of outer space; the area of international cooperation and programs in this field which could appropriately be undertaken under United Nations auspices; the future organizational arrangements to facilitate international cooperation in this field within the framework of the United Nations; and the nature of legal problems which may arise in the carrying out of programs to explore outer space.

The report of the Committee (Doc. A/4141) includes the findings of committees of the whole on the scientific and legal aspects of the problem.

Members of the 18-nation Committee as established by the Assembly on 13 December 1958 are: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Czechoslovakia, France, India, Iran, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Sweden, the USSR, the United Arab Republic, the United Kingdom and the United States. The delegations of Czechoslovakia, India, Poland, the USSR and the United Arab Republic did not take part in the Committee's work this year.

26. The Korean question: report of the United Nations Commission for the
Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea /resolution 1264 (XIII) of
14 November 1958/

This Commission, established by the General Assembly on 17 October 1950, has seven members: Australia, Chile, the Netherlands, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand and Turkey. A four-member committee, consisting of Australia, the Philippines, Thailand and Turkey, was set up in 1956 with authority to act on behalf of the full Commission in Korea.

The resolution adopted by the General Assembly last year on the report of UNCURK (1) called to the attention of "the communist authorities concerned" the continued determination of the UN to bring about by peaceful means the establishment of a unified, independent and democratic Korea under a representative form of government, and the full restoration of international peace and security in the area; (2) called upon these authorities to accept the established UN objectives in order to achieve a settlement in Korea (3) urged these authorities to agree

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at an early date on the holding of genuinely free elections in accordance with the principles endorsed by the General Assembly; (4) requested UNCURK to continue its work; (5) requested the Secretary-General to place the Korean question on the provisional agenda of the 14th session of the General Assembly.

The report of UNCURK to the coming Assembly has not yet been issued.

27. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

(a) Report of the Director of the Agency /resolution 1315 (XIII) of 12 December 1958/

The Agency, whose operations are financed by voluntary contributions, provides relief and other services to more than a million Arab refugees from Palestine, now living in Jordan, the Gaza Strip, Lebanon and the Syrian region of the United Arab Republic. UNRWA began work in May 1950 and its present mandate expires on 30 June 1960.

The new Director, Dr. John H. Davis, was appointed on 27 January 1959. The Director is assisted by an Advisory Commission consisting of representatives of Belgium, France, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, the United Arab Republic, the United Kingdom and the United States.

His report to the Assembly on the work of the Agency has not yet been submitted.

At its last session, the Assembly adopted a resolution on 12 December 1958 which, among other things, noted with grave concern that the financial situation of the Agency remains serious, and urged governments to consider to what extent they can contribute or increase their contributions. The Secretary-General was requested to continue his special efforts to secure the additional financial assistance.

(b) Proposals for the continuation of United Nations assistance to Palestine refugees: document submitted by the Secretary-General

In this paper to the Assembly (Doc. A/4121), the Secretary-General recommends the continuation of UNRWA pending the "reintegration of the refugees into the economic life of the Near East, either by repatriation or by resettlement," which, he points out, the Assembly has envisaged as resulting from the choice of the refugees themselves.

In a general analysis of the refugee problem, the Secretary-General noted that the reintegration of the refugees into the economic life of the Near

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East would require the general economic development of the area and the solution of political and psychological problems, including the question of where the refugees will ultimately live.

According to the economic estimates contained in the report, some \$1,500 to \$2,000 million would have to be obtained from outside the area during the next five years or so to ensure that the area develops economically at a sufficiently fast pace, on the assumption that reintegration of the refugees would require an increase in national income at least proportionate to the number of refugees.

The Secretary-General concluded that the perspective is not a discouraging one, provided that the world is willing to assist the region in its economic development and that, step by step, progress regarding the political and psychological obstacles is sought "in a constructive spirit and with a sense of justice and realism."

28. United Nations Emergency Force:

(a) Cost estimates for the maintenance of the Force

Cost of maintaining the United Nations Emergency Force in the Middle East during 1960 is estimated by the Secretary-General (Doc. A/4160) at \$18,916,000. The estimates were prepared on the assumption that the total military strength of the Force would average 5,300 men during 1960, as compared to an average strength of 5,400 for the year 1959. The Assembly approved a budget of \$19 million for the Force for 1959.

The Force, under the command of Lieutenant General E.L.M. Burns, is at present made up of military units from seven countries: Brazil, Canada, Denmark, India, Norway, Sweden and Yugoslavia. Earlier, Colombian, Finnish and Indonesian contingents also served with UNEF, which was established in November 1956.

The Secretary-General's report says that the Force "continues effectively to serve the cause of peace in helping to maintain quiet along the perimeter of the Gaza Strip, the international frontier in the Sinai and the western shores of the Gulf of Aqaba."

(b) Manner of financing the Force: report of the Secretary-General on consultations with the Governments of Member States [resolution 1337 (XIII) of 13 December 1958]

(c) Progress report on the Force

The two reports for sub-items (b) and (c) above have not yet been issued.

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29. Progress and operations of the Special Fund /resolution 1240 (XIII)
of 14 October 1958, Part B, para. 107

The Special Fund was established by the General Assembly on 14 October 1958 with the purpose of providing systematic and sustained assistance in fields essential to the integrated technical, economic and social development of the less developed countries.

The Fund is administered by a Managing Director under the policy guidance of a Governing Council of 18 states (Argentina, Canada, Chile, Denmark, France, Ghana, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Pakistan, Peru, USSR, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom, United States and Yugoslavia). Paul G. Hoffman is the Managing Director.

By the procedure laid down in the Assembly's resolution of last year, the annual reports of the Governing Council of the Special Fund are first reviewed by the Economic and Social Council which then transmits the reports, together with its own comments, to the General Assembly which reviews the progress and operations of the Fund as a separate item on its agenda.

The first annual report of the Governing Council (Doc. E/3270) states that unanimous approval was given to thirteen projects totaling \$7,550,000 in the following countries: Argentina, the five Central American Republics (Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador), Ghana, Greece, Guinea, India, Israel, Poland, Thailand, Turkey, United Arab Republic, Yugoslavia. Unanimous approval also was given to the Fund's \$400,000 administrative budget for 1959, to its financial regulations, and to the Governing Council's own rules of procedure. On the basis of indications available to the Managing Director of the Fund, the report states that contributions equivalent to at least \$26 million would be pledged by governments for 1959.

In the course of the Economic and Social Council's review of the report, the Managing Director stated that the first major emphasis of the Fund would be on demonstrating the wealth-producing potential of unsurveyed resources, on major training and research institutes, and on surveys leading to early investment (see the Roundup of the 28th Session of the Economic and Social Council, Press Release ECOSOC/1735).

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30. Economic development of underdeveloped countries

- (a) Report by the Secretary-General on measures taken by the Governments of Member States to further the economic development of underdeveloped countries in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1316 (XIII) of 12 December 1958

At its previous session, the Assembly invited Member States in a position to assist the economic development of underdeveloped countries to inform the Economic and Social Council at its summer session in 1959 and the General Assembly at its fourteenth session of measures which they have taken or contemplate taking to assist such development. The less developed countries were similarly asked to inform the Council and the Assembly of any measures they may decide to take to advance their economic and social progress. On the basis of the information received, the Secretary-General was requested to prepare an interim report.

This report (Doc. E/3258) contains the replies received up to 10 May 1959 from Australia, Belgium, Ceylon, Ghana, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Thailand, the United Kingdom and the United States. The first part of the report summarizes the substance of these replies according to subjects (technical assistance, financing of economic development, scientific cooperation, long-term planning, expansion of international trade). A second part gives the original replies or Secretariat summaries of the information submitted. Replies received after 10 May 1959 appear in an addendum to the report.

- (b) Progress in the field of financing of economic development of underdeveloped countries /resolution 1317 (XIII) of 12 December 1958/

At its previous session, the Assembly also called upon Member States to consider appropriate contributions to the Special Fund in order to achieve the volume of resources envisaged by the Assembly, and urged Member States to continue working for the establishment of a United Nations capital development fund. The Assembly also decided to continue to review, as a separate subject of its agenda, progress in the field of financing the economic development of the less developed countries, particularly progress toward the establishment of a United Nations capital development fund.

31. Programs of technical assistance

- (a) Report of the Economic and Social Council

In its annual report to the Assembly, still to be issued, the Council reviews the general activities of the UN Regular and Expanded Programs of Technical Assistance and gives an account of its own decisions on these programs. The

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Council called for increased contributions to the Expanded Program; it decided that, on an experimental basis, country programming procedures of technical assistance would be planned on a two-year basis; it also decided on arrangements for computation of local costs of technical assistance, as well as on allocation of administrative and operational services costs between the Expanded Program and the regular UN budget.

(b) United Nations assistance in public administration: report of the Secretary-General /resolution 1256 (XIII) of 14 November 1958/

At its last session, the Assembly authorized the Secretary-General to assist governments participating in the UN technical assistance programs, at their request, to secure on a temporary basis the services of qualified persons to perform duties of an executive or operational character as might be defined by these governments and as servants of these governments, it being understood that such duties would normally include the training of nationals to assume the responsibilities temporarily assigned to these internationally recruited experts. An appropriation of \$200,000 was authorized for 1959, and the number of experts limited to 25. The Secretary-General was invited to report to the Economic and Social Council at its twenty-eighth session and to the Assembly at its fourteenth session on the progress of this experiment.

The Secretary-General reported to the Council that 28 countries had submitted 90 requests and that the nature of these requests showed there was a significant need for executive and operational personnel. He accordingly proposed the continuance of the present system on a somewhat wider basis.

The Council noted that the large number of requests received from governments in many parts of the world provided evidence of the widespread need for this kind of aid. Recognizing, however, that the time that had elapsed since the beginning of the experiment had been too brief, and the range of the experiment had been too narrow, to justify the drawing of final conclusions, the Council recommended to the Assembly that the experiment be continued on the basis of the Assembly's 1958 resolution; and that, in deciding the question of continuing the experimental program it take into account the views expressed by the Technical Assistance Committee on the present status of the program and the desirability of allowing the Secretary-General adequate scope in the carrying out of the experiment within the limits of the resources it makes available.

(See also the statement of the Secretary-General before the Council on this subject, Press Release SG/836) and the roundup of the last ECOSOC session, Press Release ECOSOC/1735.)

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(c) Confirmation of the allocation of funds under the Expanded Program of Technical Assistance /resolution 831 (IX) of 23 November 1954/

During the Assembly's session, the Technical Assistance Committee of the Economic and Social Council will convene to review and approve the Expanded Program of Technical Assistance for the year 1960, as recommended by the Technical Assistance Board. The Program then will be submitted by the Committee to the Assembly which will confirm the allocation of funds authorized by the Committee to each of the organizations participating in the Expanded Program.

32. United Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency: progress report of the Administrator for Residual Affairs of the Agency /resolution 1304 (XIII) of 10 December 1958/

The United Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency was established by the General Assembly on 1 December 1950, to administer the relief and rehabilitation program of the United Nations in Korea. The Agency ceased as an operational organization in 1953, and an Administrator for the Residual Affairs of the Agency, H.E. Eastwood, was appointed.

The UNKRA Advisory Committee, consisting of Canada, India, the United Kingdom, the United States and Uruguay, was to continue in being until the termination of the Agency's program.

The report of the Administrator to the Assembly for the year has not yet been issued.

33. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The annual report of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Auguste R. Lindt, covers the period May 1958 to May 1959. The basic report (Doc. E/3265) was discussed by the Economic and Social Council last July and will be submitted in printed form to the Assembly together with reports of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Program.

The Executive Committee has approved programs for 1959 amounting to \$4,700,000. For 1960, the target is \$12 million. The refugee programs are financed by voluntary governmental and nongovernmental contributions and bigger contributions are hoped for in response to the appeals for the World Refugee Year.

The 1960 program will help resettle some 9,000 refugees of European origin who are on the Chinese mainland; resettle some 5,700 refugees who are under the High Commissioner's mandate and will still be in camps in Europe at the end of this year; aid some 28,700 refugees in the handicapped category who are among the refugees under the Commissioner's mandate, who are outside camps in Europe.

The High Commissioner's Office will also continue to cooperate with the League of Red Cross Societies in a basic feeding program for some 120,000 refugees from Algeria who are at present in Morocco and Tunisia. The problem of the Hungarian refugees, the High Commissioner has reported, is nearing its final solution.

34. Draft International Covenants on Human Rights / Decision of the General Assembly on 12 December 1958/

The Assembly's decision referred to above was to give priority at the 14th session to consideration of the draft International Covenants on Human Rights. These Covenants -- one on civil and political rights, the other on economic, social and cultural rights -- were originally prepared by the Commission on Human Rights and have been under consideration by the General Assembly since 1954.

So far, the Third (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural) Committee of the Assembly has approved:

The preambles to the Covenants;

Article I, on the right to self-determination, which is the same in both covenants;

Ten articles covering economic, social and cultural matters such as the right to work and fair wages, trade union rights, social security, welfare, health, education, and freedom for scientific research;

Six articles on civil and political matters covering the right to life, prohibition of torture and slavery, freedom from arbitrary arrest, humane treatment of convicted persons, and prohibition of imprisonment merely for failure to fulfil contractual obligations.

No final action on any article has as yet been taken by the plenary Assembly.

Among the main issues still to be dealt with by the Third Committee are 15 draft articles on civil and political rights; special measures that would assure implementation of the rights set forth in the covenants; the question of reservations that might be made by contracting states; and special provisions concerning the application of the covenants in states with a federal system of government and in non-self-governing territories.

(The texts approved by the Third Committee at the tenth, eleventh and twelfth sessions are reproduced in an annex to the mimeographed version of Document A/3024. The texts approved by the Committee at the thirteenth session are reproduced in the General Assembly Official Records, Annexes 13th Session, Agenda Item 32. The original text of the draft covenants and proposals relating to them are contained in the General Assembly Official Records, Annexes Tenth Session, Agenda Item 28, Parts I and II.)

35. Draft Convention on Freedom of Information: text of the draft convention formulated by the Committee on the Draft Convention on Freedom of Information and report of the Secretary-General on the comments of governments thereon /resolution 1515 G (XIII) of 12 December 1958/

The draft convention on Freedom of Information was prepared in 1951 by an ad hoc committee of the General Assembly. Since then it has been discussed on

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various occasions by the Economic and Social Council and the Assembly but no final decision has been taken. Early in 1958, the text of the preamble and the nineteen articles of the draft convention were again circulated to Member States so that they would be brought to the attention also of countries recently admitted to the United Nations.

At its last session, the Assembly agreed that an additional opportunity should be given to Member States to crystallize their views on the proposed convention and requested the Secretary-General to invite further comments and proposals from them on the draft text. The Assembly also agreed to discuss the draft convention at its 1959 session, giving special consideration to any new proposals that may be made.

(The text of the draft convention is contained in the report of the ad hoc committee -- Doc. A/AC/42/7. The observations received from governments are summarized in Doc. A/4173).

36. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter: reports of the Secretary-General and of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories

Under Article 73 e of the Charter, member states administering non-self-governing territories, other than trust territories, transmit annually to the Secretary-General statistical and other information of a technical nature relating to economic, social and educational conditions in the territories they administer. Summaries and analyses of the information prepared by the Secretary-General are examined each year by the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories which reports to the Assembly.

(a) Progress achieved by the Non-Self-Governing Territories in pursuance of Chapter XI of the Charter /resolution 1055 (XI) of 20 February 1957/

In accordance with a 1957 request of the General Assembly, the Secretariat of the United Nations and the specialized agencies concerned have prepared a series of studies for an over-all report -- the first of its kind -- reviewing progress achieved in non-self-governing territories since the establishment of the United Nations, toward the goals set forth in Chapter XI of the Charter.

The report, now nearly completed, will consist of a general and an analytical section as well as a section summarizing the information which has been placed before the Committee during past years. The general and analytical sections will consist of over 1,800 mimeographed pages, while the summary will have some 1,100 mimeographed pages. Among a wide range of specific topics dealt

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with are developments in agriculture, power and industry, public finance, race relations, cooperative societies, social welfare, demographic conditions, health achievements and nutrition, and educational progress on all levels including adult education and technical and vocational training.

Having been asked to recommend the method which the Assembly might adopt in examining the report, the Committee felt that it would be practical to entrust the detailed examination of the report to a small body. Should the Assembly decide to assign the work to the Committee, its members agreed that the Committee could accomplish the task next year, in addition to its normal work.

(b) Information on educational conditions

Each year, the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories gives special attention in its studies to either economic, social or educational conditions. This year's report (Doc. A/4111) to the Assembly is primarily concerned with educational conditions. The report states that "in vast areas less than one-tenth of the children of school-going age are attending schools and many do not remain at school for the minimum period required to lay firm foundations for permanent literacy." While appreciating, in general, the progress made in recent years, the Committee expressed the view that acceleration in the pace of educational advances is necessary.

(c) Information on other conditions

In addition to devoting special attention to educational conditions, the Committee at its tenth session last spring also discussed social and economic conditions.

(d) General questions relating to the transmission and examination of information

In the course of its tenth session, the Committee was informed of decisions by the Governments of the United States and France to cease transmitting information to the United Nations on certain of their non-self-governing territories.

The representative of the United States informed the Committee that since the last session of the Committee, the United States Congress had voted to admit Alaska and Hawaii as the 49th and 50th states of the Union. His Government would shortly inform the Secretary-General that it intended to cease transmitting statistical and other information on these two territories. This would leave the United States with only three non-self-governing territories on which information would continue to be sent. They are American Samoa, Guam and the Virgin Islands.

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The representative of France considered that it was not appropriate for the Committee to discuss the decision taken by his Government to cease transmitting information on all the territories, except the New Hebrides, on which France had been transmitting information in the past. A communication (Doc. A/4096) to the Secretary-General from the Permanent Representative of France explained in brief that because of the internal autonomy granted the territories the French Government had decided to stop sending information on French West Africa, French Equatorial Africa, Madagascar, the Comoro Archipelago and French Somaliland.

The representatives of Iraq, Ghana, Ceylon and India stated that, according to an earlier Assembly resolution, the General Assembly would have to consider the communication from the Government of France and the one to be sent by the United States concerning the cessation of information on the territories concerned.

The representatives of Ceylon, Ghana and India also noted that no information on the territories under the administration of Portugal had as yet been made available to the Committee.

- (e) Report of the Secretary-General on new developments connected with the association of Non-Self-Governing Territories with the European Economic Community (resolution 1330 (XIII) of 12 December 1958)

Noting with concern that the administering members had thus far submitted no information on the possible effects of the association of the non-self-governing territories under their administration with the European Economic Community, the Assembly last year again invited the administering members concerned to transmit information concerning this matter.

The Assembly also requested the Secretary-General to prepare for the 14th session a report on new developments connected with the association of non-self-governing territories with the EEC, taking into account the information to be submitted by the administering members and the studies that might be undertaken in this connection by other UN bodies and international organs.

- (f) Offers of study and training facilities under resolution 845 (IX) of 22 November 1954: report of the Secretary-General (resolution 1331 (XIII) of 12 December 1958)

In 1954, the Assembly, in a resolution on educational advancement in non-self-governing territories, invited member states "to extend generously their offers of facilities not only for study and training of university standard but, in the first place, for study at the post-primary level as well as technical

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and vocational training of immediate practical value." It also recommended that the administering members "make the greatest possible use" of such offers.

Each year, the Secretary-General submits a report to the Assembly giving details of the offers made and the extent to which they have been taken up.

In 1958, the Assembly noted that the major part of the scholarships offered by member states remained unutilized.

It invited the administering members to ensure that such offers may be utilized and to render every possible assistance to the candidates, particularly with regard to facilitating their travel formalities. It also requested the offering states to take into account the necessity of furnishing complete information about the scholarships offered and, whenever possible, the need to provide travel funds to prospective students.

The resolution requested the Secretary-General to include, in his future reports, detailed information concerning the actual use made of the offers.

37. Election to fill vacancies in the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories

The Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories is composed of members transmitting information on the non-self-governing territories they administer and an equal number of non-administering members usually elected by the Fourth Committee on behalf of the Assembly. First established on a three-year basis in 1949, the Committee was continued by the Assembly for further periods of three years in 1952, 1955 and 1958.

The Committee at present is composed of Australia, Belgium, France, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States (members transmitting information) and Brazil, Ceylon, the Dominican Republic, Ghana, Guatemala, India and Iraq (elected members).

Elections will be held during the coming Assembly to fill two vacancies caused by the expiry at the end of this year of the terms of Ceylon and Guatemala.

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38. Question of South West Africa:

(a) Report of the Good Offices Committee on South West Africa
/resolution 1243 (XIII) of 30 October 1958/;

In 1957, the Assembly decided to establish a Good Offices Committee to discuss with the Government of the Union of South Africa "A basis for an agreement which would continue to accord the territory of South West Africa an international status." The territory was originally administered by the Union of South Africa under a League of Nations Mandate.

The Good Offices Committee, composed of Sir Charles Noble Arden-Clarke (United Kingdom), Vasco T. Leitao da Cunha (Brazil) and Walter N. Walmsley (United States), held joint discussions with the South African Government in Pretoria in 1958 and then made its report to the Assembly last year.

The Assembly decided not to accept the suggestions contained in the report "that envisage partition and annexation of any part of the territory as a basis for the solution of the question of South West Africa," and invited the Committee to renew discussions with the South African Government in order to find a basis for an agreement which would continue to accord to the territory "as a whole" an international status, "and which would be in conformity with the purposes and principles of the United Nations."

The Committee's report for this year has not yet been issued.

(b) Report of the Committee on South West Africa/resolution 749 A (VIII)
of 28 November 1953/;

The Assembly's committee which reports annually on conditions in South West Africa also continued its work this year. This committee, established in 1953 after attempts to reach an agreement with the South African Government on some form of United Nations supervision over South West Africa had failed, is to function "until such time as an agreement is reached" between the United Nations and the Union of South Africa regarding South West Africa.

The South African Government, however, has declined to submit annual reports to the United Nations on the territory or to forward petitions from inhabitants of the territory. It has maintained that the mandate for South West Africa has lapsed and, with the demise of the League of Nations, it recognizes no other international obligations regarding its administration of the territory. Consequently, the reports of the Committee to the Assembly on conditions in the territory have been based on data compiled by the Secretariat.

The Committee's report to the forthcoming Assembly has not yet been issued.

- (c) Study of legal action to ensure the fulfilment of the obligations assumed by the Union of South Africa in respect of the Territory of South West Africa /resolution 1247 (XIII) of 30 October 1958/

The Committee on South West Africa was asked in 1957 to make a study of this subject, and to consider further the question of securing from the International Court of Justice advisory opinions regarding the administration of the territory. Last year, the Assembly decided to resume further consideration of the matter at its fourteenth session.

The Committee's report for this year has still to be issued.

- (d) Election of three members of the Committee on South West Africa /resolution 1061 (XI) of 26 February 1957/

As originally constituted in 1953, the Committee on South West Africa consisted of seven members. In February 1957, the Assembly decided to increase its membership to nine, with one-third of its members retiring each year. Members of the Committee are appointed by the Assembly on the recommendation of the Fourth Committee.

The Assembly resolution, however, did not specify which members should retire annually; it left that decision to the individual members of the Committee. Retiring members are eligible for re-election.

Present members of the Committee are: Brazil, Ethiopia, Finland, Indonesia, Mexico, Pakistan, the United Arab Republic, the United States and Uruguay.

39. Offers by Member states of study and training facilities for inhabitants of trust territories: report of the Trusteeship Council /resolution 1277 (XIII) of 5 December 1958/

Noting that the major part of the scholarships offered by UN member states for inhabitants of trust territories remained unutilized, the Assembly "once again" invited the administering authorities to take all necessary measures, consistent with the interests and needs of the territories and their peoples, to ensure that such scholarships may be utilized by the inhabitants of the trust territories.

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It invited the administering authorities to render every assistance to those persons who have applied for, or have been granted, scholarships or fellowships, particularly with regard to facilitating their travel formalities, and requested the members offering scholarships to take into account, whenever possible, the need to provide travel funds to prospective students. It also requested the Secretary-General to give such assistance as is possible.

The Secretary-General submitted to the Trusteeship Council at its 25th session a report (Doc. T/1462) giving detailed information concerning the actual use of such scholarships according to information supplied by the member states offering them. The Council took note of this report, a summary of which is included as a separate section of the Council's report to the General Assembly.

10. Question of the frontier between the trust territory of Somaliland under Italian administration and Ethiopia: reports of the Governments of Ethiopia and of Italy (resolution 1341 (XIII) of 15 December 1958)

Since the placing of Somaliland under trusteeship administered by Italy, the General Assembly has been concerned with the question of delimiting the frontier between Somaliland and Ethiopia. In 1957, the Assembly noted that direct negotiations between the Governments of Ethiopia and Italy had not resolved some of the main differences between the parties and recommended the establishment of an arbitration tribunal.

Appointed in accordance with the procedure recommended by the Assembly, this tribunal consists of three jurists -- one appointed by Ethiopia, one by Italy, and the third by agreement between the two other jurists. The tribunal was to delimit the frontier in accordance with terms of reference agreed to by the two governments with the assistance of an independent person to be appointed by agreement between them.

In 1958, the Assembly was informed that the arbitration tribunal had not met because no agreement had been reached on its terms of reference, nor on the appointment of an independent person. The Assembly thereupon recommended that if the two governments could not agree within three months on the choice of an independent person they invite the King of Norway to nominate such a person. Subsequently, on 6 May 1959, Trygve Lie, former UN Secretary-General, was nominated by the King of Norway to serve as the independent member who will assist in drawing up the terms of reference of the arbitration tribunal.

In August 1959, the Trusteeship Council expressed the hope that the negotiations now under way will enable the parties concerned to reach a mutually satisfactory settlement before Somalia attains independence in 1960.

The last Assembly also requested the governments of Ethiopia and of Italy to report to its 14th session on the measures taken to resolve the frontier problem. These reports have not yet been submitted.

41. The future of the trust territory of the Cameroons under United Kingdom administration (resolution 1350 (XIII) of 13 March 1959)

At its last session, the Assembly recommended that separate plebiscites be held under United Nations supervision in both the northern and southern parts of British-administered Cameroons in order to ascertain the wishes of the inhabitants regarding their future.

The plebiscite in the Northern Cameroons, the Assembly recommended, should be held about the middle of November 1959, and that in the Southern Cameroons between the beginning of December 1959 and the end of April 1960.

To supervise both plebiscites in the British Cameroons, the Assembly elected Ambassador Djalal Abdoh of Iran to be United Nations Plebiscite Commissioner, who will act on behalf of the General Assembly. He will be assisted by observers and staff to be appointed by the Secretary-General in consultation with him.

(a) Organization of the plebiscite in the southern part of the territory: question of the two alternatives to be put to the people and the qualifications for voting

With respect to the plebiscite in the Southern Cameroons, the Assembly decided that the two alternatives to be put to the people and the qualifications for voting in the plebiscite there should be considered by the General Assembly at its 14th session.

(b) Report of the United Nations Plebiscite Commissioner on the plebiscite in the northern part of the territory and report of the Trusteeship Council

As for the plebiscite in the Northern Cameroons, the Assembly recommended that the people there should be asked if they wish the Northern Cameroons to be part of the Northern Region of Nigeria when the Federation of Nigeria becomes independent, or whether they favor deciding the future of their country at a later date.

The United Nations Plebiscite Commissioner is requested to submit to the Trusteeship Council a report in two parts on the organization, conduct and results of the plebiscites. The first part of the report, dealing with the plebiscite in the Northern Cameroons, is to be submitted in time for transmission to the General Assembly for consideration before the end of the 14th session. The Assembly requested the Trusteeship Council to transmit the reports of the United Nations Plebiscite Commissioner, together with any recommendations and observations it considers necessary.

To consider the report of the United Nations Plebiscite Commissioner on the plebiscite in the Northern Cameroons, the Trusteeship Council has decided to convene a special session in November 1959 at UN Headquarters.

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42. Financial reports and accounts, and reports of the Board of Auditors:

(a) United Nations, for the financial year ended 31 December 1958

The report (Doc. A/4116) shows that obligations incurred for 1958 amounted to \$60,846,555 compared with total appropriations of \$61,121,900. At the end of the year there was an unobligated balance of \$273,345. Receipts from miscellaneous income exceeded the anticipated amounts by \$86,474. Thus, total income credited for the financial year represented by members' contributions and miscellaneous income (\$61,208,374) exceeded the total of obligations incurred by \$359,819.

(b) United Nations Children's Fund, for the financial year ended 31 December 1958

The financial report on UNICEF (Doc. A/4113) shows that the principal of the Fund on 31 December 1958 amounted to \$33,332,640, representing an increase of \$571,340 in the level of the Fund during the year.

(c) United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, for the financial year ended 31 December 1958

The report (Doc. A/4117) shows that the surplus at the end of 1958 was \$3,257,192. The working capital at the end of 1957 was \$18,906,209 with an increase of \$3,293,711 in 1958 making the working capital at the end of 1958, \$22,199,920.

(d) United Nations Refugee Fund, for the financial year ended 31 December 1958

The report (Doc. A/4118) shows that as of 31 December 1958 the surplus in the Fund amounted to \$1,837,896, representing money available for approved projects.

43. Supplementary estimates for the Financial year 1959

A report on supplementary expenses not included in the regular budget appropriations for 1959 will be submitted by the Secretary-General in the course of the Assembly session.

44. Budget Estimates for the financial year 1960

An estimated gross budget of \$61,863,200 for 1960 has been submitted by the Secretary-General (Doc. A/4110). The figure is \$1,061,000 higher than the approved gross appropriations for 1959 of \$60,802,120. Income to offset 1960 expenditures is estimated at \$11,569,300 which would leave a net expenditure level of \$50,293,900. Net expenditures for 1959 were approved at \$49,359,240.

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The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has submitted a report (Doc. A/4170) recommending an over-all reduction of \$649,900 in the 1960 estimates.

45. Appointments to fill vacancies in the membership of subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly

(a) Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

This Committee consists of nine members elected by the General Assembly for a term of three years.

Three retire each year but are eligible for re-election. Members whose terms of office expire at the end of 1959 are Andre Ganem (France), Kadhim Khalaf (Iraq) and T.J. Natarajan (India). A further vacancy has been created by the resignation of John E. Fobes (United States) so that it will be necessary for the General Assembly to appoint a member for the unexpired part of his term, 1 January 1960 to 31 December 1961 (Doc. A/4123 and Add.1).

(b) Committee on Contributions

This is a 10-member Committee whose members also retire by rotation and are eligible for reappointment. Members whose three-year terms of office expire at the end of 1959 are A.H.M. Hillis (United Kingdom), Fernando A. Galvaes (Brazil) and Sidney Hollick (Canada) (Doc. A/4120).

(c) Board of Auditors

The Board consists of three members (Doc. A/4120). At each regular session the Assembly appoints one auditor to take office from 1 July the following year for a three-year term. The election this year will be to fill the vacancy caused by the expiration of the term of office of the Auditor-General of Colombia.

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(d) Investments Committee: Confirmation of the appointment made by the Secretary-General

The Investments Committee consists of three members appointed for three-year terms by the Secretary-General after consultation with the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. The appointment is subject to the approval of the Assembly. A vacancy will be caused by the expiration of the three-year term of office of Jacques Rueff (France) on 31 December 1959. The Secretary-General will submit to the General Assembly for its confirmation the reappointment of Mr. Rueff as a member of the Investments Committee for a three-year term to commence on 1 January 1960. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has concurred in this reappointment, and Mr. Rueff is willing to continue to serve.

(e) United Nations Administrative Tribunal

The Tribunal is composed of seven members appointed by the Assembly for three-year terms (Doc. A/4127). Those members whose terms of office expire at the end of 1959 are Harold Riegelman (United States) and the Right Hon. Lord Crook (United Kingdom).

(f) United Nations Staff Pension Committee

This Committee consists of three members and three alternates elected by the General Assembly, three members and three alternates appointed by the Secretary-General, and three members and three alternates elected by the staff of the UN Secretariat. The term of office of the present members elected by the Assembly will expire on 31 December 1959.

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46. Report of the Negotiating Committee for Extra-Budgetary Funds
/resolution 1296 B (XIII) of 5 December 1958/

Certain activities of the UN and the specialized agencies are financed by voluntary contributions of member governments. Such activities, not provided for in the regular budgets of the UN or the agencies, include the Expanded Program of Technical Assistance, the UN Children's Fund, the UN Refugee Fund and the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

To assist in obtaining funds for these programs, the Assembly during its thirteenth session again requested the President to appoint a Negotiating Committee for Extra-Budgetary Funds to serve until the close of the fourteenth session of the Assembly. The President appointed a Committee composed of Argentina, Brazil, Canada, France, Lebanon, New Zealand, Pakistan, United Kingdom and the United States.

As in previous years, the Assembly will also convene, during its fourteenth session, an ad hoc committee composed of all members for the announcement of voluntary contributions to UNREF and UNRWA. There will be separate meetings for each of the two refugee programs.

47. Scale of Assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations: report of the Committee on Contributions
/resolution 1307 B (XIII) of 10 December 1958/

At its thirteenth session, the Assembly approved a report of the Committee on Contributions containing a revised scale of contributions for the apportionment of UN expenses which would not normally be reviewed until 1961. However, under Rule 161 of the Assembly's rules of procedure, the Committee is instructed to advise the Assembly on the assessment recommended for new members. The Republic of Guinea was admitted to United Nations membership on 12 December 1959 and the Committee's present report to the Assembly (Doc. A/4112) contains the recommendation that Guinea should be assessed at the minimum rate, 0.04 per cent, for the years 1959, 1960, 1961 but that its contribution for those years should represent miscellaneous income to the UN and should not alter the present three-year scale.

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48. Audit reports relating to expenditure by specialized agencies of technical assistance funds allocated from the Special Account /resolution 519 A (VI) of 12 January 1952/

Subject to the confirmation of the Assembly, the Technical Assistance Committee authorizes the allocation of funds to each of the participating organizations in proportion to their share in the approved over-all program. These funds are drawn from the net financial resources, after setting aside the expenses of the secretariat of the Technical Assistance Board and such amounts as may be required to reimburse the Working Capital Fund and Reserve Fund for withdrawals during the preceding year to finance obligations for urgent needs authorized by the Executive Chairman of the TAB.

An audit report (Doc. A/4116) under this item relates to expenditures of technical assistance funds for the year ended 31 December 1958.

49. Administrative and Budgetary Coordination between the United Nations and the specialized agencies: report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

The 1960 ^{estimates} budget /of nine specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency will be the subject of a separate report of the Advisory Committee.

In its tenth report to the session (Doc. A/4170) the Advisory Committee states that the total of these budgets, as approved or proposed for 1960, amounts to \$65,061,750. This total, together with the proposed budget of the UN, makes an aggregate of \$126,924,950 which states, members of the 11 organizations, will be asked to appropriate during 1960.

Apart from the above, members will also be invited to contribute to extra-budgetary activities, such as UNICEF, the Special Fund, technical assistance, refugee aid, etc.. Assuming the same level of contributions to these programs in 1960 as in 1959, the total of the regular budgets of the UN, the specialized agencies, the IAEA and voluntary contributions would be of the order of \$235 million in 1960.

The Advisory Committee has submitted separate reports on coordination between the UN and the IAEA (Doc. A/4135) and between the UN and the International Telecommunication Union (Doc. A/4148).

50. Construction of the United Nations building in Santiago, Chile: Progress report of the Secretary-General /resolution 1273 (XIII) of 14 November 1958/

At its thirteenth session the Assembly authorized the Secretary-General to proceed with the preparation of plans and construction of a UN building in Santiago, on land donated by the Government of Chile, at a cost not to exceed \$10,000,000. The

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building will house UN offices in that city, including the Economic Commission for Latin America.

The progress report by the Secretary-General has not yet been issued.

51. United Nations International School: report of the Secretary-General /resolution 1297 (XIII) of 5 December 1958/

The Assembly during its thirteenth session requested the Secretary-General to continue to use his good offices to assist the Board of Trustees of the International School in finding suitable accommodations for the school in the immediate vicinity of UN Headquarters, in developing plans for a building, and in efforts to raise funds from private sources for the construction of a building and, if necessary, for the acquisition of a site. The Assembly last year granted the school, as an exceptional measure, a sum of \$32,700 to meet the expected deficit during the academic year 1958-'59.

A further progress report on this question by the Secretary-General has not yet been issued.

52. Public information activities of the United Nations: report of the Secretary-General /resolution 1335 (XIII) of 13 December 1958/

Last year, the Assembly reviewed UN public information activities on the basis of a report by a Committee of Experts. It requested the Secretary-General to give effect in 1959 to those recommendations made by the Committee which in his opinion would further the objectives of the UN public information program with the maximum of effectiveness at the lowest possible cost.

In his report on the progress made in carrying out the Assembly's request (Doc. A/4122), the Secretary-General recalls the concern of member states that a policy of stabilization of public information expenditures should apply over a period. He recommends that this policy should involve: stabilization at the current level of professional staff employed in public information activities; outposting of additional professional staff within the current level for execution of field production projects; utilization of combined Secretariat staff resources to meet additional demands in the operation of information centers; stabilization of the amount of operational funds for the information media at the total sum approved for 1959; provision of local costs including local staff of the information centers, at the level required for effective operation.

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The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, in its comments (Doc. A/4.170) on the Secretary-General's report, considers the new policy outlined "a step forward," but states that the Secretary-General's proposals "represent, at best, a possible slowing down of further increase of expenditure on public information activities."

53. United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

(a) Annual report on the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund;

The financial statement of the Fund for the year ended 30 September 1958 shows that the principal of the Fund increased from \$69,697,682 to \$80,393,303 during the year and that the effective yield was at an annual rate of 3.522 per cent.

(b) Report on the fifth actuarial valuation of the UN Joint Staff Pension Fund.

(This report has not yet been issued.)

54. Personnel Questions

(a) Geographical distribution of the staff of the Secretariat: report of the Secretary-General /resolution 1294 (XIII) of 5 December 1958/;

(b) Proportion of fixed-term staff;

(c) Other personnel questions.

The Assembly last year recommended that the Secretary-General should continue his efforts to achieve a better geographical distribution of the staff at all levels, giving particular regard to posts at the top level, and that more interchange of personnel between Headquarters and UN field offices should be carried out whenever possible.

The Secretary-General was requested to report more fully to the present session of the Assembly on the progress made. The report has not yet been issued.

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55. Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its eleventh session

The International Law Commission held its eleventh session in Geneva from 20 April to 26 June 1959. The main topics dealt with in the report (Doc.A/4169) are: the law of treaties, consular intercourse and immunities, and ad hoc diplomacy.

The "Law of Treaties" was one of the subjects selected by the Commission at its first session for codification. At its 1959 session, the Commission considered the first of four reports submitted by its Chairman, Sir Gerald Fitzmaurice of the United Kingdom, in his capacity as special rapporteur for the subject. The Commission adopted 14 articles together with a commentary including introductory provisions relating to the scope of a proposed Code. The articles deal with the drawing up, conclusion and entry into force of treaties. They are intended to be incorporated into a Code which may contain more than 100 articles. When completed, a first draft of the Code will be submitted through the Secretary-General to governments for their observations.

On the subject of "Consular Intercourse and Immunities," the Commission's report submits 19 articles as the first part of a draft convention. The Commission is to give priority in 1960 to completion of the draft which will then be submitted to governments for their observations. The text will be reviewed by the Commission in 1961 in the light of observations received. In its final form, the convention is intended to complement the draft convention on Diplomatic Intercourse and Immunities (see item 56 below).

The Commission's report recalls that the Commission decided to study ad hoc diplomacy, which constitutes one form of diplomatic relations between states, as the draft articles prepared by the Commission on diplomatic intercourse and immunities had been limited to permanent diplomatic missions. The Commission anticipates that its special rapporteur on the subject will submit a report to its 1960 session.

Such questions as co-operation with other bodies and the planning of future work are also dealt with in the Commission's report.

56. Diplomatic Intercourse and Immunities (resolution 1288 (XIII) of 5 December 1958; Report of the International Law Commission (Doc.A/3859))

In 1952 the General Assembly requested the International Law Commission to undertake the codification of "diplomatic intercourse and immunities." At its 1954 session, the Commission began work on the subject and in 1957 adopted a series of provisional draft articles with commentary which were transmitted to governments for comment. At its 1958 session the Commission reviewed the draft articles in the light of comments expressed by member governments and by the Sixth (Legal) Committee of the 1957 Assembly. The Commission then prepared a complete set of draft articles

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on diplomatic intercourse and immunities, but dealing only with permanent missions and not "ad hoc diplomacy."

The 1958 Assembly, after considering these draft articles, decided to include the item in the agenda of its fourteenth session with a view to the early conclusion of a convention, and to consider which body should be entrusted with the formulation of the convention.

57. Question of the publication of a United Nations juridical yearbook /resolution 1291 (XIII) of 5 December 1958/

In 1958 the General Assembly asked the Secretary-General to prepare a report on the question of the publication of a UN juridical yearbook, including the technical and financial implications of such a project, and taking into account the suggestions made during discussions in the Sixth (Legal) Committee that year. The Assembly also decided to include the item in the agenda of its 14th session.

The report of the Secretary-General is contained in Doc.A/4151.

58. Question of initiating a study of the juridical regime of historic waters, including historic bays /resolution 1306 (XIII) of 10 December 1958/

The United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, which met in Geneva last year, adopted a resolution requesting the General Assembly "to arrange for a study of the juridical regime of historic waters, including historic bays, and for the communication of the results of such study to all states members of the United Nations."

The 1958 Assembly, in a resolution which stated that the publication of a UN juridical yearbook might encourage the development of international law, decided to place the item on the agenda of its 14th session.

A note by the Secretary-General (Doc.A/4161) gives the texts of the resolutions adopted by the Conference and by the General Assembly on the subject.

59. Prevention of the wider dissemination of nuclear weapons /item proposed by Ireland/

In submitting this item for the agenda, the Permanent Representative of Ireland recalled in an explanatory memorandum (Doc.A/4125) that at the last Assembly session Ireland had drawn attention to "the dangers to world peace involved in the spread of nuclear weapons and to the urgent need that the present nuclear powers would remain the sole possessors of such weapons." Subsequently, the Irish Minister for External Affairs, Mr. Frank Aiken, had introduced a draft resolution on this subject (Doc.A/C.1/L.206)

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In the Assembly's First (Political) Committee, the second paragraph of the draft resolution -- which would have the Assembly recognize the dangers inherent in the further dissemination of nuclear weapons -- was approved by a roll-call vote of 37 to none with 44 abstentions. The representative of Ireland then withdrew the resolution as a whole after expressing satisfaction that no votes had been cast against the paragraph. He expressed the hope that the reconstituted Disarmament Commission would deal with the question as one of its first items.

The Irish memorandum goes on to declare: "In the light of the recognition of the dangers involved in the wider distribution of nuclear weapons implied in the vote of the First Committee at the 13th session of the General Assembly, and of subsequent developments, the Irish Government believes it will be the wish of the General Assembly to give further consideration to this important and urgent question at its 14th session in the hope that effective and generally acceptable means of dealing with it may be found."

60. Question of the representation of China in the United Nations

Inclusion of this item in the agenda was requested by India in a letter dated 13 July (Doc.A/4139), which said it was necessary to consider the matter "not only from the point of view of the legitimate rights of the Chinese people and their Government, but also from the point of view of the effectiveness of the Organization itself." There was no doubt, the memorandum asserted, "that only the People's Government of China is in a position to comply with those decisions and recommendations of the United Nations which affect the Chinese specifically or which are addressed to all member states."

India submitted similar items at the Eleventh, Twelfth and Thirteenth sessions, but in each case the General Assembly endorsed the recommendation of its General Committee not to include the item in the agenda. The Assembly also decided not to consider, at each session concerned, "any proposals to exclude the representatives of the Government of the Republic of China or to seat representatives of the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China."

The vote in the Assembly in 1956 was 47 in favor to 24 against, with 8 abstentions.

The vote in the Assembly in 1957 was 47 in favor to 27 against, with 7 abstentions.

The vote in the Assembly in 1958 was 44 in favor to 28 against, with 9 abstentions.

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61. Question of Algeria /item proposed by Afghanistan, Burma, Ceylon, Ethiopia, Federation of Malaya, Ghana, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Morocco, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Republic and Yemen/

This question was first included in the Assembly's agenda at the 10th regular session in 1955. The General Committee had recommended that the item should not be included, but this recommendation was rejected by the Assembly (27 votes for the recommendation, 28 against, with 5 abstentions). After the vote, the Chairman of the French delegation declared that his Government would consider as null and void any recommendation which the Assembly might make in a matter which fell exclusively within the domestic jurisdiction of his Government. Later in the session (25 November 1955) the Assembly decided, without objection or debate "not to consider further" the item at the 10th session.

At the 11th session (1956) the Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution which expressed the hope that "in a spirit of co-operation, a peaceful, democratic and just solution will be found, through appropriate means in conformity with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations." France did not participate in the vote.

At the 12th session (1957) the Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution which, among other things, expressed the wish that "in a spirit of effective co-operation, pourparlers will be entered into and other appropriate means utilized, with a view to a solution, in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations." France did not participate in this vote.

Last year, at the 13th session (1958) no resolution was adopted by the Assembly. The First Committee approved by 32 in favor, 18 against, with 30 abstentions a 17-power draft resolution which included the following clauses:

"Recognizing the right of the Algerian people to independence,

"Deeply concerned with the continuance of the war in Algeria,

"Considering that the present situation in Algeria constitutes a threat to international peace and security,

"Taking note of the willingness of the Provisional Government of the Algerian Republic to enter into negotiations with the Government of France,

"Urges negotiations between the two parties concerned with a view to reaching a solution in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations."

When this resolution came before the Assembly on 13 December 1958, the plenary meeting first voted (39 to none, with 42 abstentions) to delete the clause referring to "the willingness of the Provisional Government of the Algerian Republic to enter into negotiations..." It then voted on the draft as amended. There were

35 votes in favor, 18 against, with 28 abstentions. As the required two-thirds majority had not been secured, the resolution failed of adoption.

In submitting the item for the agenda of this year's Assembly, the 25 sponsoring countries state in their explanatory memorandum (Doc.A/4140) that, "despite the appeals in the resolutions adopted at the eleventh and twelfth sessions and contrary to the wishes of the majority of Member States expressed at the thirteenth session, there has been no indication of improvement in the Algerian situation and the hostilities continue unabated with increasing suffering and loss of human life. A million Algerian civilians are reported to have been displaced from their homes and regrouped in other areas where they are undergoing severe hardship."

In this situation, the memorandum adds, "the attainment of a solution in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations becomes increasingly difficult."

62. Treatment of people of Indian origin in the Union of South Africa /item proposed by India and Pakistan/:

(a) Explanatory memorandum by the Government of India

(b) Explanatory memorandum by the Government of Pakistan

This question has been before the General Assembly since 1946. At the last session, the Assembly noted that India and Pakistan had reiterated their readiness to pursue negotiations with the South African Government to seek a solution, but that the South African Government had not agreed to do so. The Assembly appealed to the South African Government to enter into negotiations to that end with India and Pakistan, and invited the parties to report as appropriate, jointly or separately, to the Assembly regarding any progress which might be made. The Assembly also invited member states to use their good offices, as appropriate, to bring about negotiations.

On 14 July, both India (Doc.A/4145) and Pakistan (Doc.A/4146) requested inclusion of the item in the agenda of the forthcoming session. Both countries stated, in their explanatory memorandums, that they had addressed communications to the South African Government expressing readiness to enter into negotiations. However, they had received no response, and they were not aware of any steps taken by any member states in accordance with the Assembly's invitation inviting them to use their good offices. Both delegations expressed hope that the Assembly would be able to recommend "further measures" to make possible a solution of this problem.

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63. Question of race conflict in South Africa resulting from the policies of apartheid of the Government of the Union of South Africa /Item proposed by Ceylon, Cuba, Federation of Malaya, Ghana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, United Arab Republic, Uruguay and Venezuela/

This item has been before the General Assembly since 1952. In submitting it for the agenda again this year, in a letter dated 15 July (Doc.A/4147), the 12 delegations said that "there has been not the slightest indication" that the South African Government had taken any step in the matter in consonance with past Assembly appeals that it "reconsider governmental policies which impair the right of all racial groups to enjoy the same rights and fundamental freedoms." On the contrary, all available information indicated that the situation remained "aggravated."

This, they said, caused "a grave threat to the peaceful relations between ethnic groups of the world," which was growing "more dangerous every day." They believed that the United Nations "should continue to offer its assistance with a view to a peaceful solution being found for this problem."

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