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UNITED NATIONS SALARY, ALLOWANCE AND BENEFITS SYSTEM

# Thirty-ninth report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to the eleventh session of the General Assembly

- 1. At its 561st meeting on 3 January 1957 the Fifth Committee, desiring to facilitate consideration of the various reports (A/3209, A/C.5/691 and Add.1) dealing with the United Nations salary, allowance and benefits system, requested the Advisory Committee to examine the differences between the report of the Salary Review Committee (A/3209) and that of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/691), and to make appropriate recommendations.
- 2. The time-limit which the Fifth Committee set for this task was too short for an exhaustive study. For example, had time permitted, the Advisory Committee would have wished to make a critical review of the proposed substitution of Geneva for New York as the base for a common system for the United Nations and the specialized agencies.
- J. Indeed, given the fact that the Secretary-General has qualified his concurrence in the choice of Geneva for this purpose, the Advisory Committee would have wished in other circumstances to weigh the respective advantages of New York, Geneva or other area as the appropriate base, with particular reference to the fact that the Headquarters area of the United Nations the largest of the interested organizations might appear prima facie to have a claim to be regarded as the base for the common system. Yet any such recommendation would necessitate an integral re-casting of the scheme submitted by the Salary Review Committee. Similarly, it might have been desirable, in the Advisory Committee's

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opinion, to include among the matters calling for further study the treatment, under the Salary Review Committee's recommendations, of the Professional category (other than the entrance level), whose salary scales are left unchanged.

- 4. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee has mainly confined itself to examining, within the context of the Review Committee's recommendations, only those points on which the Secretary-General's position is sharply different.
- 5. The attached table is preceded by a set of explanatory notes.

# Explanatory notes on the annexed table

- 1. Column A contains no more than an outline summary of the principal recommendations of the Salary Review Committee. The related paragraph numbers in the report of that Committee (A/3209) are given in the parallel, left-hand column, for immediate reference.
- 2. The summary given in column B is likewise merely an outline of the views expressed by the Secretary-General, either in the joint statement of the executive heads (A/C.5/691, part I), to which the Secretary-General has subscribed, or in his supplementary comments (Ibid., part II).
- Except where otherwise indicated, net figures are used throughout.
- 4. The following abbreviations have been used:
  - ACC . . . . . Administrative Committee on Co-ordination
  - ICSAB . . . . International Civil Service Advisory Board
  - SRC . . . . . Salary Review Committee

For conversion of salary rates from net to gross, see the table in paragraph 93 of A/3209, or - for a fuller schedule - the 1957 budget document (A/3126, p. 101).

	A	9 1	В
A/3209 Paragraphs	Recommendations of the Salary Review Committee	A/C.5/691 Paragraphs	Comments of the Secretary-General
27-29	<ol> <li>The common system of salaries, allowances and benefits should be retained.</li> </ol>	10	1. Agree.
72-77	2(a). The base of the common system should be Geneva.	18, 97	2(a). Agree, on balance.
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143	2(b). The base date for the new system should be 1 January 1956.	13, 18, 97	2(b). Agree, although if base scales, for the Professions and higher categories recommendation constitutes an indirect reduction in effective
		g g	emoluments, and may in certain circumstances, ents: a review of those scales at: much earlier date than would otherwise be necessary. (stalso point ll (vii) below).
	Organization and classification of posts		
86	<ol> <li>There should be only one level in the Under- Secretary (or equivalent) category.</li> </ol>	19	3. Agree.
86	4. There should be a maximum of two levels in the Principal Officer and Director (D-2) category.	19	4. Agree.
93	5. There should be a maximum of five levels in the Professional category.	19	5. Agree.
60	6. P-2 and P-3 levels might possibly be coupled.	19	6. No specific comment.
59, 60 295-303	7. Uniform standards of grading in the Professional category should be developed.	19	7. Agree.
62-71	8(a). The General Service category should be changed to a Local Service category, and include certain Professional posts up to P-3 level.	19	8(a). Agree
	8(b) Local circumstances at each office should determine the number of levels in this category.	19	8(b). Agree.
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The Advisor the followi	y Committee ing reasons:	s prepared to	concur i	In the recommen	dation of the	e Salary R	eview Committe
(a) There the ex	is virtually ecutive heads	complete agre	eement bet	tween SRC, the gencies on the	Secretary-Genuse of Genev	neral of the	ne United Nati
the wh	oice of New Yole system re aph 72 of SRC	commended by	area as t	the base would give rise to th	at this stage e serious con	e necessita nsequences	ate the re-cas referred to i
ecause (1) New York ex	New York is ceeds in the	the headquart aggregate the	ters of the number of	nciple that Ne le United Natio of such staff a port; para. 58)	ns, and (ii) t the Geneva	the Profes	seionel stoff
The base da entail a su	te being an in	ntegral part casting of th	of the sy	stem proposed elements of t	by SRC, any o	change in t	that date woul
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A/3209 Paragraphs	r.	Recommendat Salary Revie	ions of the w Committee		A/C.5/691 Paragraphs		Comments of the ecretary-General
	Non-fine	ncial factors	24				
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38-47	9.	Due weight sho financial fact retention of a	ors in the	n to non- recruitment and	20	9•	Agree.
			20.00000000000000000000000000000000000	(85)			
	Staff As	sessment Plan				ł	
108-111	10.	All organizati Assessment Pla		adopt the Staff	21	10.	Plan already in force in the United Nations.
78	11(1).		P-2 level	should normally after two years		11(1).	No specific comment but implied agreement;
81	11(11).		h career st		23	ll(ii).	Interpreted as an exceptional provision for career staff entering at P-1 level; (it was further explained to the Advisory Committee that experienced fixed-term staff entering at P-2 level should be started on \$4,800);
82	11(111).	to P-3 level, and four years	at interval: after the li Limited to	should be added s of two years normal maximum 25 per cent of 1).	25	11(111).	Two longevity increments (at two-year intervals) to be applied to each of the levels P-1 to P-4.
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The Advisory Committee recommend	2:				
 The Advisory Committee recommends	s that the presen	t base scales fo	or P-2 level s	hould be main	nta
The Advisory Committee recommends that is, a minimum of \$4,800. It differentiate between "career" so recommended in order to conform to retaining generally the eviating	t would be undesi taff and others i with the Salary R	rable, as a mate n the matter of	ter of personn	el policy, to	0
that is, a minimum of \$4,800. Indifferentiate between "career" s	t would be undesi taff and others i with the Salary R	rable, as a mate n the matter of	ter of personn	el policy, to	0
that is, a minimum of \$4,000. Indifferentiate between "career" streetmented in order to conform to	t would be undesi taff and others i with the Salary R	rable, as a mate n the matter of	ter of personn	el policy, to	0
that is, a minimum of \$4,000. Indifferentiate between "career" streetmented in order to conform to	t would be undesi taff and others i with the Salary R	rable, as a mate n the matter of	ter of personn	el policy, to	0
that is, a minimum of \$4,000. Indifferentiate between "career" streetmented in order to conform to	t would be undesi taff and others i with the Salary R	rable, as a mate n the matter of	ter of personn	el policy, to	0

(iii). The Advisory Committee recommends that two longevity increments, at two-year intervals, should be applied to each of the levels P-1 to P-4, subject to the following conditions: (a) that no longevity increment shall be paid to a staff member until he has remained at the level in question for at least as long as a staff member entering that level at the first step would have to remain before qualifying for a longevity increment; 1/ (b) the staff member would have been qualified for promotion to the next higher level had there been a suitable vacancy.

It is stated in paragraph 25 of A/c.5/691 that the problem of "blocked" promotions exists at each of the levels P-l to P-4 in varying degrees in all the organizations. Furthermore, it would be appropriate to recognize, at any rate as regards the United Nations, that in view of the fact that P-4 is not normally a supervisory level, that level cannot in all cases be considered as the top of the normal career expectation of an average staff member; consequently some expectation of promotion to the P-5 level may be recognized by providing longevity increments at the P-4 level also.

The need for longevity increments at P-1 level - and to a lesser extent at P-2 level - may not be appreciable in the case of "career" staff; however, some of the organizations have a considerable number of staff in these levels who, because of the nature of their special skills (proof-readers, murses etc.), have only a limited expectation of promotion to higher levels.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, the 25 per cent limitation recommended by the Salary Review Committee would involve administrative difficulties in its practical application. The Advisory Committee recommends, as an alternative, condition (a) cited above. Such a limitation would serve to emphasize the character of the longevity increment as an alleviation of "blocked" promotions.

For example, a staff member entering the P-3 level (which has 10 incremental steps) at step 5 will not begin to qualify for the first longevity step merely by completing the remaining 5 steps (plus the two-year interval) but will have to remain at the P-3 level for 11 years (nine-year spread of the level plus the two-year interval) in all before the longevity increment is paid.

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A/3209 Paragraphs		Recommendations of the Salary Review Committee	A/C.5/691 Paragraphs		Comments of the ecretary-General
85,	11(1v).	The salary at D-2 level should be fixed at \$12,500.	24, 119	ll(iv).	It would be preferable to introduce three steps (two-year intervals): \$12,000 - \$12,500 - \$13,000.
92	11(▽).	The representation allowance (to a maximum of \$1,500) which at present may be granted, at the Secretary-General's discretion, to Directors (D-2) should be abolished, and replaced by the reimbursement of up to \$600 for hospitality expenses actually incurred.	120	ш(ѵ).	The existing system should be retained, but with a reduced maximum of \$1,000.
86-92	11(vi).	The salary at Under-Secretary level should be fixed at \$14,000. Basic allowances (\$3,500) should be abolished. Under-Secretaries should be eligible for dependency benefits and education grant. No additional payments (Staff Regulations, annex I, para. 2) should be made, but actual hospitality expenses (to a maximum of \$1,500) should be reimbursed.	116-120	11(vi).	The Secretary-General proposes, as an interim measure to be reviewed at the twelfth session of the General Assembly, the the present scale of remuneration for Under-Secretaries and officers of equivalent rank should remain unchanged.
137-147		The existing system of differential and cost-of-living allowances should be replaced by a system of post adjustments, fixed in flat net non-pensionable amounts for each level, with increased rates (in higher cost areas) for staff with primary dependents.  For this purpose, the main head-quarters offices of the several Organizations should be classified, as of 1 January 1956, as follows:  Geneva: Class 1	27-31 95, 97	11(vi1).	Agree, on balance. However, as regards the classification of New York, while Class 4 might have been appropriate on 1 January 1956, New York was closer to Class 5 than to Class 4 by October 1956.
	190	Rome : Class 1 Rome : Class 2 Row York) Paris ) : Class 4 Montreal)	,		

- ll(iv). The Advisory Committee concurs in the recommendations of SRC. The Director level (D-2) being normally the top of the career service in the United Nations, it seems appropriate, in accordance with customary practice, to have a single salary scale for the highest level.
- 11(v). The Advisory Committee recommends the adoption of the system proposed by SRC.

11(vi). The Advisory Committee concurs in the recommendation of SRC. This question has already been the subject of exhaustive study, and the Advisory Committee sees no reason for postponing the decision.

In so far as the present holders of posts at this level are concerned, it is provided that where existing contractual entitlements exceed the corresponding emoluments under SRC's recommendations, payment shall be made in respect of any such excess as a personal allowance.

ll(vii). The Advisory Committee agrees, on balance, with the recommendation of SRC that New York should be placed in Class 4. A change to Class 5 would entail serious reaction and appreciable expenditure.

The Committee has had neither the time nor sufficient information to determine the appropriateness of the classification proposed by SRC for Rome, Paris and Montreal. Nevertheless, the Committee has some doubt, at any rate, about placing Paris in Class 4 rather than in Class 3.

	A		В
A/3209 Paragraphs	Recommendations of the Salary Review Committee	A/C.5/691 Paragraphs	Comments of the Secretary-General
101-107, 212-213	Salary scales for the General Service category  12. The present system of fixing the scales on the basis of the best prevailing conditions of employment in the locality	33, 100-104	12. Agree. On the basis of a review of Headquarters salaries at the end of
	should be maintained. Existing cost-of- living allowances should be consolidated in the pensionable scales (Geneva and New York). Headquarters salaries should be reviewed on basis of best prevailing rates at the end of 1956 and an appropri- ate increase be made. Further study of	5) Line (2) 16 (1) 16 (	1956, as suggested by the Salary Review Committee, an increase of approxi- mately 7 per cent in these salaries is required, with effect from 1 January 1957.
«	the non-resident's allowance is desirable.		The additional 1957 cost is estimated at \$460,000 (A/C.5/691, annex, p. 3, item (f)).
			The basis of the review was the Commerce and Industry Association's annual survey of local salaries in New York.
	Pensionable scales		
173-177	13. The fact that pensions are based on net salary rates creates a problem that merits study, possibly through a working part of the Joint Staff Pension Board.	34, 96	13. Agree, but study should initially be made by ACC not Joint Staff Pension Board. The inadequacy of pensionable remuneration
8		# **	is particularly noticeable at Headquarters because of the size of the non-pen- sionable post adjustments recommended for New York, and because of the number of Professional staff serving there.
	Dependency allowances		
191	14(i). Present children's allowance and staff assessment dependency credit should be merged in a new dependency allowance system.	35	14(i). Agree.
192-193	14(ii). Professional staff at all offices:-	35	14(11). Agree, though it would be more logical to fix a
	\$200 for dependent spouse \$300 for each dependent child \$200 for not more than one secondary dependent,2/ where an allowance		uniform rate of \$300 for primary dependents.
	is not paid in respect of a dependent spouse.		
	dent father, mother, brother or sister as defined tisting United Nations rules.		

12.	The	Advisory	Committee	recommends:
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- (a) Continuance of the "best prevailing rates" principle;
- (b) Consolidation of existing cost-of-living allowances in the pensionable scales at Geneva and New York;
- (c) Establishment (by the Secretary-General) of revised General Service salary scales for Head-quarters (New York) to reflect increases not exceeding 7 per cent over the levels in force at the end of 1954.

The considerations set forth in paragraphs 102 to 104 of A/C.5/691 support the proposed increase of approximately 7 per cent over the 1954 scales. Since the fixing of local salary scales for United Nations offices falls within the competence of the Secretary-General, the determination of the detailed scales for New York should be left to his judgement, subject to the maximum increase recommended above. The additional 1957 cost is estimated at \$460,000 (A/C.5/691, annex, p. 3, item (f)).

13.	The Advisory Committee has not been able in the time at its disposal to give detailed consider	ration
	to this question, which, as SRC points out, is an extremely complex one. If, however, there	is a
	case for a study of this question, such a study might, in the Advisory Committee's view, be u	ınder-
	taken in the first instance by ACC.	

14(1).	
74(7).	

<sup>14(</sup>ii). The Advisory Committee recommends the rates proposed by SRC. The post adjustments proposed for higher cost areas (as compared with the Geneva base) for staff with primary dependents contain provision for additional dependency benefits.

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A/3209 Paragraphs	Recommendations of the Salary Review Committee	A/C.5/691 Paragraphs		Comments of the Secretary-General
195-197	14(iii).General service staff (a) New York:-	105-110	14(111) (a)	New York:-
4	\$250 for dependent spouse \$250 for each dependent child \$200 for not more than one secondary dependent, where an allowance is	4	a	\$300 for dependent spouse \$250 for each dependent child \$200 for one secondary
la d	not paid in respect of a dependent spouse.		-	dependent, as in col.(A).  \$400 divorced or widowed with one dependent
- 9				child (no separate allowance payable in respect of first dependent child).
	(b) Other locations:-		(b)	Agree.
,	Allowances should reflect local circumstances.			
198-204	14(iv). A clearer definition of dependency is recommended.	36	14(iv).	Instituting a further study of this matter in the interest of an early but carefully drafted definition.
	Education grant			*
214-222	15. Existing provisions should be maintained.	37	15.	Agree.
	Installation grant			
272-273	16. The rates should remain unchanged, but with a revision in the number of days for which the grant is payable, as follows:	39	16.	Agree.
	staff without dependents 15 days (at present 30 days)			
	In exceptional circumstances, the following increases may be made: up to 30 days (without dependents) " " 60 " (with dependents)		8	
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The Advisory Com suggested by the	Secretary-Gener	al, in respec	t of a divor	ced or widowed	staff member w	with o
more dependent c	nildren.		\$\$		8	
The rate of \$250 comparison with	for a dependent corresponding te	spouse and f reliefs for	or each depe outside emp	ndent child se loyees in the	ems entirely re New York area.	easona
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The Advisory Commi	ttee agrees tha	t the formulat	tion of clear	and practica	l definitions o	of depe
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A/3209 Paragraphs	Recommendations of the Salary Review Committee	A/C.5		Comments of the Secretary-General
	Conditions of service of non-caree	r staff		
52-54	17. The proportion of posts (filling on a secondment to other non-career staff) to a fixed-term basis might, offers, be brought up to, cent.	suitable for asis or with to be filled on as opportunity	17.	The Secretary-General has previously expressed his intention of making an increased use of fixed- term staff obtained largely by secondment
	*.			from government services, universities and other similar institutions. It would not, however, be desirable to fix an exact proportion of posts to be filled on a fixed-term basis. Rather, as
-				vacancies occur, the Secretary-General should be free to judge whether there is advantage in
				filling them by means of fixed-term appointments.
	Medical and hospital insurance			
241-248	18. Existing schemes in New Y expanded. Cost of insura should be shared between	nce involved   111	2 18.	Agree. Cost should be shared equally by the Organization and the
	Organization and staff. including dental expenses studied.			staff.
8	Compensation on separation	·	7.	
223-225	19(i). Repatriation grant Existing provisions shoul with the exception that f with contracts not exceed should receive a severanc lieu of the grant;	d be maintained ixed-term staff ing five years	3 19(i).	Agree.
226-229	19(ii). Termination indemnity	~	ì	
,	Two changes are recommend  (a) The indemnity should termination for health re to the specified maximum)	be paid on asons (subject	3 19(11).	Agree.
	(b) An indemnity varying full amount should be pay discretion of the Secreta the case of dismissal for (but not in the case of s dismissal for serious mis	able, at the ry-General, in misconduct ummary	×	
	Annual leave		-	
249-254	20. No change in present practhat Secretary-General shempowered to grant additions taff serving in unhealth	ould be onal leave to	20.	Agree.
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17.	organization must of the executive the practical di of fixed-term po	et continue to one head of the or action of actions. But since the street of actions to the stre	depend on the rganization" ( hieving immedi ce such an inc	at "the extent to whi particular circumstan A/C.5/691, para. 40), ately any substantial rease is desirable, t ual review by the Fif	ces and on the the Advisory C increase in the he Advisory Cor	balanced ju	ecognizes
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18.	The details of a financial aspect	my expanded sol	neme should be ral Assembly f	submitted to the Adv or approval.	isory Committee	and, as to	the
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20000	A/3209 Paragraphs	Recommendations of the Salary Review Committee	A/C.5/691 Paragraphs	٠	Comments of the Secretary-General
		Home leave			
,	255=261	21. No change, except that travel time should in principle normally be limited to air travel time.	45	21.	Agree.
		Sick leave			*
	264-267	22. The United Nations should apply the common standard proposed by ACC and already in force in ILO, WHO and FAO.	45	22.	Agree.
		Maternity leave		12	
	268-270	23(1). The qualifying period for leave should be one year's service.	47	<b>න(1).</b>	Agree.
		23(ii). The first six weeks of leave should be on full pay, the second six weeks on half pay.	47	23(11).	Unacceptable.
			.48	23(111)	Annual leave should not accrue during paid maternity leave. (Point not raised by SRC).
		Travel conditions and subsistence allowances			
	271-278	24(1). For many journeys in certain parts of the world staff below the Principal Officer level might be required to travel second class.	49	24(1) and (11).	These matters are at present under review among the various organizations.
	* 8	24(ii). Points of administrative detail on subsistence allowances.	4	æ	
		Other allowances and benefits			
	207-211, 234-235, 237-240, 262-263,	25. No change in existing provisions for:- Overtime Night differential	50	25.	Agree.
	271	Special post allowance Personal allowance Language allowance Commutation of annual leave Service-incurred death, injury or disability Group life insurance			
		Special leave Removal expenses			
		Reconciliation of conditions of service under different programmes			
	279-288	26. Detailed recommendations set forth in chapter XIII of SRC's report.	51 <b>-</b> 71, 125	26.	Generally agree, subject to a number of detailed adjustments, and subject to the resemble
				8	to the reservation that this matter calls ror ther study at the ad-

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The Advisory	Committee	concurs	in the S	ecretary	-General's	s proposal.		
The Advisory	Committee	concurs	in the S	ecretary	-General's	s proposal.		
The Advisory	Committee	concurs	in the S	Secretary	-General's	s proposal.		
The Advisory	Committee	concurs	in the S	secretary	-General's	s proposal.		
The Advisory	Committee	general	ly endors	es the o	oservation	ns of SRC,	and trusts the	at the various
The Advisory organization	Committee	general	ly endors	ses the ol	bservation	ns of SRC, a	e Committee al	so suggests
The Advisory organization	Committee s will dev the Secre	general elop co- tary-Gene	ly endors ordinated eral shou	ses the ol	bservation	ns of SRC, a	and trusts tha e Committee al les calculated	so suggests
The Advisory organization in any case,	Committee s will dev the Secre	general elop co- tary-Gene	ly endors ordinated eral shou	ses the ol	bservation	ns of SRC, a	e Committee al	so suggests
The Advisory organization in any case,	Committee s will dev the Secre	general elop co- tary-Gene	ly endors ordinated eral shou	ses the ol	bservation	ns of SRC, a	e Committee al	so suggests
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The Advisory organization in any case,	Committee s will dev the Secre	general elop co- tary-Gene	ly endors ordinated eral shou	ses the ol	bservation	ns of SRC, a	e Committee al	so suggests

26. The Advisory Committee recommends that these matters should be studied further at the administrative level and that the Secretary-General should submit a report to the General Assembly at its twelfth session.

	Α		В
A/3209 Paragraphs	Recommendations of the Salary Review Committee	A/C.5/691 Paragraphs	Comments of the Secretary-General
	Date of application of recommendations	70 70	-
289	27. 1 January 1957 would be an appropriate date in so far as the regular secretariats are concerned. The date of application to the voluntary fund programmes should be the same in all organizations, and must therefore be subject to some delay.	72-73, 121-122	<ol> <li>Agree, in so far as the basic changes are concerned (see also point 26 above).</li> </ol>
	Assimilation of staff to new conditions	*	
290-294	28. Protection should be given to staff members whose pay and dependency allowances under the present conditions exceed the total under the proposed conditions.	74-77	28. Endorse the broad principles recommended by SRC.
	Machinery for dealing with certain pay and personnel problems		
295–303	29. The terms of reference of the International Civil Service Advisory Board should be amended with a view to its reviewing, and making recommendations through ACC, "on matters of pay and personnel administration on which co-ordinated action is desirable by the international organizations". Such matters should include:	78-89	29. The executive heads agree that "certain (but not all) of the problems of the international organizations in the field of pay administration and personnel management themselves to outside advice." Care, however, must be taken not to derogate from
	<ul> <li>(a) The system of classification of staff and its application;</li> <li>(b) The establishment or variation of post adjustment rates at any duty station, and related questions of statistical methodology, the interpretation of the statistics, and the elements of judgement to be applied to the statistics;</li> </ul>		the direct responsibilities of the various legislative bodies and executive heads not only with regard to general administration, but also with regard to policymaking decisions in the administrative field. The
	<ul> <li>(c) Divergencies in conditions of service in organizations following the common system;</li> </ul>		executive heads are not yet in a position to submit a final statement of their joint views on the question
*	(d) Such other matters as are recommended for further study by the Board in the report of the Salary Review Committee.		of machinery.
			* *
	1 2 3	1	

<sup>3/</sup> Since SRC is dealing with an inter-organization matter, only the joint views of the Executive Heads can be recorded.

	60 pg	
28.	A	

29. By resolution 13(I) of 13 February 1946 the General Assembly decided that:

"An International Civil Service Commission shall be established by the Secretary-General, after consultation with the heads of the specialized agencies brought into relationship with the United Nations, to advise on the methods of recruitment for the Secretariat and on the means by which common standards of recruitment in the Secretariat and the specialized agencies may be ensured."

It is the view of the Advisory Committee that if and when such a commission is established, it may be in a position to render useful assistance in connexion with certain of the matters referred to in paragraph 303 of SRC's report. Nevertheless, it will still be necessary clearly to define and delimit the respective powers to be exercised, on the one hand, by legislative bodies having legislative authority, and by the executive heads, on the other hand. Thus, policy might be laid down, in appropriate detail, by the bodies in question, but the responsibility for giving effect to policy decisions would remain that of the executive head as chief administrative officer.

/3209

Paragraphs

A

Recommendations of the Salary Review Committee

A/C.5/691 Paragraphs B

#### Comments of the Secretary-General

### 29. (continued)

But even at the present stere certain points can be made:

- The revised ICSAB should be advisory in character and work within the freework of the ACC machiner.
- (2) Arrangements for outside advice should not impair the proper relationships between legislative bodies and executive heads, on the one hand, and the representatives of the staff on the other;
- (3) Subject to the decision of principle to be teken by legislative bodies on the system of post edjustments, a small group of three or four expert advisers should be appointed immediately, for the purpose of reviewing and advising on the coordinated implementation of the system and related matters.

# 29. (continued)

In its 1946 resolution the General Assembly contemplated the creation of a civil service commission. In fact, such a body was not constituted. The minor change in nomenclature (International Civil Service Advisory Board) reflects a different conception of the functions to be performed. Above all, attention is drawn to the fact that the work of ICSAB was not begun until the year 1949, by which date important stages in the recruitment of United Nations staff and in the development of personnel policies had been completed.

In these circumstances, the Advisory Committee would defer comment on the machinery appropriate for accomplishing the purposes in view: The Committee suggests, however, that the question might be further studied, and a report submitted to the General Assembly at its twelfth session.