
Dual Distribution

FOURTH REPORT OF 1948 OF THE

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

Organization of a United Nations postal administration

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report on the organization of a United Nations postal administration (A/655) which the Secretary-General has submitted to the General Assembly under resolution 159 (II).
2. While the Advisory Committee concurs in the view of the Secretary-General that it would be premature at the present time to create a postal administration of the United Nations, as proposed by Argentina (A/367), or to adopt any of the alternative arrangements outlined in the report, it recommends that, pending the completion of the permanent headquarters of the Organization, the Secretary-General should be requested to pursue the inquiries and negotiations which he has already initiated.
3. In accordance with the relevant resolution, the Secretary-General has limited his inquiries to the administrative, technical and financial implications of the proposal. Nevertheless, the Committee is of opinion that regard should also be had to another and distinct aspect: the advantages in terms of publicity and propaganda likely to result from the issue of special United Nations stamps (in the event that a postal administration is created), or, alternatively, from the issue of national stamps primarily designed for United Nations purposes.
4. The Advisory Committee notes in paragraph 4 of the Secretary-General's report that, though the United States postal authorities would be prepared to

issue special United States stamps carrying a United Nations design, no part of the resulting revenue could, under existing United States postal laws accrue to the Organization. It is for consideration, however, whether negotiations in this matter might usefully be continued by the Secretary-General, with a view to the possible conclusion of an agreement similar to that formerly existing between the League of Nations and the Swiss postal authorities.

5. The Advisory Committee further recommends that the General Assembly should request the Universal Postal Union to consider a revision of its constitution such as would, if necessary, permit of the direct affiliation of the United Nations.

6. Finally, the Advisory Committee is of opinion that, if any arrangements are adopted, they should be limited in the first instance to the headquarters of the Organization. Any extension of the arrangements, such as the issue of a postage stamp common to the United Nations and the specialized agencies, should be deferred for later consideration.
