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AIDE-MEMOIRES ON ASSISTANCE TO THE CONGO FOR H.E. THE PRIME MINISTER
OF THE CONGO OF 24 AND 25 JULY 1960

In a "Memorandum by the Secretary-General on the organization of the United Nations Civilian Operation in the Republic of the Congo" (document S/4447, Add.5) a summary is given of the arrangements envisaged for Technical Assistance to the Congo. It is pointed out in the Memorandum that there will be, on the one side, conventional Technical Assistance, with the rules and status applied which have been established for Technical Assistance in general; on the other side, there will be a need for experts of higher administrative experience who "must receive a new and so far untried status". This latter status, as appears from the Memorandum, is, in relation to the national administration, a weaker one than that of Technical Assistance as the latter experts are consultants to the Chief of the Civilian Operation, under instruction to assist him in the administration of the various regular Technical Assistance activities. The reason for this arrangement is that the scope of the activities requested by the Government is likely to be such as to overburden the Chief of the Civilian Operation, unless he can rely upon the help of such a group of consultants.

It is clear from the Memorandum that the consultants, although Secretariat members and, thus, under Article 101 of the Charter, may be called in by the Government and be used by it in an advisory capacity on such questions as the Government may wish to discuss. This obviously does not mean that the experts get any responsibility or executive authority in relation to any activities within the Congolese administration, but only that, while serving the UN in the administration of its own Technical Assistance activities as approved by the Government, they would form a panel on which the Government may draw for advice on specific questions as it might see fit.

The arrangement outlined in the memorandum was discussed in two meetings with Prime Minister Lumumba during his visit to New York. The annexed two memoranda were given to him and accepted by him. Attention is drawn, especially, to point 7 in the memorandum of 25 July 1960. Later, and before the publication of the memorandum as an addendum, the arrangements were reported orally by the Secretary-General to the Council of Ministers in Leopoldville.

24 July 1960

AIDE-MEMOIRE FOR
H.E. THE PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Status of United Nations Assistance to
the Republic of the Congo

1. To assist in meeting emergent requirements the following technicians are already in position, the first three for short terms, the fourth for a year:

River traffic - KRONOW (Dane)
Port management - POULSEN (Norwegian)
Consumer goods inventory - ORNEMANN (Swede)
Development of local sources
of supplies - DAVID (Haitian)

2. The Economic Commission for Africa has agreed to lend for two months each from about 1st and 15th August:

GARDINER, Deputy Executive Secretary, to advise on public administration with particular reference to simplification and to the useful employment of university students on vacation.

ROSSEN, Chief Economic Division, to assist in ascertaining existing situation of supplies and their distribution and to suggest short-term economic action.

3. The following further technicians are being recruited as a matter of immediate need:

Fiscal Affairs - DINOUR (Israeli) - currently UN expert in Ghana
- BENOIT (Haitian) - UN official
Marketing - MANCINI (Italian) - UN official
Training Projects - HEAPS (Canadian) - Ford Foundation official

4. Lt. General R.A. Wheeler of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development is on his way to clear the silting-up at the mouth of the Congo River by having dredging restarted.

5. World Health Organization expects to have twelve medico-surgical teams in the field soon, each designed to man a hospital. It is hoped they will also be able to nominate a senior officer to the TAB Representative's Consultative Group to advise him on this programme and other health services.

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6. In response to the Security Council's invitation to the Specialized Agencies of the United Nations to render such assistance as it may require the International Telecommunication Union, International Labour Organisation, Food and Agriculture Organization, International Civil Aviation Organization and World Health Organization have senior officials on the way to the Republic of the Congo to advise on what immediate assistance in their fields of activity is needed. Mr. Pate, Director of the United Nations Children's Fund has been for some days in the Congo helping in reception and distribution of food supplies.
7. The Secretary-General proposes as soon as practicable to strengthen the TAB Representative's office by appointment to it of senior technical consultants in such fields as health services mentioned above.

25 July 1960

AIDE-MEMOIRE FOR
H.E. THE PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Possibilities in regard to Further Assistance requested by the
Prime Minister

1. The Secretary-General takes a serious view of the condition outlined by the Prime Minister in regard to the situation of the Central Bank and the gold reserve backing the currency. He considers that the best approach is to secure the services of an expert of known international status to establish the facts with the utmost speed and thereafter to assist the Government of the Republic of the Congo in the presentation of its case and, if desired, in negotiation. For this purpose the Secretary-General proposes to get in touch with the IBRD and the IMF with the view that the person selected will be somebody carrying his personal approval and that of the President of the BANK and of the Managing Director of the FUND. Formally this expert will be assigned to the TAB Representative's Consultative Group.
2. With a view to getting the Courts re-opened, the Secretary-General has cabled to the President of the Swiss Confederation requesting assistance in the recruitment to the Consultative Group of an outstanding lawyer, whose functions will be consultant for the United Nations Group, legal adviser to the Government and assisting the Government in an executive capacity in re-opening the Courts including the procurement of judicial officers.
3. In the field of telecommunications, the ITU has deputed a senior official who is making an assessment of the technicians required and who has been asked to cable his recommendations as early as possible. The Secretary-General hopes to offer a radio information officer this week.
4. In the field of agriculture, it is thought that Mr. David who has already been assigned to the Congo may have the right kind of experience for advising the Government on the development of co-operatives and generally on agricultural programmes since he has served in his own country as a Minister of Agriculture. However, the Secretary-General is also in touch with FAO in case they have alternative suggestions to make.

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5. In the field of education, the Secretary-General believes that an effort to assist the Government should be made in two directions - by securing, say, 200 to 300 places for training in higher education overseas and by, at least temporary, diversions of Louvanium students over the next six months to such tasks of public service as they are best fitted for. He is seeking an adviser from UNESCO to suggest an effective programme in these directions - Mr. Gardiner will also assist as mentioned in yesterday's Aide-Memoire. The Secretary-General would appreciate receiving information about the Government's actions directed to getting Congolese teachers back to work.
6. The Special Fund would be interested to make a survey of natural resources, including the building up of such services as a Geological Survey and TAB has agreed to finance a consultant who will determine the most promising possibilities and draft a project request.
7. Finally, the Secretary-General takes this opportunity to record what he said in answer to the Prime Minister's request of yesterday for high level advisory services from United Nations. The Consultative Group which will provide these services to the TAB Representative will be available at all times as required to perform similar services for the Government.

