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SECOND INTERIM REPORT BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL UNDER SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION S/4300

1. By my interim report to the Security Council dated 19 April 1960 (S/4305) I informed the Council that I had accepted a proposal of the Government of the Union of South Africa that preliminary consultations between the Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and myself should be held in London after the conclusion of the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference, probably in early May 1960. I further informed the Security Council that these preliminary discussions were to be preparatory to a visit to the Union of South Africa at the end of July or beginning of August.
2. During the preliminary discussions in London, which took place on 13 and 14 May 1960, it was agreed between the Secretary-General and the Minister of External Affairs of the Union of South Africa that the basis for future discussions would flow from paragraph 5 of the interim report which reads as follows:

"The consultations rendered necessary by the provisions of paragraph 5 of the Security Council's resolution of 1 April 1960 will be undertaken on the basis of the authority of the Secretary-General under the Charter. It is agreed between the Government of the Union of South Africa and myself that consent of the Union Government to discuss the Security Council's resolution with the Secretary-General would not require prior recognition from the Union Government of the United Nations authority."
3. During these exploratory discussions, agreement was reached on the character and course of the further consultations to take place in Pretoria.
4. It was also agreed that during the contemplated visit to the Union of South Africa, while consultation throughout would be with the Union Government, no restrictive rules were to be imposed on the Secretary-General.

5. Due to circumstances resulting from the mandate given to me by the Security Council by resolutions S/4387, S/4405 and S/4426 in connexion with the United Nations operation in the Republic of the Congo, I have been unable to visit the Union of South Africa as envisaged in the interim report. On four occasions, precise plans were made for the visit but on each occasion it became necessary first to postpone, then finally to cancel those plans owing to developments in the Republic of the Congo.
6. During a meeting at Headquarters with the Minister of External Affairs of the Union of South Africa on 28 September 1960, a new invitation was extended to me by the Prime Minister of the Union Government to visit the Union early in January 1961.
7. It would be my hope to arrange for the visit at the time suggested for the purpose of the requested consultations with the Prime Minister of the Union of South Africa. In this connexion, it would be my intention to explore with the Prime Minister the possibility of arrangements which would provide for appropriate safeguards of human rights, with adequate contact with the United Nations.

