

United Nations
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COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONSULTATION
WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

LETTER FROM THE WORLD FEDERATION OF UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATIONS

24 March 1947

Mr. Lyman C. White
Department of Social Affairs
United Nations, New York

Dear Mr. Lyman White,

We have noted from the report of the NGO Committee that no recommendation was made concerning this Federation. As we are devoting our whole effort to bringing the people of the countries of the world into closer contact with the United Nations, it is hardly necessary to say that the officers and members of WFUNA are most disappointed by this decision of the Committee.

We are in all continents organizing meetings, lectures, discussions, demonstrations, educational courses, radio talks and film shows in order to make the United Nations better known. But if our work is to be really effective, it must surely be a two-way traffic. It is essential that those who are interesting themselves in the United Nations should be able to inform the United Nations of their views and the views of their communities on the problems with which it is faced.

We are now engaged in serious study of such problems as food, migration, international trade, credits for reconstruction and human rights. These studies are being conducted by experts from many different countries. It will indeed be unfortunate if we must inform our Federation Commissions and national Associations that the United Nations is not, after all, any more interested than the League of Nations was in the views of the man in the street.

/With all due

With all due respect to the organizations recommended for consultation, we would suggest that, however new our organization may be, compared with many there listed, it is not only more widespread but also in closer contact with the life of the community, particularly in matters connected with the United Nations.

We have no wish to exaggerate the importance of WFUNA, but it is, as far as we know, the only organization in the world in which representatives of all sections of the community are co-operating to further the aims of the Charter and to help the United Nations live up to the first three words of its preamble.

May we ask you, Sir, to bring this communication to the attention of the members of the Committee and of the Economic and Social Council, and to inform them of our formal request for reconsideration of the recommendations of the Committee.

Thanking you,

I am,

Yours sincerely,

John A. F. Ennals
Secretary-General
