

## ORGANIZATION OF A UNITED NATIONS POSTAL SERVICE

## REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

Rapporteur: Mr. R. Hichens BERGSTROM (Sweden)

1. In accordance with instructions given by the General Assembly at its ninety-first plenary meeting held on 23 September 1947, the Fifth Committee, at its ninety-third meeting held on 8 November, considered the question of a United Nations Postal Service. Documents before the Committee were a draft resolution submitted by Argentina (A/367) and a report by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/191).
2. The representative of Argentina, pointing out the advantages of a United Nations postage stamp as propaganda for peace and as a revenue measure, supported the proposal of the Secretary-General to explore during the next year the administrative arrangements necessary to realize the objective of the Argentinian resolution. He believed that the Secretary-General should be authorized to make all administrative and technical arrangements to prepare the issues of stamps, to reach an agreement with the United States Government and to receive the resulting revenue and submit such arrangements to the General Assembly for approval.
3. The representative of the United Kingdom sounded a warning that the venture might prove less remunerative than the Argentinian proposal anticipated. Revenue from philatelists could be maintained only by fresh issues of stamps. He was of the opinion that the value of a separate United Nations Postal Service was doubtful from both points of view: prestige and revenue. Every country in which the United Nations had an office possessed an efficient postal service which was at the disposal of the Organization. He believed that pending further experience and study, the proposal might be supported in the direction of issuing a United Nations stamp as distinct from setting up a United Nations Postal Administration.
4. The Committee approved without objection the report of the Secretary-General.
5. The Committee recommends, therefore, that the General Assembly adopt the following resolution:

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REQUESTS the Secretary-General to make enquiries into the administrative, technical and financial implications of the organization of a United Nations Postal Service and to make recommendations to the next regular session of the General Assembly.

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