



第七十届会议

议程项目 129

调查导致达格·哈马舍尔德及其 随行人员罹难的原因和情况

调查导致达格·哈马舍尔德及其随行人员罹难的原因和情况

秘书长的说明

1. 我谨提及大会关于调查导致达格·哈马舍尔德及其随行人员罹难的原因和情况的第 1759(XVII)、69/246 和 70/11 号决议。我根据第 69/246 号决议第 1 段，于 2015 年 3 月 16 日任命了独立专家组来审查和评估有关前秘书长及其随行人员罹难事件的新资料有无证明价值。在专家组于 2015 年 6 月结束工作后，我 2015 年 7 月 2 日写信给大会主席(A/70/132)，转递专家组的报告并就专家组取得的进展发表了意见。如我在信中指出的，我们负有在事件发生多年后查明其真相的共同责任，专家组的报告在履行这一责任方面迈出了不可或缺的一步，对寻找 1961 年 9 月 17 和 18 日事件的真相作出了重大贡献。
2. 记得虽然专家组认为新的资料和分析表明某些关于飞机坠毁原因的假设缺乏依据，但它最终找到了新的重要资料，并认为这些资料有足够的证明价值来继续探讨有关空中袭击或其他干预致使飞机坠落的假设。它尤其认为某些资料“也可能为寻找飞机坠毁和人员罹难的可能原因或原因提供重大线索”。
3. 大会审议专家组的报告后，在第 70/11 号决议中再次呼吁会员国全面披露资料 and 提供合作，并请我跟进专家组向会员国提出但尚未得到满足的索要资料请求。大会还在第 70/11 号决议中请我按专家组的建议，探讨设立一个集中的档案机构或其他整体性安排的可行性。
4. 如上段所述，截至专家组报告提交之日，专家组向会员国提出的一些索取资料的请求仍未得到满足。因此，我请联合国法律顾问同有关会员国接触，跟进专家组提出的但仍未得到满足的索取具体资料的请求。我还请法律顾问收取和审查



会员国或其他来源提供其他新资料，集中统一检查它们是否改变我们目前掌握资料的证明价值。法律顾问 2015 年 11 月 18 日写信给比利时、南非共和国、大不列颠及北爱尔兰联合王国和美利坚合众国代表，重申了专家组提出的但尚未得到满足的索取具体资料的请求。

5. 2015 年 11 月 18 日写给比利时常驻联合国代表的信提到专家组报告的第 114 段，并提到专家组关于比利时的档案和记录中是否有一个名为“Beukels”的飞行员的询问还没有获得答复。2016 年 1 月 11 日收到了比利时常驻代表团的回复，证实没有关于有一个名叫“Beukels”的飞行员的记录。本说明附件一有比利时来信的复件。

6. 2015 年 11 月 18 日写给大不列颠及北爱尔兰联合王国常驻联合国代表的信提到联合王国 2015 年 6 月 10 日给专家组的回复，并请联合王国政府考虑在不作任何修改的情况下，将查阅迄今为止有限制的某些资料解禁。还请它证实对“联合王国所有相关部门”进行的查寻包括了对“所有安全和情报机构”的查寻。2016 年 6 月 23 日收到了联合王国常驻代表团的回复，表示它关于公布资料的立场在 2015 年 6 月 10 日致函专家组后没有改变。本说明附件二有联合王国常驻代表来信和有关回复的复件。

7. 2015 年 11 月 18 日写给美利坚合众国常驻联合国代表的信提到专家组报告的第 84 和 94 段。具体而言，信函请美国回复专家组提出的但迄今未获回复的是否有以下事项记录的询问：是否可能雇用了一位 Southall 先生、一位 Abram 先生和一位 Doyle 先生，1961 年 9 月 17 和 18 日恩多拉是否可能有两架美国空军的飞机以及它们之间是否可能有通话。2016 年 6 月 10 日收到了美国常驻联合国代表团的回复。回复称，根据现有的资料，Southall 先生于 1955 年加入海军，1969 年退役，他 1978 年从海军预备役退役时军衔为中校。没有提供关于 Southall 先生情况的进一步信息。关于 Abram 先生，答复称，美国空军进行了查询，没有发现任何可以回复专家组询问的资料。关于 Doyle 先生，回复称，Doyle 先生 1960 年代初在刚果地区为中央情报局工作。关于 1961 年 9 月 17 和 18 日恩多拉是否可能有两架美国空军的飞机以及它们之间是否可能有通话，回复称，美国空军进行了查寻，没有发现任何关于 1960 年 9 月恩多拉机场跑道上有美国空军飞机的文件或资料。本说明附件三有美利坚合众国常驻代表来信的复件。

8. 2015 年 11 月 18 日写给南非常驻代表的信提到专家组 2015 年 4 月 23 日的信。小组的信提到，曾经询问一份 1998 年交给南非真相与和解委员会的档案，据说内有文件提及一个代号为“Celeste”的行动和一名可能名叫“Swanepoel”的南非国民。南非常驻代表团在 2016 年 7 月 1 日的回复中指出，“在南非共和国真相与和解委员会 1990 年代举行听证的期间作出的一项披露表明‘南非海事研究所’可能插手达格·哈马舍尔德先生罹难事件”。回复表示，南非全力支持根据大会上述决议进行调查。它还说，司法和宪政发展部已经指示查找任何相关文件、记

录或资料，然后将根据南非共和国宪法和法律的相关规定考虑联合国的请求。回复没有具体提及其他记录，包括关于名为“Swanepoel”的人的记录。本说明附件四有南非常驻代表来信的复件。

9. 关于在我重申专家组未获回复的请求后收到的有关回复，我注意到比利时的回复没有证实现有资料的价值。我还注意到联合王国的回复证实了 2015 年 6 月 10 日同专家组分享的信息。美国的回复证实专家组审议的某些事实，答复了有关 Doyle 先生的询问。特别是就 Southall 先生而言，美国先前已经证实他当时在美国海军服役。尚未提供进一步资料表明他的工作的性质，包括他派驻在何地。没有提供任何关于 Abram 先生的信息。Doyle 先生 1969 年代初在刚果地区为中央情报局工作的情况得到了证实。我在审议上述情况后注意到，比利时、联合王国和美国的回复似乎没有改变专家组得出的结论，特别是它关于有关资料有足够的证明价值来继续探讨有关空中袭击或其他干预致使飞机坠毁的假设的意见。

10. 关于南非的回复，看起来以前的调查没有看到某些文件，如果这些文件是原件的话。专家组提到的这些文件的复件显然与所述的“Celeste 行动”有关，该行动的目标据说是“干掉”达格·哈马舍尔德。专家组无法确定这些文件是否是真实的，因为它只有“次劣的复件”，如果南非可以提供原件，就有可能进行法医分析或其他分析来确定它们是否是真实的。知道文件的真伪，有关“Celeste 行动”的假设就能得到证实或排除，无论是证实还是排除，都会对历史记录作出贡献。

11. 在专家组结束工作后，还收到了不同人的来函，在编写本说明之日仍继续收到这些信函。这些信函不够全面，我无法断定它们最终是否会影响专家组审议的资料的证明价值。我认为，这些信函似乎提出一些还没有得到充分探讨的调查思路。

12. 我在 2015 年 7 月 2 日写给大会主席的信中指出，需要进一步进行查询或调查。我认为这一结论仍然有效。大会似乎也预见的到这一点，因为它在第 70/11 号决议中“认识到有必要进一步开展质询或调查，以最终查明事实”。可能获得的资料，包括从南非获得的资料，都会有助于进一步查询或调查。因此，大会不妨考虑先任命或授权我任命一名或数名著名人士来审阅可能收到的新资料，包括可能从南非收到的资料。这样，有关著名人士就能确定进一步查询或调查的范围。

13. 我再次促请所有会员国继续查找相关文件和资料，审查仍然保密或出于其他原因没有披露的可以披露的资料。我已经解密了那些根据相关条例和细则由我负责的联合国档案，其中有些档案在专家组编写报告时仍然按保密或严格保密等级进行保密。

14. 我还根据专家组的建议和大会第 70/11 号决议的要求，“探讨了是否可以设立一个集中的档案机构或其他整体性安排，让联合国或得到批准的其他各方通过电子或其他适当形式查阅这些记录和档案，确保它们继续进一步得到保护和查阅”。

为此，已经汇编了一份可能持有与事件有关的记录或档案的机构和个人的名单。一旦收到足够多的回复来编制一份列有所有相关记录和档案的初步目录(尽管这一目录必然会随着时间的迁移越编越长)，就需要作出管理和索取目录的适当安排，这些安排可以是设立一个集中的档案机构的基础。初步评估表明，可能有大量的材料，其中大部分是电子形式的。因此，一个可行的做法是把所有相关记录和档案的电子版本提供给一个实体，组建这些记录的电子数据库，作为集中的档案机构。

15. 了解导致达格·哈马舍尔德及其随行人员罹难的原因和情况的真相仍然是我们的共同责任。为此，我再次促请大会根据第 69/246 号决议第 2 段和第 70/11 号决议，再次呼吁会员国解密在事件发生五十多年后仍然保密的相关记录，或以其他方式将其提供给大会希望由其负责这项工作的著名人士查阅。如我先前所述，这是我们了解真相的最后机会。全面了解有关情况，是我们要对我尊敬的杰出前任达格·哈马舍尔德、对他的随行人员和对他们的家人履行的一个庄严义务。

Annex I



POSTAL ADDRESS-ADRESSE POSTALE: UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. 10017
TELEPHONE NO: (212)-963-1234; FAX NO. (212)-963-3155

18 November 2015

Excellency,

I have the honor to refer to the General Assembly resolution 69/246 of 29 December 2014 requesting the Secretary-General to appoint an Independent Panel of Experts in order to examine and assess the probative value of new information related to the tragic death of former Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld and of members of the party accompanying him. I have further the honor to refer to the letter dated 2 July 2015 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly transmitting the report of the Panel together with a transmittal letter from the Head of the Panel (A/70/132). On behalf of the Secretary-General, I wish to express his sincere appreciation for the information and material provided by your Government in order to assist the Panel in its work.

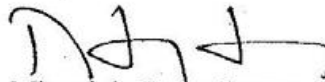
It will be recalled that, in transmitting the Panel's report to the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General endorsed the Panel's views that "the final revelation of the whole truth about the conditions and circumstances resulting in the tragic death ... would still require the United Nations, as a matter of continuity and priority, to further critically address remaining information gaps, including in the existence of classified materials and information held by Member States and their agencies that may shed further light on this fatal event and its probable cause or causes". Of particular relevance is material and information which relates to the information that the Panel has assessed as having moderate probative value.

As stated in his letter to the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General requested that I engage with the Member States concerned to follow up on the unfulfilled aspects of the Panel's requests for information. In this regard, I wish to refer to paragraph 114 of the Panel's report regarding the Panel's unanswered query to your Government "whether it has among its files and records material related to the possible existence of a pilot by the name "Beukels". It will be recalled that with its letter, dated 23 April 2015, a copy of which is attached, the Panel sought such information from your Government.

Her Excellency
Ms. Bénédicte Frankinet
Permanent Representative of Belgium
to the United Nations
New York

The Secretary-General is of the view that it is the shared responsibility of the Organization and its Member States "to pursue the full truth concerning the conditions and circumstances resulting in the tragic death of Dag Hammarskjöld and the others accompanying him". To this end, I respectfully request that the relevant authorities of your Government share with the United Nations any material or information that they may have in relation to the above-mentioned subject.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Miguel de Serpa Soares
Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs
and United Nations Legal Counsel



Représentation Permanente du Royaume de Belgique
auprès des Nations Unies

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Réf. : NYKUN0/JUR 01/NV/amr/2016/009

CONFIDENTIEL

Le Représentant permanent de la Belgique auprès de l'Organisation des Nations Unies présente ses compliments au Secrétaire général adjoint pour les Affaires juridiques de l'Organisation des Nations Unies et a l'honneur de se référer à la note verbale du 18 novembre 2015 concernant « L'Enquête sur les conditions et les circonstances de la mort tragique de Dag Hammarskjöld et des personnes qui l'accompagnaient ».

Le Représentant permanent de la Belgique auprès de l'Organisation des Nations Unies a l'honneur de faire savoir au Secrétaire général adjoint pour les Affaires juridiques de l'Organisation des Nations Unies que la Belgique confirme n'avoir trouvé aucune trace de l'existence d'un pilote dénommé Beukels, ni dans les archives diplomatiques ni dans les archives de sociétés privées (Société générale, Union Minière et Sibeka) conservées aux Archives générales du Royaume. A toute fin utile, il précise que ces archives sont d'accès public et consultables sur demande.

New York, le 11 janvier 2016



Le Secrétaire général adjoint pour les Affaires juridiques
de l'Organisation des Nations Unies
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New York

Annex II



POSTAL ADDRESS-ADRESSE POSTALE: UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. 10017
TELEPHONE NO.: (212)-963-1234; FAX NO. (212)-963-3155

18 November 2015

Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to General Assembly resolution 69/246 of 29 December 2014 requesting the Secretary-General to appoint an Independent Panel of Experts in order to examine and assess the probative value of new information related to the tragic death of former Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld and of members of the party accompanying him. I have the further honour to refer to the letter dated 2 July 2015 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly transmitting the report of the Panel together with a transmittal letter from the Head of the Panel (A/70/132).

It will be recalled that, in transmitting the Panel's report to the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General fully endorsed the Panel's views that "the final revelation of the whole truth about the conditions and circumstances resulting in the tragic death ... would still require the United Nations, as a matter of continuity and priority, to further critically address remaining information gaps, including in the existence of classified material and information held by Member States and their agencies that may shed further light on this fatal event and its probable cause or causes". Of particular relevance is material and information which relates to the information that the Panel has assessed as having moderate probative value.

As stated in his letter to the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General requested that I engage with the Member States concerned to follow up on the unfulfilled aspects of the Panel's requests for information. In this regard, I wish to refer to the Panel's report, and more specifically to the Panel's letter, dated 23 April 2015. Your Government's response to this letter, dated 10 June 2015, informed that Panel as follows:

"The vast majority of UK material relating to these events has already been released to The National Archives at Kew and is available to the public there. The FCO has coordinated a search across all relevant UK departments. None of these departments have identified any pertinent material."

His Excellency
Mr. Matthew Rycroft, CBE
Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom
to the United Nations
New York

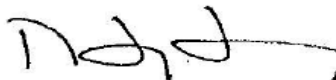
"I have also commissioned a review of all the retained material listed in your letter to determine whether this material can now be released. This review has been carried out on the basis that all relevant information should be released to the Panel unless it is absolutely necessary to continue to withhold it."

"I regret that our review has determined that we are not in a position to release any of the retained material. We have reviewed all of the individual redactions and we have concluded that this information must continue to be withheld under Section 3(4) of the UK Public Records Act. In all cases the reason for these redactions is that the information cannot be released for security-related reasons."

"The redactions consist of individual pieces of text, within otherwise open files. We are not retaining any whole documents or files. The total amount of information withheld is very small and most of the redactions only consist of a few words. The limited nature of these redactions can be seen in the files which are openly available at The National Archives. Our assessment is that all information of value to the Panel has already been released to The National Archives in the files you have identified and that release of the redacted material would not provide anything of additional value for the Panel's work."

As stated by the Secretary-General, it is the shared responsibility of the Organization and its Member States "to pursue the full truth concerning the conditions and circumstances resulting in the tragic death of Dag Hammarskjöld and the others accompanying him". While your Government has informed the Panel that the information withheld "is very small and most of the redactions consist of a few words", I respectfully request that your Government consider releasing the materials in question without any redactions. I also respectfully request that your Government confirm that its search of "all relevant UK departments" has included a search of all security and intelligence agencies, as has been indicated by other Member States of which similar information has been sought.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Miguel de Serpa Soares
Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs
and United Nations Legal Counsel



United Kingdom
Mission to the
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23 June 2016

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Dag Hammarskjöld Panel

DAG HAMMARSKJÖLD PANEL

Thank you for your letter of 17 March. I am sorry not to have been able to reply until now.

I refer you again to the letter dated 10 June 2015 from the Foreign and Commonwealth's Departmental Records Officer, Mr Robert Deane. The United Kingdom's position on release of information has not changed since that letter. The United Kingdom considered very carefully whether there was any material we could release before sending the June 2015 letter explaining that we are not in a position to release any of the retained material. Our position remains the same and we are not able to release the materials in question without any redactions.

As set out in the United Kingdom's letter of June 2015, the redactions consist of individual pieces of text, within otherwise open files. The total amount of information withheld is very small and most of the redactions only consist of a few words. The limited nature of these redactions can be seen in the files which are openly available at The National Archives.

You have also asked whether our searches included a search of all security and intelligence agencies. On 10 May 2016, in a response to a Parliamentary Question on

this subject, the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, the Rt Hon Philip Hammond MP, said that "the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) coordinated a search across all relevant UK Government departments."

Our assessment is still that all information of value to the Panel has already been released to The National Archives and that release of the redacted material would not provide anything of additional value for the Panel's work.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Rycroft', with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Matthew Rycroft

Annex III



POSTAL ADDRESS-ADRESSE POSTALE: UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. 10017
TELEPHONE NO.: (212)-963-1234; FAX NO. (212)-963-3155

18 November 2015

Excellency,

I have the honor to refer to the General Assembly resolution 69/246 of 29 December 2014 requesting the Secretary-General to appoint an Independent Panel of Experts in order to examine and assess the probative value of new information related to the tragic death of former Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld and of members of the party accompanying him. I have further the honor to refer to the letter dated 2 July 2015 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly transmitting the report of the Panel together with a transmittal letter from the Head of the Panel (A/70/132). On behalf of the Secretary-General, I wish to express his sincere appreciation for the information and material provided by your Government in order to assist the Panel in its work.

It will be recalled that, in transmitting the Panel's report to the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General endorsed the Panel's views that "the final revelation of the whole truth about the conditions and circumstances resulting in the tragic death ... would still require the United Nations, as a matter of continuity and priority, to further critically address remaining information gaps, including in the existence of classified materials and information held by Member States and their agencies that may shed further light on this fatal event and its probable cause or causes". Of particular relevance is material and information which relates to the information that the Panel has assessed as having moderate probative value.

As stated in his letter to the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General requested that I engage with the Member States concerned to follow up on the unfulfilled aspects of the Panel's requests for information. In this regard, I wish to refer to paragraphs 84 and 94 of the Panel's report regarding information not yet provided by your Government. Specifically, I refer to the following requests from the Head of the Panel. In the letter, dated 23 April 2015, the Panel indicated to your Government as follows:

"the Panel would welcome information about whether Mr. Southall and Mr. Abram were enlisted in the US Navy and Air Force, respectively, or other branches of the US Government at the time in question; stationed in Cyprus and Greece, respectively; and whether and in what capacity they worked in support of the National Security Agency at that time".

Her Excellency
Ms. Samantha Power
Permanent Representative of the United States
to the United Nations
New York

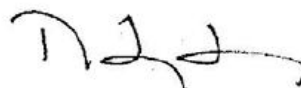
“The Panel notes the Commission’s reporting on the presence of two US Air Force aircraft, possibly DC-3 Dakotas, on the tarmac at Ndola airfield on the night of the crash, which Rhodesian Royal Air Force Squadron Leader Mussell reported to the UN inquiry of 1962 were ‘sitting on the airfield with their engines running’. The latter observation was assessed at the time as inviting the possibility those on board were listening to radio communications in the area or transmitting information to another station or both. In assessing the probative value of this information, the Panel respectfully requests the competent US authorities to search their records for and share with the Panel any information they may have in their possession obtained or transmitted by those aboard the two US Air Force aircraft that could shed light on the circumstances relating to the tragic crash of flight SE-BDY.”

In the letter dated 28 May 2015, the Panel indicated to your Government as follows:

“The Panel would be grateful for information about whether Mr. Doyle was a member of the Central Intelligence Agency or other US Government department or agency and, if so, whether he was posted to the Congo or the surrounding region at or around the time in question.”

As stated by the Secretary-General, it is the shared responsibility of the Organization and its Member States “to pursue the full truth concerning the conditions and circumstances resulting in the tragic death of Dag Hammarskjöld and the others accompanying him”. To this end, I respectfully request that the relevant authorities of your Government share with the United Nations any material or information that they may have in their custody or possession in response to the above queries from the Panel, which have remained unanswered.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Miguel de Serpa Soares
Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs
and United Nations Legal Counsel



UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

799 UNITED NATIONS PLAZA
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10017-3505

June 10, 2016

Dear Under-Secretary-General Soares,

I am writing with reference to your letters dated November 18, 2015 and March 17, 2016. I am responding to your letters on behalf of Ambassador Power.

In your letters, you made reference to the Independent Panel of Experts which was charged with examining and assessing the probative value of new information related to the tragic death of former Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld and of members of the party accompanying him, and you expressed your appreciation for the information and material provided by the United States Government in order to assist the Panel in its work. In your letters, you also requested that the relevant authorities of the US Government share with the United Nations any material or information that they may have in their custody or possession in response to the following queries of the Panel. The US Government's response follows each of the queries below.

1. Query: "The Panel would welcome information about whether Mr. Southall and Mr. Abram were enlisted in the US Navy and Air Force, respectively, or other branches of the US Government at the time in question; stationed in Cyprus and Greece, respectively; and whether and in what capacity they worked in support of the National Security Agency at that time."

Response: As noted in my letter dated June 9, 2015, with respect to Mr. Southall, we have received information that indicates that he joined the Navy in 1955 and was released from active duty in 1969, and that he retired from the Naval Reserve in 1978 at the rank of commander. The US Navy has conducted a search and has found no further information regarding Mr. Southall responsive to the above queries. The US Air Force has conducted a search and has found no information regarding Mr. Abram responsive to the above queries. We are not aware of any other information in response to the above queries.

Mr. Miguel de Serpa Soares
Under-Secretary General and Legal Counsel
Office of Legal Affairs
United Nations S-3620
New York, New York

2. Query: "The Panel notes the Commission's reporting on the presence of two US Air Force aircraft, possibly DC-3 Dakotas, on the tarmac of Ndola airfield on the night of the crash, which Rhodesian Royal Air Force Squadron Leader Mussell reported to the UN inquiry of 1962 were 'sitting on the airfield with their engines running.' The latter observation was assessed at the time as inviting the possibility those on board were listening to radio communications in the area or transmitting information to another station or both. In assessing the probative value of this information, the Panel respectfully requests the competent US authorities to search their records for and share with the Panel any information they may have in their possession obtained or transmitted by those aboard two US Air Force aircraft that could shed light on the circumstances relating to the tragic crash of flight SE-BDY."

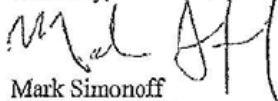
Response: The United States Air Force has conducted a search and has not found any documents or information regarding the presence of any US Air Force aircraft on the tarmac at Ndola airport in September of 1961.

3. Query: "The Panel would be grateful for information about whether Mr. Doyle was a member of the Central Intelligence Agency or other US Government department or agency and, if so, whether he was posted to the Congo or the surrounding region at or around the time in question."

Response: In the early 1960's, Mr. Doyle worked for the Central Intelligence Agency in the Congo region.

I hope that the information that the United States has provided has been of assistance to you.

Sincerely,



Mark Simonoff
Minister Counsellor
Legal Affairs

Annex IV



18 November 2015

Excellency,

I have the honor to refer to the General Assembly resolution 69/246 of 29 December 2014 requesting the Secretary-General to appoint an Independent Panel of Experts in order to examine and assess the probative value of new information related to the tragic death of former Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld and of members of the party accompanying him. I have further the honor to refer to the letter dated 2 July 2015 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly transmitting the report of the Panel together with a transmittal letter from the Head of the Panel (A/70/132).

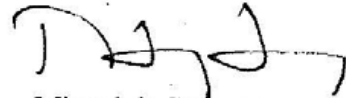
It will be recalled that, in transmitting the Panel's report to the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General endorsed the Panel's views that "the final revelation of the whole truth about the conditions and circumstances resulting in the tragic death ... would still require the United Nations, as a matter of continuity and priority, to further critically address remaining information gaps, including in the existence of classified materials and information held by Member States and their agencies that may shed further light on this fatal event and its probable cause or causes". Of particular relevance is material and information which relates to the information that the Panel has assessed as having moderate probative value.

As stated in his letter to the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General requested that I engage with the Member States concerned to follow up on the unfulfilled aspects of the Panel's requests for information. In this regard, I wish to refer generally to the Panel's report and more specifically to the Panel's letter, dated 23 April 2015, requesting that the competent South African authorities search for and share the information and material they may have in their possession in respect of the queries set forth in that letter. A copy of the Panel's letter, dated 23 April 2015, which has remained unanswered, is attached.

His Excellency
Mr. Jeremiah Nyamane Kingsley Mamabolo
Permanent Representative of the Republic
of South Africa to the United Nations
New York

As stated by the Secretary-General, it is the shared responsibility of the Organization and its Member States "to pursue the full truth concerning the conditions and circumstances resulting in the tragic death of Dag Hammarskjöld and the others accompanying him". To this end, I respectfully request that the relevant authorities of your Government share with the United Nations any material or information that they may have in response to the Panel's specific requests dated 23 April 2015 they may have in their custody or possession.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Miguel de Serpa Soares
Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs
and United Nations Legal Counsel



Note No. 373 / 2016

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of South Africa to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Office of Legal Affairs and Legal Counsel of the United Nations, and has the honour to refer to the letter dated 18 November 2015 requesting assistance from the South African authorities in acquiring possible new information relating to the death of former UN Secretary-General Mr Dag Hammarskjöld in 1961.

The Republic of South Africa wishes to assure the Office of Legal Affairs of its full support of the investigation and for the request to provide the Secretary-General with relevant information related to the death of Mr Dag Hammarskjöld and the members of the party accompanying him. The Republic of South Africa has taken note of the Report of the Independent Panel of Experts, which, amongst others, notes a revelation made during the Republic of South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) hearings in 1990s pointing to the possible involvement of an "SA Institute for Maritime Research (SAIMR)" in the death of Mr Hammarskjöld.

The Department of Justice and Constitutional Development has directed that a search be undertaken for any documents, records or information in compliance with the above UN General Assembly resolution. The Secretary-General, through the Office of Legal Affairs will be kept abreast of developments once the documentation has been located and the request from the Office of Legal Affairs will be considered in-line with the relevant constitutional and legal requirements of the Republic of South Africa.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of South Africa to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew its highest consideration to the Office of Legal Affairs and Legal Counsel of the United Nations.

1 July 2016
New York

Office of Legal Affairs and Legal Counsel
United Nations
New York

