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Press Release GA/1692
28 August 1958

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA
THIRTEENTH SESSION

- 16 September 1958

(For use of information media -- not an official record)
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ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE
THIRTEENTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The thirteenth regular session of the General Assembly will open on Tuesday, 16 September, at the headquarters of the United Nations, New York.

The General Assembly's rules of procedure stipulate that the provisional agenda for a regular session shall be drawn up by the Secretary-General and communicated to the members of the United Nations at least 60 days before the opening of the session.

For the coming session, a provisional agenda of 68 items was issued on 18 July 1958 (Doc. A/3946).

The rules of procedure also provide that any member or principal organ of the United Nations, or the Secretary-General, may, at least 30 days before the opening date of a regular session, request the inclusion of supplementary items on the agenda. The list of supplementary items has to be communicated to members at least 20 days before the opening of a regular session.

For the 15th regular session, a supplementary list containing three items was issued on 27 August (Doc. A/3894).

Another rule of procedure allows the inclusion of additional items "of an important and urgent character," proposed less than 30 days before the opening of a regular session, or during the session, provided that the Assembly so decides by a majority of the members present and voting. Any such additional item may not be considered by the Assembly until a Committee has reported upon the question concerned and until a period of seven days has elapsed after inclusion of the item, unless the Assembly decides otherwise by a two-thirds majority vote.

Items for the Assembly's thirteenth regular session are listed below in the order in which they appear on the provisional agenda and the supplementary list. This is not necessarily the order in which they will appear on the agenda as adopted by the Assembly.

The notes on each item are given as background information.

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ITEMS ON THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA (DOC. A/3846)

Opening of the session by the Chairman of the delegation of New Zealand

1. The Chairman of the delegation from which the President of the previous session was elected presides until the Assembly elects a President for the new session. Sir Leslie Munro of New Zealand was President of the Twelfth Regular Session.

2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation

Rule 64 of the Assembly’s rules of procedure provides that, “Immediately after the opening of the first plenary meeting and immediately preceding the closing of the final plenary meeting of each session of the General Assembly, the President shall invite the representatives to observe one minute of silence dedicated to prayer or meditation.”

3. Credentials of representatives to the thirteenth session of the General Assembly
   (a) Appointment of the Credentials Committee
   (b) Report of the Credentials Committee

At the beginning of each session, the Assembly appoints, on the proposal of the President, a committee of nine members to examine the credentials of representatives and to report to the Assembly.

4. Election of the President

The President is elected by secret ballot and by a simple majority. There are no nominations.

The following is a list of past Assembly Presidents: Paul-Henri Spaak of Belgium (First Regular Session); Oswaldo Aranha of Brazil (First Special Session and Second Regular Session); Jose Arce of Argentina (Second Special Session); Herbert V. Evatt of Australia (Third Regular Session); Carlos P. Romulo of the Philippines (Fourth Regular Session); Nasrallah Entezam of Iran (Fifth Regular Session); Luis Padilla Nervo of Mexico (Sixth Regular Session); Lester B. Pearson of Canada (Seventh Regular Session); Maa. Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit of India (Eighth Regular Session); Belco N. van Kleffens of the Netherlands (Ninth Regular Session); Jose Maza of Chile (Tenth Regular Session); Prince Narathuyut of Thailand (Eleventh Regular Session and First and Second Emergency Special Sessions); Sir Leslie Munro of New Zealand (Twelfth Regular Session and Third Emergency Special Session).

5. Credentials

The Credentials Committee for any regular sessions is elected by a two-thirds majority vote for any special session without the need for a preliminary proposal to be taken.

The Credentials Committee is a sub-committee of the Assembly.

6. Election of the President

The President is elected by a secret ballot and by a simple majority. There are no nominations.

The following is a list of past Assembly Presidents: Paul-Henri Spaak of Belgium (First Regular Session); Oswaldo Aranha of Brazil (First Special Session and Second Regular Session); Jose Arce of Argentina (Second Special Session); Herbert V. Evatt of Australia (Third Regular Session); Carlos P. Romulo of the Philippines (Fourth Regular Session); Nasrallah Entezam of Iran (Fifth Regular Session); Luis Padilla Nervo of Mexico (Sixth Regular Session); Lester B. Pearson of Canada (Seventh Regular Session); Maa. Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit of India (Eighth Regular Session); Belco N. van Kleffens of the Netherlands (Ninth Regular Session); Jose Maza of Chile (Tenth Regular Session); Prince Narathuyut of Thailand (Eleventh Regular Session and First and Second Emergency Special Sessions); Sir Leslie Munro of New Zealand (Twelfth Regular Session and Third Emergency Special Session).
5. Constitution of the Main Committees and election of officers

The Assembly has seven Main Committees, as follows: the First (Political and Security); the Special Political Committee; the Second (Economic and Financial); the Third (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural); the Fourth (Trusteeship and Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories); the Fifth (Administrative and Budgetary); and the Sixth (Legal). All 51 member nations are represented on each of the Main Committees, to which are referred items falling within their fields of competence.

The Assembly, acting directly in plenary meetings, deals with items which, for any reason, are not referred to a committee. The Main Committees discuss proposals in detail and report recommendations to the Assembly where final action is taken. A two-thirds majority vote of those present and voting is required in plenary meetings for resolutions on important questions, but voting in the committees is by simple majority, except to reopen discussion on a question, for which a two-thirds majority is needed.

Each Main Committee elects a chairman, a vice-chairman and a rapporteur on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, experience, and personal competence. The chairmen are elected at the first meetings of the Main Committees which are convened in quick succession for the purpose in the plenary Assembly hall without the Assembly delegates leaving their seats. Election of the vice-chairmen and rapporteurs takes place at subsequent meetings of the committees, usually the second meeting. Election of Committee officers is by secret ballot.

6. Election of Vice-Presidents

The forthcoming Assembly will for the first time elect thirteen Vice-Presidents. Originally the rules of procedure provided for eight Vice-Presidents. By a resolution adopted on 12 December 1957 the Assembly decided to amend rules 31 and 36 of its rules of procedure to provide for an increase to thirteen Vice-Presidents. In making this decision the Assembly took into account the considerable increase in the membership of the United Nations and expressed the belief that the General Committee -- which is composed of the President, the Vice-Presidents and the Chairmen of the Main Committees -- should be enlarged. In an annex to the resolution, the Assembly specified that the thirteen Vice-Presidents shall be elected according to the following pattern:
1. (a) Four representatives from Asian and African States;
   (b) One representative from an Eastern European State;
   (c) Two representatives from Latin American States;
   (d) Two representatives from Western European and other States;
   (e) Five representatives from the permanent members of the Security Council.

2. The region from which the President is elected will, however, reduce by one the number of Vice-Presidencies allocated to that region.

3. At least one of the Vice-Presidents in categories (a) or (d), or the President or one of the Chairmen of the Main Committees, will be from a Commonwealth country, without altering the geographical distribution of seats in the General Committee, as defined in (1) and (2) above and in paragraph 1 of the resolution.

   Paragraph 1 of the resolution confirms the practice established with regard to the distribution of the chairmanships of the Main Committees, namely, two from Latin American States, two from Asian and African States, two from Western European and other States, and one from an Eastern European State.

   The Vice-Presidents are elected by simple majority and secret ballot. Member countries are elected, not individuals. The heads of the delegations of the countries elected serve as Vice-Presidents.

   The President, the 13 Vice-Presidents and the 7 Chairmen of the Main Committees constitute the General Committee. Among its functions are to consider the provisional agenda, together with the supplementary list, and make recommendations to the General Assembly with regard to each item proposed, concerning its inclusion in the agenda, the rejection of the request for inclusion, or the inclusion of the item in the provisional agenda of a future session. In the same manner, it examines requests for the inclusion of additional items in the agenda. In considering matters relating to the agenda, the General Committee may not discuss the substance of any item, except in so far as this bears upon the question of its inclusion in the agenda and what priority is accorded to an item which is recommended for inclusion. It also makes recommendations to the General Assembly on the closing days of the session; assists
This article of the Charter requires the Secretar y-General, with the consent of the Security Council, to notify the Assembly at each session of any matters relative to the maintenance of international peace and security which are being dealt with by the Security Council.

8. Adoption of the agenda

All the items submitted for inclusion in the agenda are considered by the General Committee (see page 4 above) which reports to the Assembly with its recommendations. The Assembly adopts the agenda by a majority of members present and voting.

9. Opening of the general debate

At the beginning of each session of the Assembly, there is a general debate in which the heads of delegations usually express the views of their countries on problems of common concern to the membership of the United Nations.

10. Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization

The Charter requires the Secretary-General to report annually to the Assembly on the work of the Organization as a whole. The report for the period from 16 June 1957 to 15 June 1958 (Doc. A/5844) deals with all aspects of United Nations activity under six broad headings: political and security questions, economic and social developments, questions concerning trusteeship and non-self-governing territories, legal questions, the development of public understanding, and administrative and budgetary questions.


The report, not yet issued, will cover the period from 16 July 1957 to 15 July 1958. The Charter requires the Council to submit such annual reports and as in other years, the report will summarize the resolutions approved or rejected and the Council’s discussions. The practice so far is for the Assembly simply to "take note" of the Council’s report.
12. **Report of the Economic and Social Council**

The report (Doc. A/3848) covers the period 3 August 1957 to 31 July 1958. This includes the Council's work at its resumed 24th session, the 25th session, and the first part of the 26th session, with various recommendations submitted to the General Assembly. The report will be issued later.


The Council's annual report (Doc. A/3822) consists this year of two separate volumes, covering the work of the Council's 21st and 22nd sessions, held from 30 January to 26 March and from 9 June to 1 August 1958, respectively.

The report includes an account of the Council's annual appraisal of conditions in all but two of the ten trust territories. In the case of the Pacific Islands administered by the United States, the Council reports to the Security Council, as this is a strategic trust territory. In the case of Togoland under French administration, the Council will convene a special session in September 1959 to examine conditions in the territory, particularly the question of its future status.

Volume I of the Council's report gives an account of conditions in Somalia under Italian administration, Western Samoa under New Zealand administration, and Nauru and New Guinea administered by Australia. Volume II describes conditions in Tanganyika and the Cameroons administered by the United Kingdom, the Cameroons administered by France, and Ruanda-Urundi administered by Belgium.


By the resolution of 14 November 1957, the General Assembly approved the agreement governing the relationship between the United Nations and the International Atomic Energy Agency. By Article I of the agreement, the United Nations recognizes the IAEA as the agency "responsible for international activities concerned with the peaceful uses of atomic energy...without prejudice to the rights and responsibilities of the United Nations in this field under the Charter of the United Nations." Under Article III, the IAEA is enjoined to keep the UN informed of its activities and to submit reports covering its activities to the General Assembly at each regular session.

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The International Atomic Energy Agency came into being 29 July 1957 when all formal requirements were met to bring its Statute into force. The Statute had been approved at an international conference at UN Headquarters in October 1956. The first General Conference of the IAEA was held in Vienna, 1-23 October 1957.

The report of the Agency to the General Assembly has not yet been issued.

15. Election of three non-permanent members of the Security Council

The Security Council consists of five permanent members (China, France, the USSR, the United Kingdom and the United States) and six non-permanent members elected by the Assembly for two-year terms.

The terms of Colombia, Iraq and Sweden expire at the end of 1958. Election is by two-thirds majority on a secret ballot. The Charter calls for attention to be paid to "the contribution of members of the United Nations to the maintenance of international peace and security and to the other purposes of the Organization, and also to equitable geographical distribution." Retiring members are not eligible for immediate re-election.

The three other non-permanent Council members which serve until the end of 1959 are Canada, Japan and Panama.

So far, the following non-permanent members have served on the Council:

- Argentina (1943-49)
- Australia (1946-47, 1955-57)
- Belgium (1947-48, 1955-56)
- Brazil (1947-48, 1953-54, 1954-55)
- Canada (1948-49, 1958-59)
- Chile (1952-53)
- Colombia (1947-48, 1953-54, 1957-58)
- Cuba (1949-50, 1956-57)
- Denmark (1953-54)
- Ecuador (1950-51)
- Egypt (1946, 1949-50)
- Greece (1952-53)
- India (1950-51)
- Iran (1955-56)
- Iraq (1957-58)
- Japan (1958-59)
- Lebanon (1953-54)
- Mexico (1946)
- Netherlands (1946, 1951-52)
- New Zealand (1954-55)
- Norway (1949-50)
- Pakistan (1952-55)
- Panama (1958-59)
- Peru (1955-56)
- Philippines (1957)
- Poland (1946-47)
- Sweden (1957-58)
- Syria (1947-48)
- Turkey (1951-52, 1954-55)
- Ukrainian SSR (1948-49)
- Yugoslavia (1950-51, 1956)

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16. **Election of six members of the Economic and Social Council**

Six of the 18 members of the Economic and Social Council retire each year after completing three-year terms of office. Election is by secret ballot, and a two-thirds majority is required. Retiring members are eligible for immediate re-election.

The present members of the Council are Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Finland, France, Greece, Indonesia, Mexico, Netherlands, Pakistan, Poland, Sudan, USSR, United Kingdom, United States, and Yugoslavia.

The six members whose terms of office expire at the end of this year are Brazil, Canada, Greece, Indonesia, United States, and Yugoslavia.

17. **Election of three members of the Trusteeship Council**

The Trusteeship Council consists of United Nations members administering trust territories, permanent members of the Security Council and as many other non-administering members elected by the General Assembly for three-year terms as are required to ensure on the Council an equal number of countries which administer trust territories and of those which do not.

The present members of the Council are Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, India, Italy, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States (administering members); China and the USSR (non-administering permanent members of the Security Council); and Burma, Guatemala, the United Arab Republic, Haiti and India (elected members).

The terms of Burma, Guatemala and the United Arab Republic will expire at the end of 1958.

Elected members of the Council are eligible for immediate re-election when their terms expire. Election is by secret ballot and by a two-thirds majority.

18. **Appointment of the members of the Peace Observation Commission**

In 1950, under the "Uniting for Peace" resolution, the Assembly established a Peace Observation Commission "which could observe and report on the situation in any area where there exists international tension the continuance of which is likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security."

The terms of the 14 members of the Commission -- China, Czechoslovakia, France, Honduras, India, Iraq, Israel, New Zealand, Pakistan, Sweden, the USSR, the United Kingdom, the United States and Uruguay -- expire at the end of 1958.

19. **Appointment of members of the Disarmament Commission**

The Disarmament Commission was established by the General Assembly on 11 January 1952 to carry forward the tasks originally assigned to the Atomic Energy Commission and the Commission for Conventional Armaments, which were then dissolved. The membership of the Disarmament Commission was to be the same as that of the previous two bodies; that is, the members of the Security Council plus Canada (when not a member of the Council). (more)
Last November, the Assembly decided to enlarge the Commission by the
addition of 14 member states which, for the first year -- 1 January 1958 to 1
January 1959 -- were to be: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Burma,
Czechoslovakia, Egypt, India, Italy, Mexico, Norway, Poland, Tunisia and Yugoslavia.

The enlarged Commission has not met so far this year.

20. Election of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
(resolution 1150 (XIII) of 26 November 1957)

Last year the General Assembly decided to continue the Office of the United
Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for a period of five years from 1 January 1959
and to elect a High Commissioner, for the same period, at the thirteenth session.

The Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees began functioning on
1 January 1951. Originally it was established for three years but the mandate was
extended until the end of 1958.

Auguste R. Lindt of Switzerland, the present High Commissioner, was
elected at the eleventh session in 1956 for the period of the unexpired term of
the late Dr. G.J. van Heuven Goedhart of the Netherlands, the first UN High
Commissioner for Refugees.

The High Commissioner is elected in plenary meeting of the General Assembly
on the nomination of the United Nations Secretary-General.

21. Question of amending the United Nations Charter, in accordance with the
procedure laid down in Article 103 of the Charter, to increase the number
of non-permanent members of the Security Council and the number of votes
required for decisions of the Council (resolution 1190 (XII) of 12 December
1957)

This item was first placed on the agenda of the eleventh Assembly session
but postponed to the twelfth session and then again postponed until the thirteenth
regular session.

In an explanatory memorandum (Doc. A/3138) submitted in 1956 by 16 Latin
American delegations and by the delegation of Spain, the sponsors noted that there
had been a substantial increase in the membership of the United Nations. The
memorandum referred to the need for "maintaining a satisfactory distribution in the
membership of some of the principal organs of the United Nations and to facilitating
the participation of new members in the work of those organs."

The 17 countries sponsoring the item in 1956 were Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil,
Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador,
Haiti, Honduras, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Spain and Venezuela.

Under Article 23 of the Charter, the Security Council is now composed of
five permanent members and six non-permanent members, the latter elected by the
General Assembly for a period of two years. Under Article 27, seven affirmative

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votes are required for a decision by the Council on procedural questions; on all other matters the seven affirmative votes must include the concurring votes of the permanent members.

Article 108 provides that amendments to the Charter shall come into force "when they have been adopted by a vote of two-thirds of the members of the General Assembly and ratified in accordance with their respective constitutional processes by two-thirds of the members of the United Nations, including all the permanent members of the Security Council."

On the recommendation of the Special Political Committee, the Assembly on 12 December 1957 unanimously decided to consider the item further at its thirteenth session.

22. Question of amending the United Nations Charter, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 108 of the Charter, to increase the membership of the Economic and Social Council (resolution 1190 (XII) of 12 December 1957).

Similarly, this item was postponed by the eleventh and twelfth sessions of the Assembly for consideration at the thirteenth session. The question had been proposed for discussion at the eleventh session by 17 Latin American delegations (same as in Item 21, with the addition of Mexico) and by the delegation of Spain. The explanatory memorandum submitted in 1956 by these 18 delegations (Doc. A/5139) was similar to the one for the preceding item.

Under Article 61 of the Charter, the Economic and Social Council consists of 18 members elected by the General Assembly.

23. Question of amending the Statute of the International Court of Justice, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 108 of the Charter of the United Nations and Article 69 of the Statute of the Court, with respect to an increase in the number of judges of the International Court of Justice (resolution 1190 (XII) of 12 December 1957).

As in the case of the previous two items, the General Assembly twice postponed consideration of this question.

The item was submitted at the eleventh session by Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Haiti and Spain. Their explanatory memorandum (Doc. A/5140) was similar to those of the two preceding items.

Under Article 3 of the Statute of the International Court, there are 15 judges, no two of whom may be nationals of the same state. They are elected by the General Assembly and the Security Council, acting independently but concurrently, from a list of persons nominated by the national groups in the Permanent Court of Arbitration or by other national groups appointed by their governments.
24. **The Korean question: report of the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea (resolutions 376 (V) of 7 October 1950 and 1160 (XII) of 29 November 1957)**

This Commission, established by the General Assembly on 17 October 1950, has seven members: Australia, Chile, the Netherlands, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand, Turkey. A four-member committee, consisting of Australia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Turkey, was set up in 1956 with authority to act on behalf of the full Commission in Korea.

The Commission's report to the Assembly (Doc. A/3865) has not yet been issued.

25. **Effects of atomic radiation (resolution 1147 (XI) of 14 November 1957):**

   (a) **Report of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation**

The report of the Scientific Committee (Doc. A/3866) was made public on 10 August, along with a working paper prepared by the Secretariat on "An Approach to a General Method of Computing Doses and Effects from Fallout" (Doc. A/3865).

The Scientific Committee was established by the Assembly on 3 December 1955 to collect, study and disseminate information on the effects of atomic radiation. Its 15 member states, each designating a scientist to represent it on the Committee, are: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Egypt (now United Arab Republic), France, India, Japan, Mexico, Sweden, the USSR, the United Kingdom and the United States.

   (b) **Report of the Secretary-General on the strengthening and widening of scientific activities in this field**

The Secretary-General's report on the strengthening and widening of scientific activities in this field (Doc. A/3866) recommends continuance of the Scientific Committee under revised terms of reference broadened to cover additional activities.

At its last session, the General Assembly adopted a resolution (1191 (XII)) drawing the attention of governments to the "critical financial position" of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) and urging them "to consider to what extent they can contribute or increase their contributions in order that the Agency may carry out its budgeted relief and rehabilitation programs and that cuts in services may be avoided." The Secretary-General was requested, in view of the Agency's financial position, to make "special efforts," as a matter of urgent concern, to secure the additional financial assistance needed to meet the Agency's budgets and to provide adequate working capital.

Special efforts have been made by the Secretary-General, in accordance with the Assembly's request, to obtain needed funds, the Secretary-General pointed out in his annual report (Doc. A/3044). Urgent appeals have also been made by the UNRWA Director and by the Negotiating Committee for Extra-Budgetary Funds.

UNRWA, whose operations are financed by voluntary contributions by United Nations members, provides relief services to more than one million Arab refugees from Palestine now living in Jordan, the Gaza Strip, Lebanon and Syria (United Arab Republic).

Henry R. Labouisse, who had been Director of UNRWA for four years, resigned from that post and left the Agency on 15 June 1958. His successor has not yet been appointed. Leslie J. Carver, the Deputy Director, is Acting Director.

An Advisory Commission consisting of Belgium, France, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, the United Arab Republic, the United Kingdom and the United States assists the Director. His report on the work of the Agency to the thirteenth Assembly session has not yet been circulated.

27. United Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency:

(a) Report of the Agent-General of the Agency (resolution 410 A (V) of 1 December 1950);

(b) Progress report of the Administrator for Residual Affairs of the Agency (resolution 1159 (XII) of 26 November 1957).

At the same time, the Assembly approved the arrangements proposed by the Agent-General "for the completion after 30 June 1958 of the residual responsibilities of the Agency and the subsequent liquidation of its accounts."

The Agency was established by the Assembly on 1 December 1950.

The report of the Agent-General to the Assembly will cover the period from 1 July 1957 to 30 June 1958. Neither this report nor that of the Administrator for Residual Affairs is as yet available.

28. Economic development of underdeveloped countries

(a) Establishment of the Special Fund; reports of the Preparatory Committee for the Special Fund and of the Economic and Social Council (resolution 1219 (XII) of 14 December 1957)

At its twelfth session, the Assembly established "as an expansion of the existing technical assistance and development activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies a separate Special Fund which would provide systematic and sustained assistance in fields essential to the integrated technical, economic and social development of the less developed countries."

The Assembly also appointed a Preparatory Committee, composed of Canada, Chile, Denmark, France, Ghana, India, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, Pakistan, Peru, the USSR, the United Arab Republic, the United Kingdom, the United States and Yugoslavia, to (i) define the basic fields of assistance which the Fund should encompass; (ii) define the administrative and operational machinery to be recommended for the Fund; and (iii) ascertain the extent to which governments would be willing to contribute to the Fund.

The Preparatory Committee completed its work in April and submitted its recommendations to the Economic and Social Council.

The Preparatory Committee recommended (Doc. E/3098), among other things, that the Fund concentrate on relatively large projects and avoid allocation of its resources over a great number of small projects. The basic fields of assistance should be: resources, including the assessment and development of manpower; industry, including handicrafts and cottage industries; agriculture; transport and communications; building and housing; health; education; statistics; and public administration. Due consideration, according to the Preparatory Committee, should be given to "the urgency of the needs of the requesting countries and the projects undertaken should "lead to early results and have the widest possible impact in advancing the economic, social and technical development of the countries concerned."

Government control of the policies and operations of the Fund, according to the
Preparatory Committee, should be exercised by an 18-member Governing Council which would have final authority for the approval of the projects and programs recommended by a Managing Director. In addition, there would be a Consultative Board composed of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Executive Chairman of the Technical Assistance Board, and the President of the International Bank. It is recommended that contributions be in currency readily usable by the Fund, and that membership in the Fund be open to all countries members of the UN and/or of the specialized agencies.

At its twenty-sixth session, the Economic and Social Council unanimously adopted a resolution concurring with the recommendations of the Preparatory Committee and appealing to all states members of the UN and the specialized agencies to give the Fund the greatest possible assistance.

(b) International tax questions

At its ninth session, the Assembly (resolution 825 (IX)) had requested the Secretary-General, "with a view to accelerating the rate of economic development of underdeveloped countries, to continue his studies of the taxation by capital-exporting and capital-importing countries on the income from foreign investments." At its eleventh session, the Assembly (resolution 1032 (X)) further requested the Secretary-General to complete these studies "as quickly as practicable" and to submit them to the Economic and Social Council.

In its report to the Assembly, the Council mentions the various studies already completed and those in preparation, in compliance with the Assembly's request.

29. Program of technical assistance

(a) Report of the Economic and Social Council

Each year the Economic and Social Council, through its Technical Assistance Committee, reviews in detail the activities during the previous year of the UN Regular Program and the Expanded Program of Technical Assistance. The Council then reports to the Assembly.

In 1957, the Expanded Program's expenditures reached a level of $31.5 million - one million more than ever before - and a total of 2,513 experts were at work in different countries -- seven per cent more than ever before. In 1958, 35 countries increased their contributions.

At its recent session, the Economic and Social Council expressed the hope that the Expanded Program in 1959 would run at a moderately higher level than for the current year, and requested the Assembly to encourage governments to contribute to the program in amounts providing for gradual expansion. The Council also recognized that the hopes voiced in the "Forward Look" report of the Technical Assistance Board...
The usual procedure is for the Technical Assistance Committee to approve the Program of Technical Assistance for the following year and to authorize the allocation of funds to each of the organizations participating in this program. The Assembly then confirms these allocations.

(c) Question of assistance to Libya

At its tenth session, the Assembly, after recalling the part played by the United Nations in the creation of the independent State of the United Kingdom of Libya, invited all governments willing, and in a position to do so, to provide financial assistance to it. The Assembly requested the Secretary-General to make a special report at its thirteenth session on the question of UN assistance to Libya.

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The report of the UN High Commissioner, Auguste R. Lindt, covers the period from May 1957 to May 1958 (Doc. A/7928). Annexed to the document will be the reports of the seventh, eighth and ninth sessions of the UN Refugee Fund Executive Committee.

The High Commissioner reports that his office has intensified its work on all aspects of the legal protection of refugees. With regard to specific categories of refugees, the report brings out that of the original 200,000 Hungarian refugees, resettlement opportunities are now required only for some 8,000 to 9,000 in Austria and some 300 in Italy.

Some 10,000 refugees of European origin are still on the mainland of China. About 5,000 of these have visa assurances and the main need now is for funds for transportation, through the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration, and for care and maintenance in transit, through the UNHCR.

The report points out that $5,900,000 is still required if the European camp clearance program for earlier refugees and the unfinished UNHFR program, including assistance to difficult cases, is to be completed within the allotted time.

32. Draft International Covenants on Human Rights (decision of the General Assembly of 11 December 1957)

The Assembly will continue discussion of the draft covenants on human rights -- one on civil and political rights, the other on economic, social and cultural rights. The covenants, which were originally prepared by the Commission on Human Rights, have been on the Assembly’s agenda since 1954. They include a total of 83 articles of which some 60 remain to be considered.

The Third (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural) Committee of the Assembly has approved the preambles to the covenants and the first article -- on the right to self-determination -- which are identical in both instruments; ten articles covering economic, social and cultural matters such as the right to work and fair wages, trade union rights, social security, welfare, health, education, and freedom for scientific research; and one article -- on the right to life -- for inclusion in the covenant on civil and political rights. No final action on these has been taken by the plenary Assembly.

Among the main issues still pending are some twenty draft articles on political and civil freedoms, specific measures that would assure the implementation of the two covenants, the question of reservations that might be made by contracting parties, and hope that the Assembly might adopt them.

33. Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (April 1966)

The Assembly, recalling its Declaration of 15 December 1960 on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples,

34. Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee of the Assembly has


The Assembly will continue its consideration of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which was adopted by the General Assembly on 20 November 1989.

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Refugees
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Lindt, covers the period from 1934–1954. They include
recommendations concerning
human rights, freedom of information,
and the right to self-determination.

33. Recommendations concerning international respect for the right of peoples
and nations to self-determination (resolution 1163 (XII) of 11 December 1957).

This item involves three proposals for the establishment of new United
Nations commissions to deal with matters relating to the right to self-determination.
They are contained in a resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council
in July 1955 (A/C.125 "D.").

Last year the Assembly's Third Committee started a general discussion of
the item, which had been on the agenda of the Assembly's tenth and eleventh
sessions but which had been postponed because of lack of time.

On 11 December 1957, the Assembly reaffirmed that member states shall, in
their relations with one another, respect the right of self-determination
and that states administering non-self-governing territories shall promote the exercise
of this right by the peoples of such territories. The Assembly also decided to
consider the matter further at its thirteenth session.

34. Advisory services in the field of human rights: report of the Economic and
Social Council (resolution 1189 A (XII) of 11 December 1957).

In 1955 the Assembly requested the Economic and Social Council to submit to
the thirteenth session an evaluation of the projects carried out under the program
of advisory services in human rights -- advisory services of experts, fellowships
and scholarships, and seminars.

The Council, last July, expressed its appreciation for the services organized
so far and approved the Secretary-General's plans for 1959. The latter provide
for a seminar on the status of women to be held in Bogota, Columbia, and for a
seminar in Colombo, Ceylon, on judicial and other remedies against the abuse of
administrative authority. A seminar on the second subject is also contemplated
in Buenos Aires, Argentina, if funds are made available.

35. Freedom of information

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on consultations concerning the draft

The draft Convention on Freedom of Information was prepared in 1951 by an
ad hoc Committee of the General Assembly. Since then it has been discussed on
various occasions by the Economic and Social Council and the Assembly but no decision has been taken. At its last session, the Assembly asked the Secretary-General to circulate again the text of the preamble and nineteen articles of the draft Convention to member states so that it would be brought to the attention also of the new members of the United Nations. A report by the Secretary-General (Doc. A/5860 and Addenda) giving the observations on the draft Convention received from governments will be before the thirteenth session.

(b) Reports of the Economic and Social Council and of the Commission on Human Rights (resolution 1189 B (XII) of 11 December 1957)

Last December the Assembly requested the Economic and Social Council to transmit to the thirteenth session a report on freedom of information by the Commission on Human Rights together with the Council’s recommendations on this. The Council, however, decided to await the completion of certain studies by the Commission on Human Rights before reporting to the Assembly.

36. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter: reports of the Secretary-General and of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories

(a) Information on social conditions

Under Article 73 e of the Charter, member states administering non-self-governing territories transmit annually to the Secretary-General statistical and other information of a technical nature relating to economic, social and educational conditions in the territories they administer. This applies to territories not placed under trusteeship. Summaries and analyses of the information prepared by the Secretary-General are examined each year by the Assembly’s Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories.

Each year, the Committee gives special attention in its studies to either economic, social or educational conditions in the non-self-governing territories. This year’s report (Doc. A/5837) to the Assembly is primarily concerned with social conditions. The report stresses that sustained progress can best be achieved if the peoples of the territories take a full share in drawing up policies and in planning and carrying out development programs.

(b) Information on other conditions

In addition to devoting special attention to social conditions, the Committee at its ninth session last spring also discussed economic and educational conditions. It had for the first time a Secretariat study (Doc. A/AC.35/L.27) on mass communications. This emphasized the increasing demand in non-self-governing territories for effective media of information for the development and expression of public opinion.
During the discussion of economic conditions in non-self-governing territories at the last Assembly session, the question or the association of certain of these territories with the European Economic Community and the possible effects which this association may have on the economic development of the territories was raised.

In a resolution adopted on the subject, the Assembly invited the administering members concerned to transmit to the Secretary-General information on the association with the EEC of the non-self-governing territories under their administration, in conformity with Article 73 e of the Charter. It also requested the Secretary-General to report to the 13th session on developments connected with the association of the territories with the EEC, taking into account studies undertaken by the Economic and Social Council, the UN Economic Commissions for Europe, for Asia and the Far East and for Latin America, and other international organs in so far as these studies were relevant to the economic development of non-self-governing territories.

(c) General questions relating to the transmission and examination of information

Under this item may be raised general questions relating to the transmission of information on non-self-governing territories and the timing and examination of such information.

(d) Methods of reproducing summaries of information concerning Non-Self-Governing Territories: report of the Secretary-General

Up to 1956 the summaries of information from non-self-governing territories each year had been printed. Last year the Secretary-General proposed a new system of reproduction, by which "in two years out of three, the printed volumes of summaries should be replaced by offset fascicules, with consequent savings of the mimeographed documents and the cost of printing."

The eleventh Assembly considered that the new system should be regarded as an experiment. It also considered that there should be no lowering in the standards of reproduction or distribution of information from non-self-governing territories. The Secretary-General submitted a report on the matter to the twelfth session of the Assembly which, however, postponed consideration of the question.

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on developments connected with the association of non-self-governing territories with the European Economic Community (resolution 1153 (XII) of 26 November 1957)

During the discussion of economic conditions in non-self-governing territories at the last Assembly session, the question of the association of certain of these territories with the European Economic Community and the possible effects which this association may have on the economic development of the territories was raised.

In a resolution adopted on the subject, the Assembly invited the administering members concerned to transmit to the Secretary-General information on the association with the EEC of the non-self-governing territories under their administration, in conformity with Article 73 e of the Charter. It also requested the Secretary-General to report to the 13th session on developments connected with the association of the territories with the EEC, taking into account studies undertaken by the Economic and Social Council, the UN Economic Commissions for Europe, for Asia and the Far East and for Latin America, and other international organs in so far as these studies were relevant to the economic development of non-self-governing territories.
(f) Offers of study and training facilities under resolution 845 (IX) of 22 November 1954: report of the Secretary-General (resolutions 731 (X) of 8 November 1955 and 1154 (XII) of 26 November 1957).

In 1954, the Assembly, in a resolution on educational advancement in non-self-governing territories, invited member states "to extend generously their offers of facilities not only for study and training of university standard but, in the first place, for study at the post-primary level as well as technical and vocational training of immediate practical value". It also recommended that the administering members "make the greatest possible use" of such offers.

In 1957, the Assembly noted with satisfaction the "further response" to the above resolution and the interest shown in the scholarships offered under that resolution "by the steadily increasing number of applications" received. It also invited offering states to inform the Secretary-General of the use made of the scholarships offered by them.

Each year, the Secretary-General submits a progress report to the Assembly giving details of the offers made and the extent to which they have been taken up. The 1957 resolution requested the Secretary-General to include in his future reports to the Assembly information on the action taken as a result of that resolution.

37. Question of the renewal of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories: report of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories

The Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories is composed of members transmitting information on the non-self-governing territories they administer and an equal number of non-administering members elected by the Fourth Committee on behalf of the Assembly.

First established on a three-year basis in 1949, the Committee was continued by the Assembly in 1952 for a further three year period and in 1955 for still another three years on the same basis as in 1949. The present term of the Committee will expire at the end of 1958.

The Committee, at its ninth session last spring, recommended that the forthcoming Assembly extend its term for a further period of three years beyond 1958 on the same basis as before.

38. Election, if required, to fill vacancies in the membership of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories

Should the forthcoming Assembly approve the Committee's recommendation (see item 37) and renew it for another three years, then the Assembly's Fourth Committee will hold elections to fill vacancies in the Committee's present membership.
The Committee at present is composed of Australia, Belgium, France, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States (administering members) and Brazil, Ceylon, China, Guatemala, India, Iraq and Venezuela. The terms of China, India, Iraq and Venezuela will expire at the end of 1958 and, if the Committee is renewed, elections will be held for these vacancies.

39. Question of South West Africa

(a) Report of the Good Offices Committee on South West Africa (resolution 1143 (XII) of 25 October 1957)

The Assembly last year, stressing the responsibility incumbent upon member states to pursue every available means of negotiation and conciliation for the settlement of international problems, decided to establish a Good Offices Committee to discuss with the Union Government "a basis for an agreement which would continue to accord the territory of South West Africa an international status."

The Good Offices Committee, composed of Sir Charles Noble Arden-Clarke (United Kingdom), Vasco T. Leitao da Cunha (Brazil) and Walter H. Walmsley (United States), after a number of meetings in London in May of this year, was invited by the Union Government to go to Pretoria for joint discussions starting on 12 June 1958.

Following these discussions, the Good Offices Committee and the Union Government issued a joint communiqué, stating that "consideration was given to possible ways and means for arriving at a satisfactory arrangement in regard to the South West Africa issue."

The report of the Good Offices Committee to the Assembly has not yet been issued.

(b) Report of the Committee on South West Africa (resolution 739 A (VIII) of 25 November 1953 and 1142 B (XII) of 25 October 1957)

While a new attempt to find a basis for a solution of the South West Africa question was initiated last year by the Assembly with the establishment of a Good Offices Committee, the Assembly's committee which reports annually on conditions in that territory continued its work. This latter committee was established in 1953 after attempts to reach an agreement with the Union Government on some form of UN supervision over South Africa had failed. The Committee on South West Africa is to function "until such time as an agreement is reached between the United Nations and the Union of South Africa" concerning South West Africa.

The Union Government, however, has declined to submit annual reports to the UN on South West Africa or to forward petitions from inhabitants of the territory. It has maintained that the mandate for South West Africa has lapsed and, with the demise of the League of Nations, it recognized no other international obligations in respect of its administration of the territory. Consequently, the Committee, since
its establishment, has based its reports to the Assembly on conditions in the territory on data compiled by the Secretariat. The Committee’s report to the forthcoming Assembly has not yet been issued.

(c) Study of legal action to ensure the fulfilment of the obligations assumed by the Mandatory Power under the mandate for South West Africa: resumed consideration of the special report of the Committee on South West Africa (resolutions 1060 (XI) of 26 February 1957 and 1143 (XII) of 25 October 1957)

When the Assembly considered the question of South West Africa last year, it also had a special report (Doc. A/3625) prepared by the Committee on South West Africa. This report contained a study of what legal action was open to ensure that the Union of South Africa fulfills the obligations assumed by it under the mandate for South West Africa.

The study suggested, in particular, two ways of recourse to the International Court: (1) by a state or a group of states asking the Court to give a judgment requiring the Union of South Africa to comply with one or more of its obligations under the mandate; and (2) by the General Assembly, or any other competent UN organ, seeking an advisory opinion without binding effect as to whether specific acts of the mandatory state are in conformity with the obligations assumed by it.

The Assembly, drawing attention to member states to the action open to them under the first of these methods, decided to resume consideration of the special report at its thirteenth session. Meanwhile, it requested the Committee to consider further the question of securing from the International Court advisory opinions in regard to the administration of South West Africa and to make recommendations in its next report to the Assembly "concerning acts of the administration on which a reference to the Court may usefully be made as to their compatibility or otherwise with Article 22 of the Covenant of the League of Nations, the mandate for South West Africa and the Charter of the United Nations."

(d) Election of three members of the Committee on South West Africa (resolution 1061 (XI) of 26 February 1957)

As originally constituted in 1953, the Committee on South West Africa consisted of seven members. In February 1957, the Assembly decided to increase its membership to nine, with one-third of its members retiring each year. Members of the Committee are appointed by the Assembly on the recommendation of the Fourth Committee.

The Assembly resolution, however, did not specify which members should retire annually; it left that decision to the individual members of the Committee. Retiring members are eligible for re-election.
Present members of the Committee are: Brazil, Ethiopia, Finland, Indonesia, Mexico, Pakistan, United Arab Republic, United States and Uruguay.

The future status of the west African trust territory of Togoland under French administration will be considered by the Trusteeship Council at a special session beginning 15 September. The Council will report to the Assembly on this matter.

At the last session of the General Assembly, France outlined its plan for Togoland's future political development, stating that it would transfer during 1958 all powers to the Togoland government, except defense, diplomacy and currency. It also announced plans to hold new elections by universal suffrage for the territory's legislature and to ask the new legislature and government to formulate, in consultation with France, "proposals for the early attainment of the final objective of the trusteeship system" by the territory.

At the Togoland government's request, which was transmitted by France, the last Assembly agreed to supervise the 1958 elections and elected Max H. Dorsinville of Haiti as UN Commissioner for the purpose.

The Togoland elections were held on 27 April 1958 with the supervision of Mr. Dorsinville, assisted by a team of UN observers stationed throughout the territory. Mr. Dorsinville, in his report to the Assembly (Doc. T/1392) on the conduct and results of the elections, states that in spite of "the defects and weaknesses," the general outcome of the balloting "faithfully reflects" the choice of the Togolese people.

The elections were won by those Togolese parties which advocated that Togoland remain under trusteeship until the territory attains full independence. The parties which had held all seats in the Legislative Assembly up to that time favored the immediate termination of trusteeship on the ground that the territory already had achieved a sufficient degree of autonomy.

Under last year's Assembly resolution, France is to inform the Trusteeship Council concerning the transfer of powers to the Togoland government, the results of the elections, the convening of the new Togoland legislature and any wishes which might be expressed by the new legislature as to the future of the territory.

(more)
In a memorandum (Doc. T/1395) submitted to the Trusteeship Council in July, France stated that "the Togoland assembly and government have not yet made their wishes known."

At France's request, the Council agreed to defer consideration of the question to the special session to be convened in September. Under the Assembly resolution, the Council is to report on the question to the forthcoming Assembly session "so as to enable it, if so requested by the new Togoland legislative assembly and the administering authority, to reach a decision, in the light of the circumstances then prevailing, concerning the termination of the trusteeship agreement."

41. Question of the frontier between the trust territory of Somaliland under Italian administration and Ethiopia: reports of the Governments of Ethiopia and of Italy (resolution 1213 (XII) of 14 December 1957)

Last year, the Assembly took note of the reports submitted by Ethiopia and Italy on the progress of the negotiations conducted bilaterally by those two governments, as previously recommended by the Assembly, with a view to delimiting the frontier between the trust territory of Somaliland under Italian administration and Ethiopia.

The Assembly resolution noted that, "notwithstanding some progress made during the discussions, direct negotiations have not resolved some of the main differences between the parties." The Assembly also stated that "it is in the common interest of Ethiopia and the trust territory that there should be a final settlement of the question" before the trust territory becomes an independent sovereign state in 1960. The Assembly expressed the opinion that "a final settlement can be achieved most expeditiously by a procedure of arbitration."

It recommended that the parties "establish an arbitration tribunal, if possible within three months, consisting of three jurists, one to be appointed by Ethiopia, one by Italy and one by agreement between the jurists so appointed or, failing agreement between them, by His Majesty, the King of Norway, to delimit the frontier in accordance with terms of reference to be agreed between the two governments, with the assistance of an independent person to be appointed by agreement between them."

The Governments of Ethiopia and Italy were requested to report to the Thirteenth Assembly "on the measures taken by them to give effect to the present resolution."
August 1958

... Press Release GA/1692

25 August 1958

42. Financial reports and accounts, and reports of Board of Auditors:

(a) United Nations, for the financial year ended 31 December 1957

The report (Doc. A/3826) shows that obligations incurred for 1957 amounted to $55,172,954 compared with total appropriations of $55,174,700. At the end of 1957 there was an unobligated balance of $1,736. Receipts from miscellaneous income exceeded the original estimated amount by $2,052,748. Thus, during 1957, income credited for the financial year, represented by members' contributions and miscellaneous income, ($54,237,448), exceeded the total of obligations incurred by the sum of $1,064,484.

(b) United Nations Children's Fund, for the financial year ended 31 December 1957

The financial report on UNICEF (Doc. A/3833) shows that the principal of the Fund on 31 December 1957 amounted to $328.8 million.

(c) United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, for the financial period ended 31 December 1957

The report will be issued later.

(d) United Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency, for the financial year ended 30 June 1959

The report will be issued later.

(e) United Nations Refugee Fund, for the financial year ended 31 December 1957

The report of the Board of Auditors is given in Doc. A/3834.

43. Supplementary estimates for the financial year 1958

A report on supplementary expenses not included in the regular budget appropriations for 1958 will be submitted by the Secretary-General before the opening of the Assembly session.

44. Budget estimates for the financial year 1959

An estimated gross budget of $59,006,170 for 1959 has been submitted by the Secretary-General (Doc. A/3829). The figure is $2,163,530 higher than the approved gross budget for 1958 of $56,842,640. Income to offset 1959 expenditures is estimated at $11,353,880 as compared with the 1958 income figure of $10,399,790. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has submitted a report (Doc. A/3860) recommending an overall reduction of $521,670 in the 1959 estimates.

(more)
45. Appointments to fill vacancies in the membership of subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly

(a) Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

Three of the nine members of this committee retire each year (Doc. A/3840). Members whose terms of office expire at the end of 1958 are Carlos Blanco (Cuba), John E. Fobes (United States) and A.H.M. Hillis (United Kingdom).

(b) Committee on Contributions

The 10 members of this committee serve for a period of three years and retire by rotation (Doc. A/3841). Members whose terms of office expire at the end of 1958 are Robert E. Merriam (United States), Jiri Novek (Czechoslovakia) and Agha Shahi (Pakistan).

(c) Board of Auditors

The Board consists of three members (Doc. A/3871). At each regular session of the General Assembly, one auditor is appointed to take office for a three-year term beginning 1 July of the following year. The election this year will be to fill the vacancy caused by the expiration of the term of office of the Auditor-General of the Netherlands.

(d) Investments Committee: confirmation of the appointment made by the Secretary-General

This committee consists of three members appointed by the Secretary-General after consultation with the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. The appointment is subject to the approval of the Assembly. The vacancy to be filled this year is caused by the expiration of the three-year term of Ivar Rooth, former Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund.

(e) United Nations Administrative Tribunal

The Tribunal is composed of seven members appointed by the Assembly for three-year terms (Doc. A/3842). Members whose terms of office expire at the end of 1958 are Madame Paul Bastid (France), Omar Loutfi (Egypt), and R. Venkatarman (India).

(f) United Nations Staff Pension Committee

This committee comprises three members and three alternates elected by the Assembly, three members and three alternates appointed by the Secretary-General, and three members and three alternates elected by the staff of the UN Secretariat. The terms of office of the members and alternate members elected by the General Assembly expire at the end of 1958 (Doc. A/3843).
Some questions... (more)

A report on the ninth session of the Joint Staff Pension Board will be issued later. The financial statement for the year ended 30 September 1957 shows that the principal of the Fund increased from $60,264,756 to $69,697,682 during the year. Active membership at the same date was 9,925, as against 9,328 in the previous year. This was an increase of 597.

49. Audit reports relating to expenditure by specialized agencies of technical assistance funds allocated from the Special Account (resolution 519 A (VI) of 12 January 1952)

Subject to the confirmation of the Assembly, the Technical Assistance Committee authorizes the allocation of funds to each of the participating organizations in proportion to their share in the approved over-all program. These funds are drawn from the net financial resources, after setting aside the expenses of the secretariat of the Technical Assistance Board and such amounts as may be required to reimburse the Working Capital Fund and Reserve Fund for withdrawals during the preceding year to finance obligations for urgent needs authorized by the Executive Chairman of the Technical Assistance Board.

The audit report (Doc. A/3885) under this item relates to expenditure by specialized agencies of funds from the Special Account of the Expanded Program of Technical Assistance.

50. Administrative and budgetary coordination between the United Nations and the specialized agencies: report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

A separate report on the 1959 administrative budgets of eight of the 11 specialized agencies will be submitted by the Advisory Committee.

In its third report to the session (Doc. A/3960), the Advisory Committee states that the total of the 1959 budgets of these eight agencies, as approved or proposed, amounts to $51,992,053. This total and the proposed budget for the United Nations make an aggregate of $110,998,223 which the member states of these eight agencies and the United Nations would be called upon to appropriate for 1959.

51. Control and limitation of documentation (resolution 1203 (XII) of 13 December 1957)

(a) Report of the Committee on the Control and Limitation of Documentation

At its last session, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to continue his efforts, in cooperation with member states, to reduce the length and amount of documentation produced during
The United Nations

The report (Doc. A/3888) prepared by this committee contains general views on the extent of reduction which may be achieved, and makes certain recommendations concerning methods whereby reductions in the over-all output of documentation might be achieved.

(b) Report of the Secretary-General

The Assembly also requested the Secretary-General to report on the steps taken in this matter and on the nature and extent of the reductions achieved.

This report has not yet been issued.

52. Proposal by the Government of Chile of land in Santiago to be used as office site for the United Nations and other international organizations; report of the Secretary-General and observations thereon by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (resolution 1224 (XII) of 14 December 1957)

The Chilean Government, on 5 February 1957, authorized the President of Chile to transfer land for the purpose of constructing a building to serve as office space for the United Nations and certain other organizations.

At its last session, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to accept the offer of the Government of Chile and to open, with governments of states members of the UN Economic Commission for Latin America, such negotiations as might be necessary with regard to the financing of the construction of the UN building. The Assembly also requested the Secretary-General to present to its thirteenth session detailed plans for the construction of the building, together with final financial arrangements.

The report of the Secretary-General will be issued later.

53. Personnel questions:

(a) Geographical distribution of the staff of the Secretariat of the United Nations; report of the Secretary-General (resolution 1226 (XII) of 14 December 1957)

At its last session, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General, in making future appointments to the staff of the Secretariat,
at all levels, to continue his efforts to ensure the fullest possible conformity with the previous year's recommendation of the Assembly that "appropriate preference be given to nationalities which form a disproportionately small part of the Secretariat." The Assembly also requested the Secretary-General to report on the result of his efforts in that direction. This report has not yet been issued.

(b) Proportion of fixed-term staff

The Fifth Committee has been asked to make an annual review of the question of the proportion of fixed-term staff. The report on this matter will be issued later.

(c) Pensionable remuneration of the staff (resolution 1095 A (XI) of 27 February 1957)

At its eleventh session, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General, in conjunction with the executive heads of the specialized agencies concerned and in cooperation with the Joint Staff Pension Board, "to review the question of the pensionable remuneration of the staff with a view to making recommendations for action by the General Assembly."

The report of the Secretary-General has not yet been issued.

(d) Other personnel questions

54. United Nations International School and delegation office facilities: reports of the Secretary-General (resolutions 1228 A (XIII) and 1228 B (XIII) of 14 December 1957)

The General Assembly last year asked the Secretary-General to use his good offices to assist the Board of Trustees of the UN International School in finding suitable accommodations for the school. As a result, arrangements have been made for the interim use, for a period of up to three years, of a school building in Manhattan which is being vacated by the New York City Board of Education. Continuing steps will be taken toward the acquisition of permanent premises in which to house the International School in Manhattan, the Secretary-General stated in his annual report (Doc. A/3044).

Under last year's resolution, the Secretary-General was also requested to investigate possibilities for the provision of delegation office facilities near UN Headquarters. Accordingly, the Secretary-General is collaborating with a New York real estate firm which proposes to acquire and develop ground and buildings adjoining the northern boundaries of the UN Headquarters. The Secretary-General explains in his annual report that the project will be owned and operated as a commercial development and not by the United Nations, but the "good offices of the Secretary-
General vis-à-vis the developers of the project will remain at the disposal of delegations up to the stage of their occupancy of the buildings."

The reports of the Secretary-General on these arrangements are not yet available.

55. Public information activities of the United Nations: report of the Committee of Experts on United Nations Public Information and comments and recommendations thereon by the Secretary-General (resolution 1177 (XII) of 28 November 1957)

At its last session, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to appoint an export committee of six individuals to be nominated by the Governments of Egypt, India, the USSR, the United Kingdom, the United States and Uruguay, with instructions to undertake, in the light of the opinions expressed by delegations during the twelfth session of the Assembly, "a review and appraisal of the work, the methods used and the effectiveness of the results achieved by the public information services of the United Nations (including the information centers), with a view to recommending possible modifications to ensure a maximum of effectiveness at the lowest possible cost."

The Assembly also invited the Secretary-General to present the Committee's report, along with his own comments and recommendations.

The Committee's report and the Secretary-General's comments are not yet available.

56. Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its tenth session

The International Law Commission held its tenth session in Geneva from 28 April to 4 July 1958. Its report (Doc. A/3959) reviews the work accomplished at that session. The main topics follow.

(a) Diplomatic Intercourse and Immunities

In 1952 the General Assembly requested the Commission to undertake, as soon as possible, the codification of "diplomatic intercourse and immunities" and to treat it as a priority topic. At its 1954 session, the Commission initiated work on the subject, appointing a special rapporteur for this subject.

In 1957 the Commission adopted a series of draft articles with commentary and decided that these should be transmitted, through the Secretary-General, to member countries for their observations. At its 1958 session the Commission had before it the comments of 21 member governments, together with a summary of opinions expressed in the Sixth (Legal) Committee of the 1957 Assembly session on this matter. In the light of these comments, the Commission, in the course of its 1958 session, made a number of changes in the draft articles and proposes to the General Assembly that the text be recommended to member countries with a view to the conclusion of a convention. The draft does not deal with ad hoc missions but only with permanent diplomatic missions.

(more)
(b) Arbitral Procedure

In 1953 the General Assembly decided that a draft convention on arbitral procedure, drawn up by the International Law Commission that year, should be transmitted, together with the observations made in the Sixth (Legal) Committee that year, to the member countries for comments.

The 1955 Assembly invited the Commission to consider these comments and report to the Assembly's 1958 session. It also decided to include in the provisional agenda of its thirteenth session the question as to the desirability of convening an international conference to conclude a convention on arbitral procedure.

At its 1958 session the Commission adopted a set of model rules on arbitral procedure which, it felt, might "inspire" states in the drawing up of arbitral agreements. The rules consist of a preamble and 38 articles, with a general commentary. The Commission recommends that the General Assembly adopt a resolution on this subject.

(c) Progress of Other Work

Chapter IV of the report notes that the Commission began discussion of a report prepared by the special rapporteur on the subject of consular intercourse and immunities. The Commission decided to place this topic first on the agenda for its 1959 session with a view to completing the discussion and, if possible, the preparation of a provisional draft for the comments of member governments.

Progress in the Commission's work on state responsibility and the law of treaties is also reported. Both subjects will be taken up at its next session.

Chapter V of the report covers such questions as cooperation with other bodies and the future work of the Commission. It also reviews the work accomplished in the 10 years since it was established. During its last five sessions, for example, the Commission has completed nine projects of codification or progressive development.

57. Question of arbitral procedure (resolution 989 (X) of 14 December 1955)

A note by the Secretary-General (Doc. A/3652) outlines the history of the consideration of this question by the International Law Commission (see previous item, 56 (v)).

58. Question of initiating a study of the juridical regime of historic waters, including historic bays (item proposed by the Secretary-General)

The United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, which met in Geneva this year, on 27 April adopted a resolution requesting the General Assembly "to arrange for a study of the juridical regime of historic waters, including historic bays, and (more)
for the communication of the results of such study to all states members of the United Nations." A note by the Secretary-General (Doc. A/3830) reproduces the text of the resolution and contains background information on the subject.

59. **Question of convening a second United Nations conference on the law of the sea (item proposed by the Secretary-General)**

The United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea also adopted on 27 April a resolution requesting the General Assembly to study the advisability of convening a second international conference for "further consideration of the questions left unsettled" at the 1958 Conference. A note by the Secretary-General (Doc. A/3831) reproduces the text of the resolution, together with draft resolutions on this subject which were not adopted by the Conference.

60. **The banning of the use of cosmic space for military purposes, the elimination of foreign bases on the territories of other countries and international cooperation in the study of cosmic space (item proposed by the USSR)**

Inclusion of this item was requested by the USSR in a letter dated 15 March (Doc. A/3818). The attached explanatory memorandum said that this question had been submitted "with a view to the preparation of a general international agreement on these matters in which all states could participate." The Soviet Government proposed, among other things, that the problem should be discussed at a conference "with the participation of Heads of Government."

The international agreement envisaged in the Soviet proposal would include establishment of a United Nations agency for international cooperation in the study of cosmic space. Among its functions would be to work out, and supervise, an agreed international program for launching intercontinental and space rockets for study purposes, and to continue on a permanent basis the cosmic-space research now being carried on within the framework of the International Geophysical Year.

61. **Measures aimed at implementation and promotion of principles of peaceful coexistence among states (item proposed by Czechoslovakia)**

Inclusion of this item was requested by Czechoslovakia in a note dated 10 July (Doc. A/3847). The explanatory memorandum (Doc. A/3847/Add.1), submitted on 18 August, said that in the present world situation, "nations would welcome new efforts by the United Nations toward the strengthening and promotion of peaceful relations among states and toward their anchoring and practical development according to the principles of peaceful coexistence."

(more)
62. Treatment of people of Indian origin in the Union of South Africa (item proposed by India and Pakistan):
   (a) Report of the Government of India
   (b) Report of the Government of Pakistan

This question has been before the General Assembly since 1946. At the last session, the Assembly noted that India and Pakistan had reiterated their readiness to pursue negotiations with the Union Government to seek a solution, but that the Union Government had not agreed to do so. The Assembly appealed to the Union Government to participate in negotiations with India and Pakistan, and invited the parties to report as appropriate, jointly or separately, to the Assembly on the progress of the negotiations.

On 14 July, both India (Doc. A/3850) and Pakistan (Doc. A/3851) requested inclusion of the item in the agenda so that they can submit reports to the Assembly at the forthcoming session. Both countries stated, in their explanatory memorandums, that they had requested the Union Government to enter into negotiations, but had received no response. India's memorandum went on to say that India believed the Assembly "would wish to recommend further measures, in the light of the prevailing situation, for a peaceful and speedy solution of this problem."

63. Question of the representation of China in the United Nations (item proposed by India)

Inclusion of this item in the agenda was requested by India in a letter dated 14 July (Doc. A/3851), which said it was necessary to consider the matter "not only from the point of view of the legitimate rights of the Chinese people and their government, but also from the point of view of the effectiveness of the Organization itself." There was no doubt today, the memorandum asserted, "that only the People's Government of China is in a position to comply with those decisions or recommendations of the United Nations Organization which affect China specifically or which are addressed to all member states."

India submitted similar items at the eleventh and twelfth sessions, but in each case the General Assembly endorsed the decision of its General Committee not to include the item in the agenda. The Assembly also decided not to consider, at the session concerned, "any proposals to exclude the representatives of the Government of the Republic of China or to seat representatives of the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China."

The vote in the Assembly in 1956 was 47 in favor to 24 against, with 8 abstentions.

The vote in the Assembly in 1957 was 47 in favor to 27 against, with 7 abstentions.
64. The question of Antarctica (item proposed by India)

In 1956, India proposed that the eleventh session of the Assembly consider an item entitled "The peaceful utilization of Antarctica," but later withdrew the item.

This year, in a letter dated 15 July (Doc. A/3852), India again submitted the matter for the agenda, saying it believed "that the General Assembly of the United Nations should call upon all states to agree to utilize this territory solely for peaceful purposes, and in particular to agree that the area shall not be used in any manner that would create or accentuate world tensions or extend to this area the influence and effect of existing tensions."

This "limited purpose" could be achieved "without any nation's renouncing such rights as it may claim in Antarctica, or claims of sovereignty or other rights consistent with the Charter," in India's view. It was important for all nations to be assured that no activities in Antarctica would "adversely affect climatic and other natural conditions," the memorandum said.

65. The question of Algeria (item proposed by Afghanistan, Burma, Ceylon, Ethiopia, Federation of Malay, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Morocco, Nepal, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Republic and Yemen)

This question was first included in the Assembly's agenda in 1955, at the tenth session, but no action was taken. At the eleventh and twelfth sessions of the Assembly, unanimous resolutions were adopted. Last year's resolution expressed concern over the situation in Algeria, took note of the offer of good offices made by the King of Morocco and the President of Tunisia, and expressed the wish that, "in a spirit of effective cooperation, poulprers will be entered into, and other appropriate means utilized, with a view to a solution, in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations."

In submitting the item for the agenda of the Assembly again this year (Doc. A/3853), the 24 sponsoring delegations said that in spite of the hopes entertained when last year's resolution was adopted, no progress had been made since then toward achievement of the purposes of the resolution.

"On the contrary," they said in their memorandum, "the hostilities continue unabated," with no solution in sight. Moreover, "in the past few months there have been dangerous indications that hostilities might spread even beyond the frontiers of Algeria, thus reflecting the deterioration that has set in."

(more)
66. **Question of disarmament (item proposed by the Secretary-General)**

At its last session, the General Assembly adopted a resolution urging the states concerned, and particularly those which are members of the Subcommission of the Disarmament Commission, to give priority to reaching a disarmament agreement which would provide, inter alia, for the immediate suspension of testing of nuclear weapons with prompt installation of effective controls, the cessation of the production of fissionable materials for weapons purposes, the reduction of stocks of nuclear weapons, the reduction of armed forces and armaments, the progressive establishment of open inspection with ground and aerial components to guard against the possibility of surprise attack and the joint study of an inspection system to ensure that the sending of objects through outer space be exclusively for peaceful and scientific purposes.

The resolution also requested the Disarmament Commission to invite its subcommittee to establish a group or groups of technical experts to study inspection systems for disarmament measures (Resolution 1148 (XII)). However, as the Secretary-General states in his annual report (Doc. 3841 A), neither the Disarmament Commission nor its subcommittee was convened and "no other agreed means for resuming the discussion was devised."

67. **United Nations Emergency Force (item proposed by the Secretary-General)**

(a) Cost estimates for the maintenance of the Force;
(b) Progress report on the Force;
(c) Summary study of the experience derived from the establishment and operation of the Force.

Cost of maintaining the 5,400-man United Nations Emergency Force in the Middle East during 1958 is estimated by the Secretary-General (Doc. A/3823) at $20,200,000. Expenditures and obligations during UNEF's first financial period - from November 1956 to the end of December 1957 -- totaled $28,775,836, with an additional reserve of $1,224,164 to cover possible claims for reimbursement by governments.

The other two reports are not yet available.

UNEF is at present made up of contingents from eight countries: Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, India, Norway, Sweden and Yugoslavia.

68. **Report of the Secretary-General on the Second United Nations International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy (item proposed by the Secretary-General)**

The Conference is opening in Geneva on Monday, 1 September. (more)
ITEMS ON THE SUPPLEMENTARY LIST

1. The question of race conflict in South Africa resulting from the policies of apartheid of the Government of the Union of South Africa: item proposed by Ceylon, Federation of Malaya, Ghana, Greece, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, United Arab Republic and Uruguay

This item has been before the General Assembly since 1952. In submitting it for the agenda again this year, in a letter dated 13 August (Doc. A/3972), the 11 delegations said there was as yet no indication that the Union Government had taken any steps in response to the appeal contained in the resolution adopted by the Assembly on this question on 26 November 1957. That resolution appealed to the Union Government "to revise its policy" in the light of the purposes and principles of the Charter and "of world opinion," and to inform the Secretary-General of its response.

On the contrary, said the 11 delegations, the situation in South Africa "continues unaltered," and thus, "a grave threat to peaceful relations between ethnic groups of the world, to which attention has been drawn by successive resolutions of the General Assembly, continues."

Their letter went on to say that undoubtedly the Assembly would wish to take the matter up again with a view to taking "appropriate steps" to secure adherence to the provisions of the Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

2. The question of Cyprus: item proposed by Greece

Inclusion of this item was requested by Greece in a letter dated 15 August (Doc. A/3974). The explanatory memorandum has not yet been circulated.

The Cyprus question was first brought before the Assembly in 1954, when the Greek Government requested that the people of Cyprus "be allowed to express themselves on their future." The Assembly considered it inappropriate to adopt a resolution on the question at that time and decided, by 50 votes to none, with 1 abstention, not to consider the item further.

Greece again requested inscription of the item on the agenda in 1955. Acting upon a recommendation of the General Committee, the Assembly -- by 28 votes to 22, with 10 abstentions -- decided not to include the item in the agenda.

In 1956, Greece once more requested that the item be placed on the agenda. On 26 February 1957, the Assembly -- by 57 votes to none, with 1 abstention -- expressed "the earnest desire that a peaceful, democratic and just solution will be found in accord with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and the hope that negotiations will be resumed and continued to this end."
Last year's Assembly again took up the Cyprus question, at Greece's request, but the resolution recommended by the First Committee, expressing "earnest hope that further negotiations and discussions will be undertaken in a spirit of cooperation with a view to having the right of self-determination applied in the case of the people of Cyprus," failed to receive the necessary two-thirds majority in the Assembly. The vote was 31 in favor to 23, with 24 abstentions.

3. **The situation in Hungary: item proposed by Australia**

In a letter dated 16 August (Doc. A/3875), Australia requested inclusion of this item in the agenda, noting that on 14 July the United Nations Special Committee on the Problem of Hungary had presented a further report (Doc. A/3849) -- a report which the Australian Government believed the Assembly would wish to consider at this session.

In that report, the Special Committee spoke of the executions of Pal Maleter, Imre Nagy and their companions as "examples of the continued policy of repression carried out at the present time in Hungary." The report was transmitted to the governments of member states "for such purposes as they may deem appropriate in relation to measures that may be taken by the General Assembly or initiatives that may be undertaken by governments in this matter."

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