

... and Conferences Files of the Sec.-gen. : U Thant
... on Co-ordination - General

11/02/1966-

14/06/1971

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UNITED NATIONS  NATIONS UNIES
NEW YORK

CABLE ADDRESS—ADRESSE TELEGRAPHIQUE: UNATIONS NEWYORK

REFERENCE: OR 322/123 (1)

14 June 1971

Done
17/6/71

Excellency,

Thank you for your letter of 7 May regarding the topics which might be taken up at the forthcoming Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination. The letter was duly brought to the attention of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination when it considered this matter at its ninth session.

In the course of the discussion, members expressed regret that some important topics, notably the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and assistance in cases of natural disaster, could not be discussed at the Joint Meetings because the Committee itself had been unable to consider them adequately owing to the absence of the necessary documentation. Some members considered the review of the sphere of competence of ACC and the question of future institutional arrangements for science and technology need not be included in the agenda for the Joint Meetings.

/...

U Thant, Secretary-General
United Nations, Room 3800.



- 2 -

The Committee agreed, however, after taking into account the preferences expressed by members, to authorize me to propose that the following topics should be considered at the Joint Meetings:-

- (a) Review of the sphere of activities of ACC, with particular reference to improving its co-operation with CTC in order to strengthen the co-ordinating role of the Economic and Social Council;
- (b) Future institutional arrangements for science and technology.

.....

I attach the extract from the report of the Committee at its ninth session on the review of the sphere of activities and competence of ACC.

With assurance of my highest consideration, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'S. S. N.', written in dark ink.

S. S. N.
Chairman of the Committee for Programme
and Co-ordination

OR 322/121 (50)

28 January 1970

Dear Mr. Bannier,

The spring session of the ACC will be held this year at the headquarters of the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna from 23 to 25 April. I would be very pleased, as would my colleagues on ACC, if you could continue your usual practice of joining us when we consider items on the agenda which are of particular interest and concern to the ACABQ. It is hoped to arrange for such items to be taken up on the second day of the meeting, 24 April; and I am asking Mr. Martin Hill to send you in due course the draft agenda and the relevant papers.

My colleagues on ACC and I trust that you will find it possible to accept this invitation. We look forward to your continued assistance and advice on matters of common concern.

Yours sincerely,

U Thant

Mr. Jan P. Bannier
Chairman
Advisory Committee on Administrative
and Budgetary Questions

cc Mr. Narasimhan
Mr. Lemieux ✓
Mr. Mango, ACABQ

TO:

A:

Mr. Lemieux

FOR ACTION		POUR SUITE A DONNER
FOR APPROVAL		POUR APPROBATION
FOR SIGNATURE		POUR SIGNATURE
PREPARE DRAFT		PROJET A REDIGER
FOR COMMENTS		POUR OBSERVATIONS
MAY WE CONFER?		POURRIONS-NOUS EN PARLER?
YOUR ATTENTION		VOTRE ATTENTION
AS DISCUSSED		COMME CONVENU
AS REQUESTED		SUITE A VOTRE DEMANDE
NOTE AND FILE		NOTER ET CLASSER
NOTE AND RETURN		NOTER ET RETOURNER
FOR INFORMATION		POUR INFORMATION

Date:

26 Jan 70

FROM:

DE:

Martin Hill

CR.13 (11-64)



cc Mr. Narasimhan
Mr. de Seynes
Mr. Hill
Mr. Lemieux

CONFIDENTIAL

23 January 1970

Dear Dr. Eklund,

On my return from Africa I found your letter of 23 December, which follows up the discussion in ACC concerning the possible appointment of a senior officer with a scientific background in Geneva. A letter on the same subject has also reached me from Mr. Davies.

I am grateful to you for your suggestions. I accept - and believe all our ACC colleagues accept - the point of view you expressed last Spring and again in October regarding the need to give more attention to inter-agency aspects of science and technology, which constitute such a rapidly increasing element in the total United Nations programme of activity; and I have been giving some thought to the best way of meeting the situation. Mr. de Seynes informed us in October that some officials with a scientific background were likely to be stationed shortly in Geneva in connexion with the preparations for the Conference on the Human Environment, and suggested that one or more of these officials could be deputed also to assist as required in inter-agency co-operation and co-ordination on behalf of ACC. It seems to me that, at the present juncture, the best solution lies in an arrangement of this

Dr. Sigvard Eklund
Director General
International Atomic Energy Agency
Kärntnering 11
A 1010, Vienna 1

sort. I have endeavoured to secure the services of Dr. Bishop, whom you recommended, to work in Geneva under the direction of Mr. Gresford and in consultation with the Assistant Secretary-General for Inter-Agency Affairs on co-ordination matters. Unfortunately Dr. Bishop was not available, but we are actively continuing our search for a thoroughly suitable candidate for appointment to Geneva to constitute a special link between ACAST and the Agencies such as you suggest.

May I add that I am particularly gratified by the confidence which you and Mr. Eklund have expressed in Mr. Gresford; while I find it is essential at this stage that he should remain based at Headquarters, he will, I expect, be frequently in Europe and in direct touch with you.

Yours sincerely,

U Thant

31 December 1969

Dear Dr. Eklund,

In the absence of the Secretary-General I acknowledge on his behalf your kind letter dated 23 December concerning the appointment of a scientific staff member to the secretariat of the ACC. I am referring your suggestions to Mr. de Seynes and Mr. Hill for their comments.

With kind regards and all good wishes for the New Year,

Yours sincerely,

C. V. Narasimhan
Chef de Cabinet

Dr. Sigvard Eklund
Director General
IABA
Vienna, Austria

cc - Mr. de Seynes
Mr. Hill

INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

THE DIRECTOR GENERAL

KÄRNTNERRING 11,
A 1010 VIENNA 1,
AUSTRIA
(CABLE INATOM)

23 December 1969

Dear U Thant,

With reference to our recent discussion in the ACC concerning its Secretariat and the appointment of a scientific member of the Secretariat stationed in Geneva, I would like to suggest the following persons for your consideration.

- 1) Dr. G.B. GRESFORD (Australia) - Director for Science and Technology,
UN

If Mr. de Seynes would agree to such an appointment I could see a very definite advantage in achieving in this way a very close link between the ACAST and AUC.

Mr. Gresford would be stationed in Geneva, assisting Mr. de Seynes on questions concerning the ACAST and Mr. Kittani on scientific and technical matters concerning the specialised Agencies.

- 2) Dr. Amasa S. BISHOP (USA) - Assistant Director, Division of Research,
Atomic Energy Commission

Dr. Bishop was for some time leader of the AEC delegation to EURATOM, but is now back in the AEC. I have known him for several years and have found him to be a very able person, deeply interested in international co-operation.

It is his intention to seek employment again in an international organization, a decision which is made easier for him, as I understand his present situation is such that he does not have to concern himself with questions of permanent employment and the like.

Should you not agree with the persons I have suggested for the appointment in question, I would be very happy to reconsider the matter and to suggest some other candidates for your consideration.

We all warmly greet you

Yours sincerely
Sigvard Eklund
Sigvard Eklund

U Thant
The Secretary General
United Nations
New York, N.Y. 10017
USA

*now taken on
Stamovitz
for the Pollution
Conference —*

cc Mr. Narasimhan
Mr. de Seynes
Mr. Hill
Mr. Lemieux

CONFIDENTIAL

23 January 1970

Dear Mr. Davies,

On my return from Africa I found your letter of 7 January, which follows up the discussion in ACC concerning the possible appointment of a senior officer with a scientific background in Geneva. A letter on the same subject had been sent earlier by Mr. Eklund.

I am grateful to you for your suggestions. I accept - and believe all our ACC colleagues accept - the point of view you expressed last Spring and again in October regarding the need to give more attention to inter-agency aspects of science and technology, which constitute such a rapidly increasing element in the total United Nations programme of activity; and I have been giving some thought to the best way of meeting the situation. Mr. de Seynes informed us in October that some officials with a scientific background were likely to be stationed shortly in Geneva in connexion with the preparations for the Conference on the Human Environment, and suggested that one or more of these officials could be deputed also to assist as required in inter-agency co-operation and co-ordination on behalf of ACC. It seems to me that, at the present juncture, the best solution lies in an

Mr. David Arthur Davies
Secretary-General
World Meteorological Organization
41 Avenue Giuseppe-Motta
Geneva, Switzerland

arrangement of this sort. I have endeavoured to secure the services of Dr. Bishop, one of the persons whom Mr. Eklund had recommended, to work in Geneva under the direction of Mr. Gresford and in consultation with the Assistant Secretary-General for Inter-Agency Affairs on co-ordination matters. Unfortunately Dr. Bishop was not available. But we are actively continuing our search for a thoroughly suitable candidate for appointment to Geneva to constitute a special link between ACAST and the Agencies, and in this connexion I shall bear in mind the name you suggest.

May I add that I am particularly gratified by the confidence which you and Mr. Eklund have expressed in Mr. Gresford; while I find it is essential at this stage that he should remain based at Headquarters, he will, I expect, be frequently in Europe and in direct touch with you.

Yours sincerely,

U Thant

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

ВСЕМИРНАЯ МЕТЕОРОЛОГИЧЕСКАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ
Бюро Генерального секретаря



ORGANISATION MÉTÉOROLOGIQUE MONDIALE
BUREAU DU SECRÉTAIRE GÉNÉRAL

ORGANIZACION METEOROLOGICA MUNDIAL
OFFICINA DEL SECRETARIO GENERAL

CONFIDENTIAL

GENÈVE, 7 January 1970

Dear U Thant,

I have given further thought to the discussion which took place at the last session of the ACC on the subject of the appointment to the ACC Secretariat of a senior officer with a scientific background and would now like to suggest the following two names for your consideration.

The first is Dr. G.B. Gresford (Australia) who is of course well-known to you and whose high qualities as a scientist and scientific administrator you will, I feel sure, readily appreciate. I recall that you mentioned that it might be difficult to release Dr. Gresford from his present post. If this is still your view then you may wish to give consideration to allowing him to perform both functions, i.e. with ACAST and ACC. Indeed there would be many advantages in such a course.

The other name is Dr. H. Sebastian (German Federal Republic) who will be retiring on age grounds from WMO next year and who has been in the WMO Secretariat for over 14 years, for most of the time as Director of the WMO technical cooperation activities. He is of course a specialist in meteorology but his present duties have given him a wide knowledge and appreciation of the application of scientific activities in the international field. I have a very high opinion of his ability and would be happy to supply more detailed information if you wish.

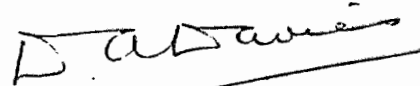
U Thant
Secretary-General
United Nations
New York
USA

- 2 -

I would greatly prefer the first person named but you may wish to consider the second name, especially if you feel that such an appointment should be considered as something of an experiment, in which case an appointment of an older and more experienced person for a period of only one or two years might be contemplated in the first instance.

It is my understanding that the appointment would be made to the component of the ACC Secretariat based in Geneva.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'D.A. Davies', with a horizontal line drawn underneath it.

(D.A. Davies)
Secretary-General

OR 322/121

17 December 1969

Dear Mr. Hoffman,

In October, as you will recall, the ACC agreed to consider at its next session, to be held in Vienna on 23-25 April 1970, the co-ordination aspects of the recommendations of the Pearson Commission, and in preparation for this discussion Mr. McNamara and I agreed to consult with other ACC members as appropriate, while the secretariat would help identify the problems and define the issues. The ACC also agreed to explore further at the Spring session, in the light particularly of the UNDP Capacity Study, the arrangements for setting up top-level groups in certain fields, as proposed originally by Mr. Boerma, and, should an earlier meeting on some matters prove desirable, to organize such a meeting by correspondence or at the time of the special IACB session early in February 1970.

I do not believe that the ACC will be ready by February to reach conclusions regarding the establishment of functional groups. On the other hand, several issues directly affecting the ACC are now before the governments and will be debated by the Governing Council of UNDP in March; I am therefore writing to the other

Mr. Paul G. Hoffman
Administrator
United Nations Development Programme
New York

members of ACC to say that if those attending the IACB special session wish to have an informal exchange of views on such matters at that time, I would be glad to participate. Should an informal meeting of this kind be called for, the best time for it would probably be the afternoon of Thursday, 5 February, after the discussions in IACB; and I would hope very much that you could be present to help orient the discussion.

Looking further ahead, I am writing also to the other members of ACC to ask whether the beginning of the week following United Nations Day (24 October) would seem an acceptable target date for the autumn ACC meeting next year. I have been informed that this seems to you a suitable period for the autumn meeting of IACB and agree that a good arrangement might be to have the two bodies meet consecutively from Monday to Wednesday, 26-28 October. The preceding week is to be devoted to the United Nations 25th Anniversary Celebrations in the General Assembly in which I hope as many as possible of the executive heads of organizations and programmes in the United Nations system will participate.

Yours sincerely,

U Thant
Secretary-General

cc: Mr. Narasimhan
Mr. de Seynes
Mr. Macura

25 June 1968

Dear Dr. Sen,

Thank you very much for your letter of 18 June 1968. As you probably know, the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, at its recent meeting, established a Sub-Committee on Population as the co-ordinating organ in this field. We are also working towards strengthening the financial resources of the United Nations system and studying ways and means of putting the available resources to the best advantage. All the members of the United Nations family concerned have already established both programmes and an institutional framework which should allow for bolder and more action-oriented activities.

I would certainly be ready to consult with a Committee of private organizations supporting the work of the United Nations on population problems if it were established. I am sure that my colleagues in the specialized agencies will welcome such a consultation with a view to the achievement of our common objectives. It will, however, be easier for us to see what is needed after the major discussion on population policies which is to be held during the forthcoming session of the Economic and Social Council.

I greatly appreciate your interest in helping to advance our work in this field and count very much on your continuing support.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

U Thant

Dr. B. R. Sen
14/2 Palm Avenue
Calcutta-19

cc 100
T. 100
INCOMING
ACTION

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UNATIONS •

NY •

TO

FILE NO.

☐ ACTION COMPLETED

INITIALS

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731 CONFIDENTIAL NO DISTRIBUTION FOR NARASIMHAN FROM PALTHEY.
YOUR 970 ENTIRELY AGREE WITH COXS PROPOSAL TO ATTEND CCAQ MEETING
IN GENEVA AND RECRUITMENT MEETINGS AT UNIDO. DUE TO IMPORTANCE GIVEN
THIS LANGUAGE QUESTION BY LAST GENERAL ASSEMBLY I INTEND TO MAKE THIS
THE OBJECT OF MY FIRST DISCUSSION WITH COX ON MONDAY 11 MARCH. • +

COL 731 970 11 ++

UNITED NATIONS
108 FEB 28 2011:05
TELEGRAPH UNIT

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GVA DE NYK 28/1145Z =

X-Y2223 UNATIONS GENEVA READING 970 CONFIDENTIAL NO DISTRIBUTION
ETC... PLEASE MAKE FOLLOWING CCNS:

P3 FIRST LINE 7TH WORD... YOUR RPT YOUR

SECOND LINE 5TH WORD... COX' RPT COX'

P6 THIRD LINE 3RD WORD... TAKE RPT TAKE +

cc 10-107

X-Y2223 S NY 366/363 27 23412 P1/51/50 =

ETATPRIORITE

UNATIONS

GENEVA (SWITZERLAND) =

970 CONFIDENTIAL NO DISTRIBUTION FOR PALTHEY FROM NARASIMHAN.
SEC GEN HAS RECEIVED MEMORANDUM FROM COX REGARDING ATTENDANCE
AT CCAQ. TEXT OF WHICH IS GIVEN LATER. I FEEL THAT, EVEN
THOUGH YOU WILL BE JOINING HEADQUARTERS IN EARLY MARCH, COX
MAY BE AUTHORISED TO =

P2 =

ATTEND CCAQ MEETINGS IN VIEW OF HIS PAST EXPERIENCE, AND
ALSO DETAILED KNOWLEDGE OF DISCUSSIONS IN FIFTH COMMITTEE
DURING LAST GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION ON SUBJECT OF LANGUAGE
BONUS. I ALSO FEEL THAT HIS PROPOSAL TO VISIT VIENNA TO
DISCUSS SPECIAL RECRUITMENT PROBLEMS OF UNIDO WITH EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR WOULD =

P3 =

BE USEFUL . HOPE YOU AGREE. GRATEFUL YOU CABLED CONCURRENCE
SOONEST. AAA TEXT OF COX MEMORANDUM IS AS FOLLOWS
QUOTE THE 29TH SESSION OF CCAQ MEETS IN GENEVA FROM 18 THROUGH
29 MARCH 1968. THE DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL HAS CUSTOMARILY
ATTENDED. THIS YEAR, APART FROM =

P4 =

THE USUAL NUMBER OF MATTERS OF PERSONNEL INTEREST, A MAJOR
AGENDA ITEM WILL BE THE QUESTION OF THE LANGUAGE BONUS FOR
PROFESSIONAL STAFF, WHICH WE ARE OBLIGED TO EXAMINE IN DETAIL
WITH THE OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS BECAUSE OF THE

IMPORTANT IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COMMON SYSTEM OF THE
PROPOSALS =

P5 =

INTENSIVELY DEBATED IN THE FIFTH COMMITTEE, LEADING TO THE
ADOPTION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 2359 B (XXII) .
WE HAVE SUBMITTED A PAPER ON THE SUBJECT, WITH THE PROPOSAL
THAT CCAQ SEEK TO ARRIVE AT SOME CONSENSUS ON WHICH
A REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY BY THE =

P6/52/50 =

SECRETARY-GENERAL AND THE ACC COULD BE MADE . IF YOU APPROVE,
I WOULD PROPOSE TO ATTEND THE SESSION AND THEN, SHOULD IT
PROVE FEASIBLE, TAKE TWO MORE WORKING DAYS TO BE PRESENT
IN VIENNA FOR A SPECIAL RECRUITMENT MEETING CALLED BY THE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UNIDO DEALING =

P 7=

EXCLUSIVELY WITH HIS KEY D-2 AND D-1 VACANCIES. THIS LATTER
IS SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIO THAT THE MEETING, WHICH HE HAS ASKED
SHOULD FOLLOW HIS RETURN TO GENEVA, COULD TAKE PLACE
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING CCAQ. IN THAT EVENT MY MAXIMUM
ABSENCE FROM HEADQUARTERS WOULD BE FROM THE END =

P8/13 =

OF HOURS ON FRIDAY 15 MARCH THROUGH TUESDAY 2 APRIL
1968. UNQUOTE
COL 970 +

27 Feb. 1968 C.V. Narasimhan

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xxx

UNATIONS
GENEVA (SWITZERLAND)

CONFIDENTIAL NO DISTRIBUTION FOR PALTHEY FROM NARASIMHAN. SECGEN HAS RECEIVED MEMORANDUM FROM COX REGARDING ATTENDANCE AT CCAQ, TEXT OF WHICH IS GIVEN LATER. I FEEL THAT, EVEN THOUGH YOU WILL BE JOINING HEADQUARTERS IN EARLY MARCH, COX MAY BE AUTHORISED TO ATTEND CCAQ MEETINGS IN VIEW OF HIS PAST EXPERIENCE, AND ALSO DETAILED KNOWLEDGE OF DISCUSSIONS IN FIFTH COMMITTEE DURING LAST GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION ON SUBJECT OF LANGUAGE BONUS. I ALSO FEEL THAT HIS PROPOSAL TO VISIT VIENNA TO DISCUSS SPECIAL RECRUITMENT PROBLEMS OF UNIDO WITH EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WOULD BE USEFUL. HOPE YOU AGREE. GRATEFUL YOUR CABLED CONCURRENCE SOONEST. AAA TEXT OF COX' MEMORANDUM IS AS FOLLOWS QUOTE (Cable editor, please insert attached text) UNQUOTE.

cc: Mr. Lemieux

C.V. Narasimhan
Chef de Cabinet

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

MEMORANDUM INTERIEUR

TO: The Secretary-General
A:

DATE: 27 February 1968

THROUGH:
S/C DE:FROM: W.W. Cox *W.W. Cox*
DE: Acting Director of PersonnelSUBJECT: Attendance at CCAQ
OBJET:

The 29th session of CCAQ meets in Geneva from 18 through 29 March 1968. The Director of Personnel has customarily attended. This year, apart from the usual number of matters of personnel interest, a major agenda item will be the question of the language bonus for professional staff, which we are obliged to examine in detail with the other International Organizations because of the important implications for the common system of the proposals intensively debated in the Fifth Committee, leading to the adoption of General Assembly resolution 2359 B (XXII).

We have submitted a paper on the subject, with the proposal that CCAQ seek to arrive at some consensus on which a report to the General Assembly by the Secretary-General and the ACC could be made.

If you approve, I would propose to attend the session and then, should it prove feasible, take two more working days to be present in Vienna for a special recruitment meeting called by the Executive Director of UNIDO dealing exclusively with his key D-2 and D-1 vacancies. This latter is subject to the proviso that the meeting, which he has asked should follow his return to Geneva, could take place immediately following CCAQ. In that event my maximum absence from Headquarters would be from the end of hours on Friday 15 March through Tuesday 2 April 1968.

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

MEMORANDUM INTERIEUR

TO: The Secretary-General
A:

DATE: 21 June 1967

THROUGH: Mr. C.V. Narasimhan
S/C DE: Chef de Cabinet

REFERENCE: _____

FROM: Martin Hill
DE:

SUBJECT: Joint Meetings of ACC with the
OBJET: Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and Officers of the ECOSOC
Geneva, 10 July 1967

1. The agenda for the Joint Meetings recommended by ACC was endorsed by the CPC with one important addition, namely "Consideration of the implementation of the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee of Fourteen. The provisional agenda accordingly now reads as follows:

- (a) General review of the programmes and activities of the United Nations family of organizations in the economic, social, technical co-operation and related fields
- (b) Implementation of the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies
- (c) Development and utilization of human resources
- (d) Multilateral food aid

2. The CPC suggested that priority should be given to consideration of the first two questions, both of which involve differences of opinion. It would be the purpose of the Joint Meetings to help resolve these differences. Only these priority questions are likely to come up for discussion on 10 July.

3. As regards the General Review item, some of the agencies still question the need for such a review and are apprehensive about the way some governments would like it to be carried out. However, the matter may prove less controversial than had been expected, since at the recent meeting of the CPC formulas have been worked out which seem to satisfy the principal proponents of the General Assembly's resolution (Malta, Trinidad, Jordan and Tanzania) and which for the time being involve relatively little work for the specialized agencies. Philippe de Seynes and I will be able to assist in the handling of this item, on which I shall also prepare a brief for you.

4. The item relating to implementation of the Committee of Fourteen's recommendations will raise some difficulties. The position is that



- 2 -

the ACC's proposals for the implementation of the recommendations for a joint inspection unit has come under fire both in the Advisory Committee (ACABQ) and in the CPC. The ACABQ has made a number of critical comments, but has nevertheless recommended to the General Assembly that the scheme, as worked out by the ACC and now adopted as a basis by WHO, FAO and UNESCO, should be put into force as from 1 January 1968, subject to the working arrangements being reviewed and modified if necessary after two years. The CPC, on the other hand, has merely stated its criticisms and its desire to discuss the points at issue with the ACC at the Joint Meetings. It is important, if the inspection scheme is to come into being, as hoped, to bring about through the Joint Meetings a positive attitude on the part of ECOSOC.

5. This aim is, I think, by no means hopeless, since most of the criticism arises from misunderstanding which could be corrected and prejudice which could be overcome. It seems to me important however (a) to enlist the support of Mr. Bannier during the discussion of this item and (b) to negotiate with ACC members beforehand some concessions on the three points to which the CPC attached importance. On two of these points (the ACC suggestions that countries nominate "two or more" rather than "one or more" inspectors and that the Secretary-General designate the chairman), this should not prove difficult; the third point (reporting procedures) raises more serious difficulty, but here too I think some saving formula may be devised.

6. If you agree with my suggestion (a) about Mr. Bannier, I will prepare letters to him for your signature and inform the ACC members in due course. If you agree to suggestion (b), I shall, with the help of Mr. Bannier, Mr. Turner and Mr. Wilmot, try in the next two weeks to work out some agreed ACC position with the heads of the agencies, and brief you fully in due course.

7. I hope to leave for Europe on Tuesday, 27 June.

22 December 1966

Mr. Philippe de Seynes
Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs

CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. Bruce R. Turner
Controller

C. V. Narasimhan
Chef de Cabinet

Secretary-General's proposals concerning the AGC Secretariat

With reference to your memorandum dated 15 December on the above subject, it is my understanding that you have agreed with the Controller that the post of Under-Secretary which is in the established manning table to accommodate the Commissioner for Social Services may be used for the officer in charge of inter-agency affairs at the Under-Secretary level.

I have mentioned this to the Secretary-General and he is in agreement with the proposal.

cc - Mr. Lemieux ✓

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

MEMORANDUM INTERIEUR

TO:
A:U Thant
Secretary-General*Handwritten: 14/10*

DATE: 29 September 1966

REFERENCE: _____

THROUGH:
S/C DE:CONFIDENTIALFROM:
DE:Philippe de Seynes
Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs*Handwritten: PS.*SUBJECT:
OBJET:Arrangements for strengthening the ACC

1. The question of strengthening the ACC secretariat - which means first and foremost Martin Hill's post - is on the agenda for the forthcoming ACC meeting, having been deferred from the April and July 1966 meetings. In broad terms the question was discussed at the summer session of the Economic and Social Council, which adopted a resolution, expanding on the one adopted the previous year, requesting the Secretary-General to

"explore further with the executive heads of the specialized agencies and the IAEA ... the best means of strengthening and financing an expanded full-time staff for the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and interagency affairs ..." and "in consultation as appropriate with the Advisory Committee of Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the executive heads of the agencies, to take the necessary action, as feasible, to implement this resolution ..."

2. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its sixth report to the twenty-first session of the General Assembly (July 1966) refers to the Council's 1965 resolution about strengthening secretariat arrangements for ACC and expresses the hope to be able to participate, at a later stage, in the consultations with the Secretary-General, for which that resolution provided. Subsequently, the Ad Hoc Committee of Fourteen devoted an entire chapter of their report to questions of co-ordination, their specific recommendations referring, inter alia, to the provision of "adequate staff support".

3. Last February, in a letter which was sent to all executive heads and Mr. Bannier, you expressed yourself in general agreement with the main ideas which had been advanced by Mr. Sen, with one qualification to provide for the continued association of the key official for



- 2 -

co-ordination matters with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. From the comments received and private discussions, there would seem to be a fair consensus in favour of taking action as soon as possible.

4. I feel that it would be very helpful if a decision could be reached now on this matter which has been so long under consideration. Such a decision would be in the clear interests of good administration and singularly free from any political implications. Should you agree to the matter going forward at the coming session of ACC, you may wish to consider sending a confidential note to the members of ACC (not the "observers", since they are not directly concerned) and I attach a draft for this purpose.

.....

Ph. de Sygus

Draft letter from the Secretary-General to members of ACC

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear

In the past few months, the Economic and Social Council has again asked the Secretary-General to explore further with the executive heads the question of strengthening the staff arrangements for ACC. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has expressed the hope that it may be able to participate in the consultations on the subject, and emphasis has been laid by the Committee of Fourteen on the need for more intensive co-ordination and the "adequate staff support" which this requires.

I feel therefore that certain decisions on this matter must now be taken and would like to undertake the necessary consultations with the ACC at the coming session.

Much of the ground work has been laid by the exchange of notes between Mr. Sen and myself last winter and the comments thereon received from members of ACC. In the present note I shall try to indicate a series of steps which I believe it would be desirable and feasible to take, subject, of course, to the concurrence of the General Assembly as regards proposals relating to staff.

It seems clear that Mr. Sen's principal proposal - which is not without resemblance to that put forward by Mr. Maheu in 1958 - contains some important elements of a solution. I refer to the proposal "to place the post hitherto known as the Secretary-General's Personal Representative to the Specialized Agencies, who also serves as the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee and Rapporteur of the ACC, on a full-time basis". The post, it was further proposed, should be filled by the Secretary-General in consultation with ACC; and its inter-agency character recognized in the sense that it should so far as possible not be subject to the nationality quotas or other factors affecting senior posts in the United Nations or the specialized agencies.

4. I have already indicated how important it is in my view to keep this post within the framework of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs as the functions of that Department and of its Under-Secretary have, with the creation of UNCTAD and UNOID, become more and more oriented towards the definition of broad policies involving the fields of several agencies and the co-ordination of programmes. Otherwise, there would surely be great confusion between two bodies, both largely concerned with inter-agency co-ordination. At the same time, the official concerned must remain directly responsible to myself in my capacity as Chairman of the ACC and must concern himself with inter-agency co-ordination in the administrative and budgetary fields as well as in that of economic, social and human rights programmes.

There need be no conflict between those two considerations, and in the presence of the diverse factors involved, I would propose a pragmatic solution along the following lines. The post for inter-agency affairs would no longer be combined with that of Deputy Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs; and the official concerned would henceforth devote all his time to matters relating to the ACC and inter-agency relations. He would be a member of the Secretary-General's office and have direct access to the Secretary-General on all matters; but his post would remain within the framework of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and on day-to-day matters affecting co-ordination in the economic and social fields he would seek guidance of the Under-Secretary of that Department. He would be appointed in consultation with ACC. I would seek authority from the General Assembly to raise the post to the Under-Secretary level, and to make this appointment without being bound by the nationality quotas or other restricting factors affecting some posts within the United Nations and the specialized agencies.] ?

5. It would also be necessary, as suggested by Mr. Sen, to introduce certain reforms in the conduct of ACC affairs. I myself attach particular importance to the constant process of consultations and negotiations at a very senior level, the need for which has been greatly increased by the

development of international activities and the growth of new institutions in recent years. Such continuing consultations and negotiations, which should be greatly facilitated by the measures referred to above, should significantly reduce the work falling upon the Preparatory Committee and a fortiori upon the ACC itself. I hope indeed that it would be possible through such means to obtain, as a general rule, agreement on routine and administrative matters, as well as matters of programme, outside the meetings of the ACC itself, which would thus have more time to devote to questions of policy and other questions on which actual discussion among the ACC members themselves is indispensable.

6. Several members have expressed the hope that ACC might limit itself to a single session in the year. At the same time the work entrusted to ACC has been rapidly increasing, has become more continuous and its meetings have become increasingly frequent. What prospect is there of lightening the present schedule? I would like to suggest one reform in our procedures which, in conjunction with the measure referred to above, might be helpful: there should be one regular and full session of ACC in the spring of each year attended not only by all members of ACC but also by the heads of the various United Nations programmes. At the meeting in connexion with ECOSOC's summer session and the joint session with ECOSOC's Special Committee on Co-ordination, only those members whose agencies' work will be under direct review should be expected to attend. While it would be hoped that the Administrator and/or the Co-Administrator of the UNDP could be present at all meetings, the heads of other programmes would be expected to attend whenever some matter of special importance to them were to be considered. If an autumn meeting is held, in conjunction with the meeting of the UNDP Consultative Board, attendance should likewise be governed by the agenda and should not be considered as an obligation upon the heads of all agencies and programmes.

7. I have already expressed my agreement with Mr. Sen that the official in charge of inter-agency affairs should henceforth spend more time at the headquarters of the various members of the United Nations family for purposes of continuing consultations and negotiations. This point has been emphasized

in several of the comments received from other colleagues. It might be useful for the official concerned to have an office in Geneva as well as in New York, and the present Geneva staff engaged on inter-agency affairs should certainly be strengthened. I intend to propose the addition of a professional staff member to the existing co-ordination unit in Geneva, and the upgrading of the two existing professional posts, the responsibilities of which have been considerably enlarged over the past few years. 2

8. There remains the question raised by Dr. Candau at our last meeting concerning the functions and status of the Preparatory Committee. At its recent sessions, it has accomplished, in my view, an effective job and its wide powers, as recently confirmed by ACC, are not incompatible with the arrangements outlined above. These arrangements do imply, on the other hand, that the official in charge of inter-agency affairs should henceforth assume a considerable degree of leadership, as well as personal responsibility in regard to inter-agency work not falling within the normal province of the Preparatory Committee. They also raise the question of the degree of participation in ACC activities that may be expected of the Deputy and Assistant Directors-General of the Agencies. In this connection, I would like to call attention to the recommendation contained in paragraph 90(e) of the Committee of Fourteen's report. Possibly the ACC might wish to consider a return to the conception of a Preparatory Committee of Deputies, which could, of course, meet at different levels at different times and places provided those attending were qualified to speak and act in the name of their executive heads on matters coming within the Committee's purview. I look forward to hearing the views of other members on this whole question.

9. If an arrangement along the lines indicated in paragraphs 3 to 7 were generally acceptable to the ACC, I would propose to consult the ACABQ as soon as possible, and, subject to a favourable reaction from that Committee, to seek the necessary authorizations from the General Assembly and to report on the matter to ECOSOC in response to resolutions 1098 (XXXIX) and 1174 (XLI).

10. I would also hope that we could more fully utilize the ACC meetings to inform ourselves of certain important developments which may greatly affect international life or with a strong social impact, and of which

certain of our colleagues, by virtue of their field of operation, have special cognizance. As an illustration, I would mention developments in the field of satellite communications, the world weather watch, the mind expanding drugs and others, which may come up from time to time.

If, as I hope, the routine work of ACC were expedited by the reforms outlined above, we should be able to devote more time to an exchange of views on such important matters.

12 May 1966
FKL/bbc

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

The Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, at its recent meeting on 28 - 29 April in London, requested me as its Chairman to bring to your notice certain views and conclusions which it reached with regard to the forthcoming joint meetings which the ACC will have early in July with the Special Committee on Co-ordination.

In the first place, the executive heads of the related agencies have asked me to convey to you - and through you to the other members of the Special Committee - the importance we all attach to these joint meetings as a means of becoming more fully informed of each other's thinking on the many matters of mutual concern. We look forward to the meetings as an opportunity to examine these matters in an informal atmosphere with the heads of delegations who like ourselves are so keenly interested in inter-agency relationships.

In the view of the ACC, the joint meetings are likely to be most fruitful if, within the rather broad agenda set for them in Council resolution 1090 G (XIX), paragraph 5, attention can be focussed on a limited number of topics. The ACC confirms its earlier informal suggestion that, in addition to discussion of the United Nations Development Decade, discussion of the following topics would be particularly valuable and suggests that they might be provided for in the provisional agenda of the joint meetings:

- (1) Action by the United Nations family in the field of industrial development;
- (2) Aspects of human rights of special relevance to the work of the United Nations organizations;
- (3) Questions relating to the activities of the United Nations system in the field of the application of science and technology to development.

A further suggestion, that the financing of development programmes be added to the list, commended itself to the members of ACC, and it is suggested that this topic might also be included.

H.E. Dr. Mehdi Vakil
Ambassador Extraordinary
and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Mission of Iran
to the United Nations
777 Third Avenue, 24th Floor
New York, N.Y. 10017

It might, in addition, be found useful to discuss briefly some inter-organisational problems arising out of the way in which certain broad subjects, such as those mentioned above, are handled. Amongst the problems common to many of these areas are: the burden of documentation - on both those who have to write it and those who have to read it; the problem of organising and timing meetings and of avoiding a proliferation of bodies dealing with similar subjects; the way in which the expertise of secretariats can, without interference with the policy-making process, be made most useful to that process; and improvements in the machinery for consultation in advance on proposals affecting different agencies on the one hand and different inter-governmental bodies on the other.

It would be helpful if the Special Committee could indicate its reaction to these suggestions as well as any views it may have with regard to other aspects of the forthcoming joint meetings, at a fairly early stage in its work, so that the necessary preparations may go forward.

I remain, dear Mr. Ambassador,

Yours sincerely,

U Thant

8/30/66
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ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON CO-ORDINATION
Forty-first session
27-29 April 1966
London

PREPARATORY COMMITTEE
Fifty-second session
12-20 April 1966
Geneva

Item 20 of the draft annotated agenda

PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE

REPORT OF THE THIRD SESSION OF THE INTER-AGENCY WORKING GROUP ON PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES RELATING TO THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE

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Introduction

1. The Working Group met at the United Nations Office at Geneva on 9 and 10 March 1966. The meeting was attended by representatives of the United Nations, the ILO, UNESCO, WHO, ITU, WMO and IAEA. A list of participants is given in the annex. Mr. T.W. Oliver was elected Chairman.
2. The Working Group adopted the following agenda:
 1. Preparations for the fourth session of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space:
 - (a) Review of the space-related activities and resources of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other competent international bodies;
 - (b) Review of information on facilities for education and training;
 - (c) Recommendations for material to ensure popular understanding of the purposes and potentialities of space activities;
 - (d) Encouragement of international programmes, including proposed study of the possibility of a civil navigation satellite system.
 2. Proposals for a programme of education and training under the auspices of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.
 3. Recommendations of the Working Group of the whole of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (A/AC.105/30) regarding an international space conference in 1967.
3. The Working Group had before it three papers: (a) a draft review of the space activities and resources of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other competent bodies; (b) a paper by the United Nations on material to ensure popular understanding of the purposes and potentialities of space activities; and (c) a paper on space education and training.

Review of the space activities and resources of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other competent bodies

4. The Working Group examined the draft submitted to it. A number of amendments were suggested. A revised draft will be prepared for submission to the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in April. At the request of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space the review is to be issued biennially.

Material to ensure popular understanding of the purposes and potentialities of space activities

5. The Working Group took note of the paper by the United Nations outlining the action taken in response to the request of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space that the United Nations, in co-operation with the specialized agencies "consider what material exists or may be needed to ensure popular understanding of the purposes and potentialities of space activities, the means by which new material might be made available if required, the forms recommended, possibly a series of pamphlets or a handbook, and an estimate of the cost involved".

6. The United Nations has undertaken a survey of existing space literature and information material on the basis of a questionnaire addressed to Member States, to the interested specialized agencies and to non-governmental organizations actively concerned with space matters. A selective bibliography based on the information furnished in reply to the questionnaire and on information from other sources will be presented to the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in April 1966.

7. The bibliography will attempt to cover all subject areas of interest to the non-specialist and necessary to an informed understanding of the purposes and potentialities of space activities. While material intended only for specialists will be excluded, the bibliography will embrace material covering a wide range of interests and levels of understanding (e.g. adult: secondary school level; elementary school level), and the material will therefore be classified both by subject and by the type of audience for which it is likely to be useful.

8. With regard to additional material, three possibilities had been suggested for consideration at the Working Group's second session in 1965:

(a) A comprehensive international report on space activities, designed to give the non-specialist a balanced, authoritative picture of both national and international space programmes. It was noted that the basic material could, at any rate in part, be provided by two of the reviews at present envisaged by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space - the biennial review of national and co-operative international space programmes and the biennial review of the space activities and resources of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other international bodies:

/...

(b) The production of material on selected subjects which exemplify successful international co-operation in outer space and have a direct bearing on everyday life in all parts of the world. The World Weather Watch might, it was suggested, provide a suitable theme for educational material.

(c) Background studies which have, or will have, importance for many members of the general public. It was noted that in the case of practical applications of space technology involving political decisions any studies prepared would have to be based on the views and findings of the policy making bodies of the agencies concerned.

9. In their replies to the Secretary-General's questionnaire a number of countries, including some at a high level of scientific and industrial development, have stated that they would welcome the provision of additional material and have mentioned types of material for which there is in their view a need. Several countries have referred to the desirability of additional educational material on space subjects, in the form of books, films and other visual material. A number of replies have drawn attention to the need for material in local languages and have suggested that steps might be taken at the international level to promote the production of material of this kind. With regard to material for non-school audiences, one country has suggested that consideration should be given to the production of a handbook or handbooks on space subjects. Another has proposed that the United Nations might produce a world conspectus of a popular nature, to be tied in with the suggested United Nations world space conference in 1967.

10. The Secretary-General is to formulate recommendations for additional material for consideration by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space at its next session. The recommendations will be based on the results of the survey of available material and on the suggestions made by Member States and the interested specialized agencies. In general it is considered that the suggestions put forward at the last session of the Inter-Agency Working Group and summarized in paragraph 8 above provide a framework for useful recommendations. In particular it is felt that a comprehensive biennial survey of space activities of the type referred to in paragraph 8 (a) could be fairly easily developed from the reports now published by the United Nations and would not duplicate material currently available from other sources. In addition to country by country reviews of national activities

and summaries of international space programmes, the publication could include expert articles on particular aspects of space activities and applications.

11. With regard to the demand for other material to which a number of Member States have drawn attention, the Working Group expressed the hope that the bibliography to be published on the basis of the United Nations survey will be helpful to many countries as a guide to existing material and will enable them to draw more easily on existing sources of information. It was suggested that a bibliography might be issued on a continuing basis and should include information or material published by the United Nations and the specialized agencies. In this connexion, reference was made to articles in the ITU Journal, the WMO Bulletin, the recent WMO brochure on the World Weather Watch, the special space issue of UNESCO Courrier for the month of May and the book Mass Media in the Space Age to be published on the basis of the recent UNESCO expert meeting on space communications.

12. It was suggested that consideration might be given to the possibility of stimulating the production of suitable educational material, particularly in local languages, by appropriate non-governmental organizations.

Education and training

13. In its thirty-first report to the Economic and Social Council (E/4029, para. 72), the ACC noted that the question of training is one of the most important facing the United Nations family in the space field and referred to the possibility of a modest programme under the aegis of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space designed to support and, where appropriate, supplement existing programmes. Training is, the ACC pointed out, of direct, practical concern to many countries, particularly in areas such as communications where space technology is already being applied on an increasing scale.

14. The question of space education and training was subsequently raised in the First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly at its twentieth session when the latter considered the reports of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. In the resolution (2130 (XX)) unanimously adopted on 21 December 1965, the General Assembly requested the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in consultation with the specialized agencies and in co-operation with the Committee on Space Research (COSPAR), to prepare and consider suggestions for programmes of education and training of specialists in the peaceful uses of outer

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space to assist the developing countries, and to report to the General Assembly on the subject at its twenty-first session. It is expected that the matter will be discussed at the forthcoming session of the Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in April and at the September session of the Committee.

15. The Working Group noted also that one of the topics which might be considered at the proposed 1967 space conference is the possibility of establishing programmes for the training of specialists in the peaceful uses of outer space for the benefit of the developing countries.

16. Training activities undertaken under the auspices of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space should be so designed as to avoid the duplication of programmes at present being carried out by States or by individual specialized agencies or international institutions. The object should be to encourage the filling of existing gaps, and to furnish a centre for co-ordination and aiding programmes which cannot be effectively carried out without the support of the Committee and the interested members of the United Nations family. The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, through its Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee, is in a position to provide such a centre at the governmental level while the Inter-Agency Working Group could offer a channel for related inter-secretariat consultations.

17. Three distinct types of measures could be envisaged in order to develop education and training:

- (a) the compilation and dissemination of information;
- (b) fellowship and travel grants;
- (c) organization of seminars.

18. The Working Group took note of the current arrangements for the compilation and dissemination of information on training opportunities and noted with interest a United Nations suggestion that the present reports of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on this subject might be developed into an international directory of training facilities. A guide to meteorological training facilities is already published by WMO. Attention was drawn to the difficulty of compiling such a directory and to the need for rigorous selection and careful delimitation of the subject areas to be covered.

19. Parallel to such indirect measures to develop education and training programmes, there is need for a direct programme to supplement existing activities. In the present circumstances any programme of this kind must be modest in size. It should

also be as flexible as administrative considerations permit so that the funds available can be applied in the areas in which they can produce the maximum effect. At the present stage two forms of action would appear to merit particular attention: the development of a programme of fellowships and travel grants, and the organization of, or provision of assistance to, a small number of seminars or training courses.

20. In its thirty-first report to the Economic and Social Council, the ACC suggested that if resources permitted funds might, for example, be provided to assist in the provision of fellowships, travel to seminars, organization of training courses, etc. (E/4029, para. 72). The Working Group was informed of a suggestion that a fellowship fund of the order of \$50,000 for the first instance should be established under the aegis of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to assist scientists and technicians from the developing countries to obtain education and training abroad. The Working Group expressed the hope that the fund might also be used to support activities of the specialized agencies and appropriate non-governmental organizations.

21. It would be premature at this stage to detail the principles that might be followed in the selection process or to attempt a delimitation of the subject areas in which assistance should be given. The overriding objectives would be to help lessen the gap between the "space" and "non-space" countries, to meet the needs of the international scientific community and to contribute to the fulfilment of international co-operative programmes. Special attention might well be given to the provision of the training needed to enable the developing countries to take full advantage of the practical applications of space technology, particularly in telecommunications and meteorology. In the communications field, for example, ITU has received a large number of requests from various non-space countries for fellowships and opportunities for education and training in space communications techniques.

22. Besides providing fellowships in the strict sense, the fund could be used to award travel grants to enable qualified scientists and technicians to attend training courses and seminars organized on a regional or international basis. Travel grants of this kind would be an effective means of promoting full utilization of the training potentialities of internationally sponsored sounding rocket facilities and other internationally supported facilities in, for example, the communications and meteorological fields. Funds might also be used to send experts

to the developing countries so that training could be given locally, using the equipment with which the trainees will eventually work.

23. The suggestion was also made that similar financial provision should be made for the organization of, or provision of assistance to, seminars or training courses in space and space-related subjects. In organizing training courses or seminars, care would of course have to be taken to avoid duplication of subject-matter and to ensure that topics selected are of direct, practical interest. In this connexion it is noted that ITU has already conducted two seminars on space communication techniques, one in Japan and one in the United Kingdom, and that a third is to be held in Washington. Under a UNDP project, ITU is also in the process of establishing a training and research centre in space telecommunications techniques at Ahmedabad. WMO has indicated that as far as the topics of seminars are concerned its immediate interest is twofold: (a) in training technical personnel to man such facilities as automatic picture transmission (APT) receiving stations, communication satellite ground transmitting and receiving stations, satellite/conventional communication interface facilities, weather observing stations with satellite interrogation capabilities, and (b) the organization of regular training seminars in various parts of the world on the interpretation and use of meteorological satellite data. Several such seminars have already been held or are being planned. UNESCO is assisting the International Astronomical Union in the planning of a series of international summer schools for the training of young astronomers. If funds are available, it may be useful to explore the opportunities for financial support of such activities as well as the possibility of organizing or supporting training courses in other areas where additional effort is needed to support or supplement existing programmes.

Pilot project on space communications

24. The Working Group was informed of the recommendation made by a meeting of experts, convened by UNESCO in December 1965, that a pilot project should be initiated on the use of space telecommunication for educational and related purposes. The expert meeting had suggested that the pilot project should be carried out with the help of UNESCO and other United Nations agencies, particularly the ITU and the United Nations Special Fund, and should encompass an area sufficiently large and heavily populated to allow for the desired international impact. The Working Group took note of the proposed pilot project as a matter of inter-agency interest and felt that such a project would among other things offer valuable opportunities for training in space telecommunication techniques.

Recommendations of the Working Group of the whole of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space for an international space conference in 1967

25. The Working Group examined with interest the recommendations of the Working Group of the whole of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (A/AC.105/30) that an international conference on the peaceful uses of outer space should be held in the latter half of 1967. The proposed conference - the first inter-governmental conference on the subject - would have two objectives:

(a) An examination of the practical benefits to be derived from space research and exploration on the basis of technical and scientific achievements and the extent to which non-space Powers, especially the developing countries, may enjoy these benefits, particularly in terms of education and development;

(b) An examination of the opportunities available to non-space Powers for international co-operation in space activities, taking into account the extent to which the United Nations may play a role.

The topics proposed for consideration at the conference include:

(a) A general appraisal of the contributions which have been made and can be made in future by scientific and technical research in outer space and by international co-operation in providing practical benefits, especially for developing countries, in the fields of biology, medicine, communications, meteorology and navigation and in other fields;

(b) The implications of space exploration for education, with special attention to the possibilities of establishing programmes for the education and training of specialists to assist the developing countries in the peaceful uses of outer space;

(c) The various other implications of expanding space exploration and research;

(d) The opportunities for participation in space exploration and research. The interested agencies have been requested to communicate to the Secretary-General of the United Nations their suggestions regarding the programme of the conference and the detailed list of topics to be discussed. Detailed proposals for the conference are being prepared by the Working Group of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, for consideration by the Committee in September.

26. The Working Group welcomed the proposal that if the conference is to be held, it should concentrate on the practical uses and benefits of outer space research,

with particular emphasis on the opportunities for increasing international co-operation. It was noted that the strictly scientific and technical aspects of space research and its applications were already amply covered by a variety of international gatherings. Those to be held in 1967 included assemblies of the Committee on Space Research (COSPAR), International Years of the Quiet Sun (IQSY), International Astronautical Federation (IAF), International Astronomical Union (IAU) and International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) as well as the World Meteorological Congress. The Working Group felt that it should be clearly stated that papers for the conference should be limited to those dealing with the practical uses and benefits of the results of outer space research. Papers simply reporting the results of such research should be excluded as there are already adequate arrangements for the exchange and dissemination of such information at international scientific conferences. It was noted that it would be difficult to produce papers that were of interest to both scientists and non-scientists. The object should, it was suggested, be to acquaint the non-scientist with the benefits to be derived from the technical and scientific advances in outer space. In this connexion the Working Group noted with interest the emphasis on education and training to assist the developing countries in the peaceful uses of outer space. The hope was expressed that the nature of the contributions would soon be clarified.

27. The Working Group noted that if the proposal to hold the conference in the latter half of 1967 is endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly at its twenty-first session in autumn 1966, the time for preparation will be very short and it will be desirable to convene the Working Group immediately.

Annex

List of participants

United Nations	Mr. T.W. OLIVER, Outer Space Affairs Group, Deputy Secretary, Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space
	Dr. N.A. EHRNROOTH Officer for Science and Technology United Nations Office at Geneva
ILO	Dr. R.A. METALL Chief of Branch for Special Duties
UNESCO	Mr. J. BEHRSTOCK, Head, Division for Free Flow of Information
	Mr. Fournier d'ALBE Deputy Chief, Division of International Co-operation in Scientific Research and Documentation
WHO	Mr. R. FAVANELLO Chief, Environmental Pollution
	Dr. D.W. BADGER Scientist, Cardiovascular Diseases
ITU	Mr. J. PERSIN Director, External Affairs and Public Information
WMO	Mr. C.M. ASHFORD Chief, Research Section
IAEA	Mr. D.W. MAGNUSON Head, Physics Section, Division of Research and Laboratories

He will discuss this
matter at a later date.

Wm
T. S.

Martin Hill

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

18 March 1966

Dear Sir Ronald,

Thank you for your letter of 8 March about the revision of the recommendation of the evaluation team for Tunisia concerning the status of resident representatives. I am naturally very much interested in your idea that the resident representatives should be appointed in future by the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chairman of the ACC and on its behalf. I would want, however, to study all its implications before taking a position in regard to it. I am inclined to feel, however, that it would be undesirable at such an early stage after the merger has gone into effect to propose a change in the plan adopted by the Assembly. There are also practical arguments in favour of not acting too quickly in the matter. You will remember that, under a resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council last summer, I am requested in consultation with recipient governments, heads of agencies and the Administrator of UNDP, to consider improvements in the co-ordination of multilateral technical assistance programmes, with special reference to the possibilities of increased use of the resident representatives by the participating organizations. The Administrator is proposing to the Inter-Agency Consultative Board of the UNDP next week to recommend that the preparation of such a report be postponed until 1967. He is making this suggestion after consultation with me on the ground that "it would be advisable to gain additional experience of field operations in the newly created UNDP before attempting to formulate new proposals". For the various reasons I have indicated, and which I am sure you will understand, I would prefer not to submit the proposal to the ACC at this stage.

I cannot conclude this letter without expressing to you my personal appreciation for having undertaken the leadership of the evaluation team to Tunisia and for the outstanding report which the team has produced.

Yours sincerely,

U Thant

His Excellency
Sir Ronald Walker
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
of Australia
Australian Embassy
13, rue Las Cases
Paris (7e), France



Of 11/3

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY
13, RUE LAS CASES
PARIS (7^e)

Personal

8th March 1966

My dear Secretary-General,

The Evaluation Team for Tunisia has now completed the final revision of its draft report, and our amendments have been sent to Headquarters for incorporation in the final text.

.....
The purpose of my present letter is to draw your attention particularly to the new wording of our recommendation in paragraph 144 about the Status of the Resident Representative (copy attached). In the earlier draft, this paragraph had attracted certain criticism from the Heads of some Specialised Agencies. We have deleted the suggestion that the Resident Representative might be the only channel for contacts and relations with the competent authorities, and we have refrained from making any specific recommendation in our public report as to the "formula" by which he might be appointed. In reaching this decision, we have in mind that for us to propose in our report a particular formula might raise constitutional difficulties.

It was decided, nevertheless, that I should advise you privately, on behalf of the Team, that we continue to believe that a good formula would be for the Resident Representative to be appointed in future by the Secretary General, in his capacity as Chairman of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, and on its behalf, thereby establishing the Resident Representative clearly as the representative of all the participating organisations. We hope that this proposal can be submitted to the A.C.C. for consideration.

With warmest personal regards

Yours sincerely
Ronald Walker

U Thant,
Secretary General,
United Nations,
NEW YORK N.Y.

144. La mission a noté que le gouvernement tunisien apprécie l'existence du Représentant Résident et qu'il reconnaît en lui la cheville ouvrière de l'action des Nations Unies dans le pays.

La mission croit utile de rappeler l'importance d'une application effective, dans sa lettre et dans son esprit, des dix principes approuvés par l'ACC en octobre 1961 (document E/3625) sur le rôle du Représentant Résident.

Tout en réaffirmant le besoin d'une bonne représentation technique des organisations faisant partie du programme, elle croit que le moment est arrivé de renforcer davantage le statut et l'autorité du Représentant Résident.

Nous suggérons à cette fin que l'on s'efforce de trouver une formule selon laquelle la nomination de celui-ci serait faite de telle façon qu'elle permette d'établir un rapport organique et de renforcer les liens entre lui et les organisations participantes.

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CONFIDENTIAL

Note for the Secretary-General

David Morse has written to you saying that he intends to discuss the matter of strengthening the ACC Secretariat when he meets you in March.

I have already discussed this matter with you and expressed my views. My feeling is that, for reasons of geographical distribution and other reasons, it may not be desirable to raise the level of Mr. Martin Hill's present post to that of a full Under-Secretary. In my view you have good ground for saying that you would wish to postpone a decision until the end of the year. At that time, the question may be reviewed in the circumstances then prevailing, and in the overall context of geographical distribution on the top echelon throughout the Secretariat.

C. V. Narasimhan

7 March 1966

C. V. Narasimhan

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INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE

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BUREAU INTERNATIONAL DU TRAVAIL

GENEVA

CONFIDENTIAL

28 February 1966

Dear U Thant,

Thank you for your letter of 16 February enclosing the text of a letter and memorandum from Dr. B.R. Sen concerning the strengthening of the A.C.C. secretariat, together with a copy of your reply.

I will be glad to discuss the matter with you when I am in New York at the end of March for the first meeting of the Advisory Board of the United Nations Development Programme.

Best regards!
Sincerely,

David A. Morse
David A. Morse,
Director-General.

His Excellency U Thant,
Secretary-General,
United Nations,
NEW YORK.

cc Martin Hill

I want to discuss this matter
with Philip, Martin Hill + Jose
at 11.30 a.m. on Thursday,
17th March.

12/3

Lucian

called 14/III/66

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REFERENCE

Advisory Committee on
Administrative and Budgetary Questions

8 March 1966

Dear Mr. Secretary-General,

I am grateful to you for sending me the text of a letter and memorandum of 18 January 1966 from Dr. B.R. Sen, together with a copy of your reply of 11 February 1966.

May I at the outset assure you that the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions is greatly interested in measures that might be taken to strengthen the secretariat arrangements of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, as called for by ECOSOC resolution 1090 H (XXXIX) dated 31 July 1965, thereby enhancing the effectiveness of its co-ordinating role in the United Nations family of organizations. The Advisory Committee therefore appreciates that consultations are being conducted within ACC at this early stage.

As regards the observations of the Advisory Committee, unfortunately the next session of the Committee is scheduled for the latter half of May 1966, and inasmuch as ACC plans to consider this question in April, I shall not be in a position to give you its views in time for consideration at ACC's spring session in London. Without prejudice to the eventual observations of the Committee, I would however like to take advantage of your invitation to present to you some purely personal comments on Dr. Sen's memorandum and your reply thereto.

The Secretary-General,
The United Nations,
New York, New York.

cc: Messrs. Rolz-Bennett
de Seynes
Hill



- 2 -

Acknowledging the frequent pronouncements of the Council on this subject and in the light of the increasing number and complexity of tasks required of ACC, there can remain little doubt of the necessity for strengthening its Secretariat. The demands for intensified co-ordination require equally intensified preparation, and it is essential that the Secretariat of ACC be fully and effectively equipped for this purpose. I therefore feel disposed to concur in Dr. Sen's opinion that, under the newly-emerging circumstances, the existing arrangements have ceased to be adequate, and that it is time to assign a small full-time staff to ACC.

The opportunity provided by the resolution of the Council should, in my view, not only be used to strengthen the ACC Secretariat, but also to reconsider its present structure. In this connexion may I be allowed to comment on the question raised in your reply to Dr. Sen, whether your Personal Representative henceforth should not only be relieved of the other tasks he now performs in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs but whether his post should in fact be disassociated from that Department. I note from your reply to Dr. Sen that you are of the view that, although continuation of the dual post of Personal Representative with that of Deputy may be a disputable point, a disassociation at the present time would constitute a structural change of such an order that it would present serious difficulties.

In my opinion there are two important reasons for favouring a disassociation of the posts as soon as your Personal Representative to the Specialized Agencies is relieved of his responsibilities within the Department. In the first place, the official in charge of the Secretariat of ACC should, as a matter of principle, be entirely independent of any of the organizations involved in inter-agency co-ordination. It appears to be desirable that, as your Personal Representative, he should be responsible for reporting directly to you. As Head of the ACC Secretariat he could be attached to you in your capacity as Chairman of ACC and, as circumstances warrant, report either to you or immediately to the Committee as a whole. It may well be that in practice this is the present position. However, for reason not only of principle but also in the light of the moment of the future work of the Secretariat, and the sensitivity of its responsibilities, I would attach great importance to his formal independence, combined with a structural change as a necessary corollary.



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The second reason for advocating a disassociation of the two posts is to be found in the fact that the Personal Representative not only submits the views of the Secretary-General to the Specialized Agencies on economic and social matters under the responsibility of the Department, but also on matters of trade and industry not dealt with by the Department, and additionally on administrative, budgetary, personnel and other general matters. Given such a broad field it seems logical that the post of Personal Representative should not remain incorporated in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs but rather that it should occupy a structural place sui generis.

While expressing these views, I do not disregard the validity of certain arguments advanced in your letter to Dr. Sen in favour of retaining the present integration of the ACC Secretariat and the Personal Representative in the Department. Continuity is an important element in any structural review, though not necessarily an over-riding element. It is difficult for me as a comparative outsider to weigh the value to the United Nations of your reasoning at this juncture against the arguments of principle I have outlined above, and the value to the organizations co-operating in ACC as a whole of a Secretariat at a different structural place. I am, however, inclined to give greater weight to the arguments in favour of disassociation of the two posts than to those presented for continuation of such an association.

It is hardly necessary to say that in case of a separation, provision may have to be made within the Department for its own representation on certain substantive points to be considered by technical subsidiary bodies of ACC.

At this moment I am not able to express myself on all the points raised in the memorandum of Dr. Sen. Nevertheless, I would wish to say that in general I consider them as well taken. They certainly provide a valuable basis for further discussion in ACC.

As I indicated earlier, these are purely my own personal observations. It is my intention to bring this matter before the members of the Advisory Committee at the Committee's spring session, commencing the latter half of May 1966.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J.P. Bannier', with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

J.P. Bannier

PdeS/am

OR 323 P & P
CONFIDENTIAL

16 February 1966

Dear Mr. Bannier,

.....

I am sending you herewith, for your consideration and possible comments, the text of a letter and memorandum dated 18 January 1966 from Dr. B.R. Sen, together with a copy of my reply. I shall be glad to circulate to the members of ACC any comments you may wish to make. As stated in my letter to Dr. Sen, I believe that his suggestions provide a very useful point of departure for discussion by ACC of the question of the strengthening of the ACC secretariat - a question on which the Council has also asked me to consult with the Advisory Committee.

Yours sincerely,

U Thant

Mr. J.P. Bannier
Chairman
Advisory Committee on Administrative
and Budgetary Questions
United Nations Headquarters

cc Mr. Narasimhan
Mr. Lemieux
Mr. de Seynes
Mr. Hill
Mr. Kittani

C O P Y

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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CONFIDENTIAL

Rome, 18 January 1966

Dear U Thant,

I wish to convey to you some of my thoughts concerning the ACC Secretariat so that these could be taken into account in the re-organization proposals now under consideration. You will recall that after referring to the increased responsibilities of the ACC, resolution 1098 (XXXIX) of the Economic and Social Council adopted on 31 July 1965 requested the Secretary-General "to consider in consultation with the Executive Heads of the Specialized Agencies and the IAEA and with the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions means of strengthening the Secretariat arrangements related to the work of the ACC and to take appropriate action".

This resolution resulted in some preliminary discussions at the last ACC session during which it was noted with satisfaction that certain steps were being taken by the Secretary-General to strengthen the ACC staff at the middle level. An exchange of views on desirable arrangements at the top level, especially concerning the Rapporteur of the ACC, who also acts as the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee, also took place but without reaching any conclusions and it was presumed that these discussions should be resumed at the next spring session of the ACC.

You will recall that the re-organization of the ACC Secretariat was also initiated in 1958 when Mr. Maheu submitted a report containing certain recommendations which were also not pursued actively. These matters are of direct concern and of considerable importance to all members of the ACC since they affect so closely not only the servicing of ACC and its subsidiary machinery, but also day-to-day handling of co-ordination matters on behalf of the ACC. If existing arrangements have yielded good results in the past, it can scarcely be denied that they have ceased to be adequate. Meanwhile, the volume and complexity of inter-agency matters are steadily increasing in view of new institutions set up and new procedures adopted, for individual and concerted action by the UN system. It would seem to me, therefore, that the present opportunities afforded by the Economic and Social Council resolution should not be lost and a serious attempt made to set right some of the present deficiencies.

As the matter has to be examined in consultation with the ACABQ, final decisions may have to be taken at the next ACC session. I am enclosing, therefore, a statement indicating my views on the subject which may be circulated to the other Heads of Executive Agencies for a proper examination of the whole matter at the spring session of the ACC.

Yours sincerely,

(signed) B.R. Sen
Director-General

His Excellency
U Thant
Secretary-General
United Nations
New York

ROUTING SLIP

Comments for the record should not be written on this slip. REFERRAL SHEET PT.108 should be used instead.

TO:

The Secretary-General

	APPROVAL	X	YOUR INFORMATION
	MAY WE CONFER?		AS REQUESTED
	YOUR SIGNATURE		FOR ACTION
	NOTE AND FILE		REPLY FOR MY SIGNATURE
	NOTE AND RETURN		PREPARE DRAFT
	YOUR COMMENTS		ATTACH RELATED PAPERS

DATE:
24.4.1963

FROM:
Sir Alexander MacFartuhar
Director of Personnel

UNITED NATIONS  NATIONS UNIES
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: The Secretary-General

Date: 24 April 1963

THROUGH:

FILE NO.: AD 112/1

FROM: Sir Alexander MacFarquhar
Director of Personnel

SUBJECT: CCAQ Report to ACC

1. This note is intended as a brief on the salient points contained in the report (CO-ORDINATION/R.430) of the twenty-fourth session of the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (CCAQ) which has been submitted to the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination for its coming session in Geneva.

2. I should perhaps preface the review of the specific matters which merit your attention by making one general remark. This CCAQ session may be regarded as notable on two counts:

- (a) it opened with a fairly lengthy catalogue of items, including some hardy perennials, and closed on a note of agreement that the co-ordination effort must be selective and should therefore be directed to the essentials of the common system rather than seek to deal with its minor variations;
- (b) on the really weighty issues, which on occasion evoked significant differences of view, the session succeeded in arriving at agreed positions.

3. The most important of the issues resolved at this session is, of course, the revision of ICSAB's terms of reference, on which you have a separate note. I should merely add here that, as a result of exchanges at the coming ACC session, in response to questions that will be raised by the Secretary-General of ICAO, and perhaps also by the Director-General of FAO, ACC may well deem it desirable to supplement its basic submission to ICSAB by an additional statement. Furthermore, the opportunity provided by the ACC session in May should be seized upon to discuss informally the future composition of ICSAB and the question of appointing its secretary. For these reasons, I assume that you will expect me to be in Geneva for the ACC session.

4. For the first time in its history, CCAQ arrived at an agreed procedure for staff consultations on personnel matters coming within its purview. After considerable debate, it was recognized that the process of inter-agency co-ordination on conditions of service in the common system should permit the staff associations to make their agreed views known at all appropriate stages. Without prejudice to the requirement of staff consultation in each organization, provision was made for the Federation of International Civil Servants' Associations (FICSA) to be adequately informed of inter-agency matters of concern to it and to present staff views on a regular basis.

5. A number of matters agreed by CCAQ will require General Assembly action. Among these are:

- (a) suppression of the service benefit and extension of the repatriation grant to cover not only career staff but also fixed-term staff;
- (b) reaffirmation of the five-year time limit on the payment of assignment allowances;
- (c) substitution of the four-months rule, recommended by the Expert Committee on Post Adjustment (ECPA), for the existing nine-months average method of determining changes in post classifications.

6. Other matters will require your approval of amendments to staff rules. These include:

- (a) provision for terminal medical examinations of all staff leaving the Organization;
- (b) extension of medical insurance coverage to dependents of project personnel;
- (c) determination of the income test for a dependent spouse of a staff member in the Professional category at duty stations outside Headquarters;
- (d) application of the provision on the last day for pay purposes in the case of death of project personnel;
- (e) provisions for the application of the inter-organizational transfer agreement which revises the earlier instrument adapted in 1949;

- (f) extension of the period for which installation grant is payable in areas where serious housing shortages exist.

7. Finally, agreement was also reached on two matters which have been with us for some time:

- (a) The concept of a "designated area" comprising certain countries of hardship conditions was abandoned. In the UN, we had had serious misgivings on both the concept and its administrative implications.
- (b) The quest for common travel standards ended with partial success. It was agreed that, having regard to governmental practices for national officials of comparable rank and responsibilities, international officials at the level of D-1 and above travelling by air on official business, at least, should be entitled to first-class accommodations. A majority also agreed that, subject to easements for flights of long duration, staff at P-4 and below should travel in tourist or economy class. This formula corresponds to our own practice, as approved by you in January. In addition, it accepts the principle of comparability with national practices and indicates the direction of possible adjustment in the future.

8. Upon approval of the CCAQ report by ACC, we shall proceed with the preparation of our papers to the General Assembly and the amendments to the relevant rules.

RE-ORGANIZATION OF THE ACC SECRETARIAT

(Suggestions by FAO)

1. The existing arrangements for examining important inter-agency technical problems in different subject-matter fields through standing committees of the ACC or working groups appointed by it from time to time have worked well in the past and should be continued.
2. The ACC Preparatory Committee should continue to serve as the focal point of co-ordination of reports emerging from such standing committees and working groups and the principal instrument for preparing the ground for ACC decisions on all important matters.
3. Considering the steadily increasing volume and complexity of inter-agency matters, each agency should appropriately strengthen its own internal secretariat arrangements for handling inter-agency co-ordination matters and the representatives to the Preparatory Committee should be those who enjoy the confidence of the Heads of Executive Agencies and who could speak on their behalf effectively.
4. The powers granted to the Preparatory Committee at the Vienna session of the ACC making it responsible to co-ordinate the timing and reporting arrangements of ACC standing committees and working groups should be continued. Similarly, the powers entrusted to it to take decisions on behalf of the ACC on certain administrative and policy matters where consensus could be reached should be maintained. With proper exercise of such powers, the Preparatory Committee should be able to arrange for the orderly preparation and timely submission of documentation for ACC consideration on all important issues.
5. The Secret Session of the ACC should be confined to the regular members of the ACC as the presence of a large number of non-members tends to affect the informal and intimate character of such discussions. If necessary, special guests may be invited to the secret meetings from time to time.
6. Non-members who make long opening statements in the formal session of the ACC may be requested to forward, in advance, to the Preparatory Committee and ACC a written statement and then highlight only important points at the ACC session. The Preparatory Committee would have examined such statements and included in the draft report prepared for the ACC the points requiring a reference in the report. By this arrangement, the statements would receive proper consideration and the ACC would gain more time to deal with substantive questions.

7. In view of the steadily increasing volume and complexity of inter-agency matters to be taken up at the ACC level - the new agencies set up, the new inter-governmental committees established such as for Science and Technology, Trade and Development, Industrial Development, Technical Evaluation, Planning and Projections, the new relationship and contact proposed between ACC members and ECOSOC, and the growing number of new programmes - the time has come to place the post hitherto known as the Secretary-General's Personal Representative to the Specialized Agencies, who also serves as the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee and **Rapporteur** of the ACC, on a full-time basis. This will enable him, under the direct guidance of the Secretary-General, to exercise his co-ordinating functions in a fully objective and neutral way, unencumbered by other tasks he now performs under the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

8. With such a full-time officer, relieved of other departmental duties, it should be possible to arrange for consideration by the ACC, the preparation of suitable position papers on issues requiring concerted action by the members of the UN system which may emerge from the reports of the ACC standing committees and working groups. Such preparation would require periodic visits by the officer to agency headquarters to exchange information and to ascertain the personal views of Executive Heads on all important issues to be taken up at ACC sessions. The officer will have full-time work if many of these issues are handled by him personally at his level.

9. In view of the foregoing, the official concerned must enjoy the confidence of all members of the ACC as well as heads of operational programmes. Because of the special responsibilities of the ACC for co-ordination and the rôle of the Secretary-General as Chairman of ACC, the officer must also be in a position to reflect the views of the Secretary-General and should therefore work in very close and direct relations with him.

10. In view of the above considerations, the post, while within the UN Secretariat, should be filled by the Secretary-General in consultation with ACC. Furthermore, its inter-agency character should be recognized and it should not be subject to the nationality quotas or other factors affecting senior posts in the UN or the particular agencies.

11. The post should be at an administrative level which would give the incumbent the necessary status with all Specialized Agencies, heads of operational programmes and organs of the UN, namely, that of an Under-Secretary for Inter-Agency Affairs.

12. A Section for ACC matters organized in the UN Secretariat, New York, with three full-time officers is welcome. In discharging its functions, the Section should have somewhat independent status within the framework of the UN Secretariat and it should deal exclusively with inter-agency questions of concern to the ACC and should report to the Under-Secretary for Inter-Agency Affairs. If the staff prove inadequate with the growing volume of work, it should be possible to second staff from the Specialized Agencies to the Section for short terms.

13. The central staff for inter-agency co-ordination matters at Geneva should also be appropriately strengthened and suitably re-organized.

Rome, January 1966.

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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL

REFERENCE

CONFIDENTIAL

11 February 1966

Dear Mr. Sen,

I have read with great interest your letter and memorandum in respect of the ACC Secretariat and the Personal Representative of the Secretary-General. As you suggest, I am circulating these confidentially to the other members of ACC for their careful study and comments and I feel sure that they will be grateful to you, as I am, for providing such an excellent basis for our consideration of this important question which the Economic and Social Council has referred to us. I am also sending a copy to the Chairman of ACABQ.

I would like to reserve my position on some of the points you raise until I have heard the views of our colleagues. However, I can say at once that I share your view that we should take this opportunity to strengthen the machinery which is the keystone of inter-agency co-ordination. There is much in your memorandum with which I can wholeheartedly and very readily agree, as, for instance, the measures

Mr. Binay R. Sen
Director-General
Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla
Rome
Italy



- 2 -

you propose for the holding of ACC meetings or the powers to be given to the Preparatory Committee. I also would agree with you without any difficulty that the position of Personal Representative of the Secretary-General (or whatever it might be named in the future) is of such extreme importance to the agencies that it should not be filled by a person who would not be entirely agreeable to them. It seems to me therefore very natural that consultations should take place prior to the filling of such a position. I also believe that this aspect might be acknowledged by waiving, as you suggest, for this post, the requirements of geographic distribution.

In suggesting that the Secretary-General's Personal Representative should henceforth be relieved of the other tasks he now performs in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, you may not have meant to suggest that his post should in fact be dissociated from the Department. However, I think it may be well for me to make it clear that any such structural change would present serious difficulties. The work of co-ordination engages very considerable resources within the United Nations Secretariat which are located mainly in the substantive units of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Indeed most of the substantive units of the Department - and the Under-Secretary himself - are involved in this day-to-day work of co-ordination, and are likely to be increasingly so involved in the future. For with the establishment of UNCTAD and UNOID as "autonomous" organizations, it is quite clear that ECOSOC will now be more occupied with the co-ordination of programmes and the definition of broad policies involving the fields of action of several agencies. It will thereby in fact be re-emphasizing the role which was originally mapped out for it by the drafters of the Charter. Such a trend has been apparent in the first discussions, in the Economic and Social Council and in the General Assembly, on the reappraisal of the role of the Economic and Social Council, and, on the basis of these discussions,



- 3 -

I am already taking steps to ensure that the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, relieved from most of its sectorial functions on trade and industry may be in a better position to serve the Economic and Social Council in this new phase of its existence. I do not believe it would serve our purpose at this juncture to remove the focal point for co-ordination from the Department. Indeed I think it would frustrate many of our most recent efforts and expectations. I would therefore myself be very much in favour of retaining the present integration of the ACC Secretariat and the Personal Representative within the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, it being understood of course that the Personal Representative should continue to report directly to me, in respect of all matters of concern to ACC. Whether the post of Personal Representative should continue to be merged with the post of Deputy is a debatable point. There have up to now been great advantages in this combination, as one function strengthens the other. However, I take your point on the need for the Personal Representative to devote more time to ACC matters, to travel more frequently to the Specialized Agencies and therefore to be relieved of part of his present burden of work. One step I have taken towards that end is to establish, with the approval of the General Assembly, a post for Global Projects at the D-2 level which, when it is filled, will take up some of the duties at present discharged by the Personal Representative himself, in his capacity as Deputy.

There remains the very valid point which you make - and which is I think related to the suggestions made by Mr. Morse at the last ACC meeting - about the status of the Personal Representative. Raising the level of this status would not be incompatible with what I have said above of the integration of the post within the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, as this Department has had in the past, and still has at present, more than one Under-Secretary within its establishment.

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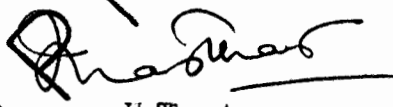
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- 4 -

The problem was solved in a manner which seemed to reconcile the different requirements and to work satisfactorily during a brief period, from 1955 to 1958, and I would be prepared to explore the possibility of reviving some such formula, if that were the ACC's wish.

Any comments on your communication I receive from our colleagues will be circulated confidentially to all concerned and I hope that by the time we meet in April, a wide measure of agreement may have emerged.

Yours sincerely,


U Thant
Secretary-General

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