

Reorganisation of Secretariat 1960-1961: Reorganisation of Secretariat 1960...

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Reorganization of Secretariat

8 July 60

Parker, Harold (International Civil Ser-
- vice Advisory Board, London)

- 1 letter from D.H.
- list of members of the Committee of Eight.

Mr Harold Parker
Member
International Civil Service Advisory Board
London
England

L 179:99a

OR 312/2

8 July 1960

Dear Sir Harold,

My Executive Assistant, Mr. Andrew W. Cordier, presented to you orally on my behalf an invitation to serve as a member of an expert committee which the General Assembly has decided should be appointed for the purpose of reviewing the activities and organization of the United Nations Secretariat. I was delighted to know from him that you are willing to accept, subject to your other responsibilities in mid-April 1961.

..... The text of the relevant Assembly resolution 1446 (XIV) of 5 December 1959 is attached together with a note which attempts to give some further indication of the possible nature, scope and purposes of the review, and in which I have also sought to explain the considerations that have led me, after consultations with delegations, to proceed provisionally with the appointment of a Committee of Eight composed of experts representative of the following countries: the four sponsors of the resolution - the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Arab Republic, the United Kingdom and the United States of America; and four others - Colombia, France, Ghana and India.

The Committee had its first brief session during the last fortnight, which provided opportunity for the Secretariat to present information regarding its organization and activities.

Sir Harold Parker
Member
International Civil Service Advisory Board
London
England

The Committee also engaged in a tentative outline of its future schedule and its work programmes. The Committee agreed that the next session should be held at Headquarters beginning on 1 September at 10:30 a.m. and to continue for a fortnight. It Agreed tentatively, subject to further consideration of the matter in September, that the longer winter session should begin on 10 January, again at Headquarters. This session would include a trip to Geneva for examination of the European Office and also hearings with the four Executive Secretaries of the Regional Economic Commissions.

I shall ask Mr. Cordier to send to you the documentation that has already been circulated to the Committee as well as to mail to you the further documentation that will be coming out during the period prior to the September meeting.

I regret that under the rules which the General Assembly has laid down, it is not possible to offer any remuneration beyond payment of travel expenses and subsistence at the standard rate of \$25.00 per day in New York and \$20.00 per day elsewhere. I might mention that a recommendation is pending before the Assembly's next session to adjust current subsistence rates, but I cannot, of course, give any assurances as to whether these proposals will be accepted.

I look forward with high expectations to the opportunity of working together with you and the other members of the Committee. As you know, Mr. Harold Beeley, Deputy Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the United Nations, has served ad interim. I understand that he has been in direct contact with you with regard to some matters relating to the work of the Committee.

- 3 -

I shall be glad to hear from you regarding any matters that may require further clarification.

With kind regards.

Very sincerely yours,

Dag Hammarskjöld
Secretary-General

Members of the Committee of Eight

Mr. Guillaume Georges-Ficot - France - (Chairman of the
Committee)

Sir Harold Parker - United Kingdom

Mr. A. A. Ruzin - Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

His Excellency Mr. Omar Lutfi - United Arab Republic

His Excellency Mr. Francisco Urrutia - Colombia

His Excellency Mr. C. B. Venkateshwar - India

Dr. Herman H. Wells - United States of America

His Excellency Mr. Alex Quinsac-Sanchez - Ghana

Members of the Committee of Eight

Mr. Guillaume Georges-Picot - France - (Chairman of the
Committee)

Sir Harold Parker - United Kingdom

Mr. A. A. Bazin - Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

His Excellency Mr. Omar Ismail - United Arab Republic

His Excellency Mr. Francisco Urrutia - Colombia

His Excellency Mr. C. S. Venkataswar - India

Mr. Herman B. Wells - United States of America

His Excellency Mr. Alex Quisenberry - Ghana

Members of the Committee of Eight

Mr. Guillaume Georges-Finot - France - (Chairman of the
Committee)

Sir Harold Fisher - United Kingdom

Mr. A. A. Fasin - Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

His Excellency Mr. Omar Lotfi - United Arab Republic

His Excellency Mr. Francisco Urrutia - Colombia

His Excellency Mr. C. S. Venkateswar - India

Dr. Herman B. Wells - United States of America

His Excellency Mr. Alex Quinsu-Sney - Ghana