

# UN-Secretariat matters - Committee of Experts 1960-1961 and Appointment of ...

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Appointment of senior staff

June 59

Prebish, Raul (Dr., Exec. Sec., Economic  
Commission for Latin America)

- 1 letter from O.H.

SRS/59

June 1959

Confidential

Dear Raul,

Thank you for your letter of 5 June 1959 concerning the difficulties you are experiencing in finding and keeping staff of the requisite calibre for your Secretariat. I fully appreciate the importance of the problem and the competitive situation that exists with respect to well-qualified Latin-American personnel, particularly economists.

This feeling is shared by Messrs. de Seynes, Hamilton and Turnér, and we are all anxious to do what we can to help you.

It is essential, however, that we solve the problem in a way that is consistent with the needs of the organization as a whole. As you have pointed out, we are limited in the financial inducements that we can offer, and we must accept that we cannot always match the offers which governments and other employers may make to our staff. To a certain extent, as you have pointed out, it may be a useful service to governments for us to release staff to them.

It is also essential that our personnel matters be handled in a way that will maintain substantial equity between staff serving at the various offices of the United Nations. After recognizing these limitations, we should still be able to find a way to deal with the problems that confront you. Mr. Hamilton is looking into the particular cases that you have mentioned, and will be prepared to discuss them with you on your arrival at Headquarters.

After you have had an opportunity to go over the matter with him, and with Mr. de Seynes' staff, I would like to discuss the question with you. Although Mr. de Seynes will not be here himself, we can continue our discussions with him in Geneva.

Yours sincerely,

Dag Hammarskjöld  
Secretary-General

Dr. Raul Prebisch  
Executive Secretary  
Economic Commission for Latin America  
Santiago, Chile