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Dag Hammarskjöld's saml.

Sec. Gen's trip to Mexico 1959

April 3-10

Corresp. Sec. Gen — Manuel Tello (Foreign Minister
of Mexico)

Translated from Spanish

Draft letter from the Foreign Minister of Mexico to the Secretary General of the United Nations

Dear Sir,

I have the honour to refer to earlier correspondence regarding administrative arrangements for convening the twenty-seventh session of the Economic and Social Council at Mexico City from 7 to 24 April, 1959. The present letter and the reply thereto will set out the agreement concerning physical facilities, financial responsibility, privileges and immunities, personnel, and other administrative arrangements for the session of the Council.

I. Conference and office accommodations

The Government of Mexico (hereinafter referred to as the Government) will make available at its expense facilities in the Hotel del Prado for the meetings of the Council, as well as for offices of the United Nations Secretariat. In particular, one large council chamber will be available on the 4th floor, as well as a lounge for use by delegates, a committee room on the 3rd floor, a large room for non-governmental organizations and a large reproduction area; moreover suitable office accommodations for United Nations staff will be made available on the 4th and 5th floors. The Government undertakes to furnish and equip, at its own expense, all of the aforementioned offices and rooms.

Any damage to the furniture, equipment and premises provided by the Government, except damage caused by wilful acts, will be made good by the Government. In addition, the Government will assume responsibility for all utilities, including long distance telephone calls between Mexico City and New York and all cable expenses between Mexico City and New York. Communications between Mexico City and points outside the Republic of Mexico will be at the expense of the United Nations.

The United Nations, as I understand, will provide all expendable supplies such as paper, ink, stationery, required for the proper functioning of the Council session.

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II. Transportation

The Government agrees to provide, at its own expense, one chauffeur-driven car and two station wagons for use by the United Nations Secretariat; in addition the Government will make available at its expense such additional transportation as may be required to transport the United Nations staff between the Central Airport of Mexico City and the conference area.

III. Police protection

The Government undertakes to furnish, at its own expense, such police protection as may be required to ensure the efficient functioning of the Conference without interference of any kind. While such police service will be under the direct supervision and control of a senior officer provided by the Government, this officer will work in close co-operation with the responsible United Nations official so as to ensure a proper atmosphere of security and tranquillity.

IV. Financial responsibility

The Government agrees to reimburse the United Nations for the additional expenses incurred by the United Nations in convening the twenty-seventh session of the Economic and Social Council at Mexico City. These additional costs are understood to consist of the travel of United Nations staff from New York to Mexico and return, and their subsistence for the duration of the Conference, as well as any additional freight, communications and other incidental expenses incurred by the United Nations either in Mexico or in New York on behalf of the twenty-seventh session of the Economic and Social Council as set forth in section I above.

In addition the Government will make available such sums as are necessary for the purpose of recruiting temporary staff in Mexico, consisting of typists, clerks, secretaries, messengers and such other staff as the United Nations may require, on the understanding that the disbursement of these funds shall take place from a special bank account by officials duly appointed as liaison officers for the Conference by the United Nations and the Government.

Making available these sums in no way detracts from the Government's agreement to provide directly and at its expense, the aforementioned physical facilities for the Conference.

V. Privileges, immunities and other arrangements

For the purposes of this Conference the area designated under part I above shall be deemed to constitute United Nations premises, and access to the Conference area and to office space shall be under the control and authority of the United Nations.

For the purposes of this Conference the Government will apply to the Organization, its staff, representatives of Members, and experts on mission the provisions of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations, on the understanding that this shall not constitute a precedent with respect to the position which the Government of Mexico may in the future decide to take up with respect to the said instrument, to which it is not at present a party.

The Mexican authorities will impose no impediment to transit to and from the Conference of the following classes of persons attending the Conference and their immediate families: representatives of Governments; officials or experts of the United Nations and the specialized agencies; representatives of the press, or of radio, film or other information agencies, who have been accredited by the United Nations in its discretion after consultation with the Government; representatives of non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the Economic and Social Council; and other persons invited to the Conference by the United Nations on official business. Any visas required for such persons will be granted as speedily as possible.

I trust, Mr. Secretary-General, that close co-operation between the responsible officials in the Government and in the United Nations will ensure that the detailed conference aspects, which I have enumerated, will be satisfactorily dealt with.

On behalf of the Government I wish to welcome you personally as well as all United Nations staff connected with the servicing of the twenty-seventh Session of the Council in Mexico.

I have the honour

DRAFT

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 3 April 1959 in which you have enumerated the facilities which the Government of Mexico intends to make available for the purpose of convening the Twenty-seventh Session of the Economic Social Council in Mexico City. I am grateful for the hospitable manner in which your Government proposes to accommodate the staff and other requirements for the Council Session in Mexico.

I take pleasure in confirming that the physical facilities, the financial responsibility, legal provisions, personnel and all other arrangements which you were good enough to set out in your letter of the aforementioned date are entirely acceptable to the United Nations and will, in my view, make possible a very successful servicing of the Twenty-seventh Session of the Economic Social Council.

Looking forward to attend some of the meetings of the Council in Mexico, accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Dag Hammarskhold
Secretary-General

His Excellency
The Hon. Manuel Tello
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Mexico

10 April 1959

Excellency,

Permit me to send you my warmest thanks for the kind reception given me on the occasion of the opening of the 27th session of the Economic and Social Council. I much appreciate all the arrangements made and the great hospitality of the Government of Mexico. I owe you a special thanks for your personal courtesy on my arrival and at the pleasant luncheon in the Foreign Office. Although short, the visit left a strong impression, and I hope before long to be able to repeat it.

From Mr. Philippe de Seynes I learnt that you want to have the text of my reply to your speech at the luncheon. As you recall, I spoke off the cuff and without any notes, and for that reason I have had to reconstruct, as well as I can, what I said. I believe that I have been able to do so on my return to New York quite faithfully, and take pleasure in sending you the text which I have thus tried to re-establish.

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Please, present my respectful thanks also to the President and the Members of the Government.

His Excellency
Dr. Manuel Tello
Secretary for External Relations of Mexico
Mexico City, Mexico