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HS L 179:96a



Dag Hammarskjöld's saml.

UN/Secretariat matters 1955

Salary Expert Group 1955

3 March

1 letter from D.H. - to Galo Plaza (Quito, Ecuador)

FI 52/3/01(1)

3 March 1955

Dear Mr. Plaza,

I have decided, with the concurrence of the Directors General of the specialized agencies, to convene a small group of independent experts to review certain aspects of our present salary system - in particular the question of "differentials" applied to the base salaries of "international" staff away from New York, cost-of-living adjustments and dependency allowances.

I am anxious that the membership of the group should be as authoritative as possible, in order that its conclusions may carry full weight with the General Assembly, which in due course will consider the issues involved. I should, therefore, be very grateful if you would find it possible to serve as a member of the group.

Your presence here on that occasion would also give me an opportunity, to which I am looking forward, to consult with you about other aspects of certain United Nations programmes in which your wisdom and experience would be of valuable assistance to me. So far, I have

Mr. Galo Plaza,
Avenida 6 de Diciembre 1300,
Quito, Ecuador.

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been able to initiate similar talks with a few American and European personalities.

For the group of experts, I am approaching, in addition to yourself, Mr. Arthur Flemming, Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar, Dr. Philip J. Idenburg, Director General of the Central Bureau of Statistics at The Hague, and Professor Roberto Bachi, Chief of the Central Bureau of Statistics and Research at Jerusalem.

As I envisage the schedule at present, the committee should convene in New York sometime in April or the early part of May for a session lasting about two to three weeks. In the meantime, the Secretariat would prepare the necessary documentation. This would allow sufficient time for the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to consider the report of the group of experts when the Committee meets during the summer.

The United Nations will pay the cost of travel and a subsistence allowance at the rate of \$25 per day while serving in New York, or \$20 per day should any meetings be held outside this country.

I would appreciate it if you would reply to this invitation by cable.

Yours sincerely,

Dag Hammarskjöld
Secretary-General