

Chapter V

SUBSIDIARY ORGANS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

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INTRODUCTORY NOTE

The material included in this chapter pertains to procedures of the Security Council in establishing, under Article 29 of the Charter, subsidiary organs deemed necessary for the performance of its functions. Part I includes a case history of an occasion on which a subsidiary organ was established by the Security Council.

No material has been found for the period under review which would require inclusion in part II concerning procedures relative to subsidiary organs. In chapter VIII under the Palestine and the India-Pakistan questions will be found decisions of the Council giving

further directives to the subsidiary organs previously established in connexion with those questions.

ARTICLE 29 OF THE CHARTER

The Security Council may establish such subsidiary organs as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.

Rule 28 of the Provisional Rules of Procedure

The Security Council may appoint a commission or committee or a rapporteur for a specified question.

Part I

OCCASIONS ON WHICH SUBSIDIARY ORGANS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED OR PROPOSED

NOTE

The case history included in part I gives an account of tasks proposed for and entrusted to a subsidiary organ, the United Nations Observation Group in Lebanon, together with a synopsis of discussion related to the question of its composition. In this instance, the Council empowered the Secretary-General to determine the composition and membership of the subsidiary organ in question.

Of the subsidiary organs established in connexion with the Security Council's discharge of responsibilities for the maintenance of international peace and security, the United Nations Representative for India and Pakistan and the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization for Palestine continued to function during the period under review. The Council has, from time to time, requested these organs to submit special reports on particular aspects of the questions with which they were concerned.¹

During the period under review, there has been no instance of submission of a proposal for the establishment of a subsidiary organ which was not adopted. On one occasion,² in connexion with the Suez Canal question, a suggestion was made by a permanent member of the Council for the establishment of a committee to settle the problem. However, no formal proposal

was submitted and the Council took no decision on the matter.

The Council has not, during the period under review, entrusted all tasks in connexion with activities at "places other than the seat of the Organization" to subsidiary organs. In connexion with the Palestine question, it addressed itself to the Secretary-General for the performance of functions of survey and report (see chapter I, part IV, Note, and in chapter VIII, the Palestine question). In connexion with the Complaint of Lebanon, it conferred on the Secretary-General authority to take the necessary steps for the dispatch of an observation group to Lebanon, authority which extended to the composition of the Group (see in this chapter, Case 1). The reports from the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization have usually been submitted to the Security Council through the Secretary-General. The resolution of the Council of 11 June 1958 establishing the United Nations Observation Group in Lebanon provided that the Group was to keep the Council currently informed through the Secretary-General.

On one occasion, the Council, despite the existence of a subsidiary organ to deal with the question, entrusted the President of the Council with the task of examining with the parties any proposals which, in his opinion, were likely to contribute to a settlement and requested the subsidiary organ to render the President such assistance as he might request (see chapter I, Case 7, and in chapter VIII, under India-Pakistan question, *Decision of 21 February 1957*).

¹ Decisions of 19 January and 4 June 1956, 28 May and 2 December 1957, and 22 January 1958.

² 736th meeting: paras. 169-172.

**A. INVOLVING, TO FACILITATE THEIR WORK,
MEETINGS AT PLACES AWAY FROM THE SEAT OF
THE ORGANIZATION**

1. Subsidiary organs established

CASE I

OBSERVATION GROUP IN LEBANON

Establishment

At the 824th meeting on 10 June 1958, in connexion with the item "Complaint by Lebanon in respect of a situation arising from the intervention of the United Arab Republic in the internal affairs of Lebanon, the continuance of which is likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security", the representative of Sweden introduced a draft resolution "to dispatch urgently an observation group to proceed to Lebanon so as to ensure that there is no illegal infiltration of personnel or supply of arms or other materiel across the Lebanese borders".³

At the 825th meeting on 11 June 1958, the Security Council, in adopting the Swedish draft resolution, decided to establish the Observation Group with authority to proceed to Lebanon and to keep the Council currently informed through the Secretary-General.⁴

Composition

The resolution authorized the Secretary-General "to take the necessary steps" to dispatch the Observation Group to the Lebanese borders. After the resolution had been adopted, the Secretary-General informed the Council that, for implementing its resolution, he envisaged an operation on two levels: the observation group proper "composed of highly qualified and experienced men who have to be collected from various corners of the globe"; and a second category, constituting a group servicing the main observation group, which could be immediately recruited from the personnel already existing in the Truce Supervision Organization in Jerusalem.⁵ On 14 June 1958, the

³ S 4022. 824th meeting: para. 111. For full text, see chapter VIII, pp. 121-128.

⁴ 825th meeting: paras. 82, 92.

⁵ 825th meeting: para. 90.

Secretary-General announced that, pursuant to the Security Council resolution of 11 June 1958, he had appointed three persons to compose the Observation Group and to proceed to Lebanon without delay. Furthermore, a number of officers on leave from the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization would be placed under the authority of the Observation Group in Lebanon as observers on a temporary basis.

Termination

On 17 November 1958, the United Nations Observation Group in Lebanon submitted its fifth report⁶ to the Secretary-General stating that "Since the task assigned to it may now be regarded as completed, the Group is of the opinion that the withdrawal of UNOGIL should now be undertaken".

In his letter⁷ of 17 November 1958, the Secretary-General stated that in view of the statement⁸ made by the Government of Lebanon requesting the deletion of the complaint of 22 May 1958 from the list of matters of which the Security Council was then seized and the recommendation of the Observation Group, he had given instructions to the Observation Group to present a detailed plan for the withdrawal and the liquidation of that operation.

In the light of these circumstances, the Council, at its 840th meeting on 25 November 1958, decided that the Lebanese complaint of 22 May 1958 be removed from the list of matters of which the Council was seized, with the understanding that the Secretary-General would inform the General Assembly under the mandate given him in Assembly resolution 1237 (ES-3) of 21 August 1958.⁹

****2. Subsidiary organs proposed but not established**

****B. NOT INVOLVING, TO FACILITATE THEIR WORK,
MEETINGS AT PLACES AWAY FROM THE SEAT
OF THE ORGANIZATION**

⁶ S 4114.

⁷ S 4115.

⁸ S 4113.

⁹ 840th meeting (PV): pp. 12-13. See in chapter VIII, under letter dated 22 May 1958 from the representative of Lebanon, *Decision of 25 November 1958 (840th meeting)*.

Part II

****CONSIDERATION OF PROCEDURES RELATIVE TO SUBSIDIARY ORGANS**