

LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Communicated to the Council
and the
Members of the League.

C.103.A.103.1945.

Geneva, October 19th, 1945.

QUESTION OF A POSSIBLE TRANSFER TO THE UNITED NATIONS
OF CERTAIN FUNCTIONS, ACTIVITIES AND ASSETS OF THE
LEAGUE.

Note by the Acting Secretary-General.

The Acting Secretary-General has the honour to confirm the communications sent to the Members of the League on September 20th and October 17th, 1945, respectively. The second communication was forwarded on behalf of the Supervisory Commission after the latter had considered the answers received from Governments and, as was proposed in the last sentence of the first communication, assumed the assent of those Governments from which no reply had been received.

I. Communication of September 20th, 1945.

States Members League Nations are aware of decisions taken at San Francisco which envisage replacement of League by United Nations Executive Committee of United Nations is inter alia entrusted with duty to quote formulate recommendations concerning possible transfer of certain functions activities and assets of League which it may be considered desirable for new Organisation to take over on terms to be arranged unquote Executive Committee is at present sitting in London and it seems advisable that competent League body should without delay discuss and so far as feasible formulate provisional terms of transfer Those including disposal of material assets such as funds and buildings would be subject to final decision of League Assembly I feel I shall be expressing wishes of States Members in suggesting Supervisory Commission should undertake this duty. It is specially competent in view of its knowledge of and association with League affairs under powers it has exercised in virtue of resolutions adopted by Assembly in 1938 and confirmed in 1939 Stop I have ascertained that subject to concurrence of States Members Supervisory Commission is willing to accept this responsibility Stop Assembly will be convened early in coming year to review position and take final decisions concerning League activities Stop If Governments agree with above programme

it is hoped a second session of Assembly may be avoided and post-Assembly responsibilities transferred to competent body designated by Assembly. Stop In addition to essential preparatory work Supervisory Commission will also in pursuance of its emergency powers adopt budget for 1946 including credits for Assembly meeting Stop Secretariat budget would provide for maintenance of present non-political activities Stop Date of transfer is uncertain and contributing States would be credited with any unused part of their contributions appropriated for transferred services Stop Provision has also to be made for terminal charges for Secretariat and Permanent Court and for full year's activity of International Labour Organisation Stop In view of urgency of matter would welcome telegraphic acknowledgment of above communication with any observations Members of League may wish to submit Stop As early action may be required it is desirable that I be informed if States Members agree with programme outlined above with concurrence President of Assembly and Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Supervisory Commission Unless therefore I receive replies from Governments before October 5th I shall assume their assent to programme.

LESTER
Acting Secretary-General.

II. Communication of October 17th, 1945.

Procedure suggested my telegram September 20th having been considered generally acceptable by Governments Members League have honour inform you on behalf Supervisory Commission that it has accepted task entrusted it to discuss and so far as possible formulate provisional terms of transfer to United Nations subject to final decision by League Assembly to be convened early 1946 United Nations Executive Committee has been informed.

LESTER
Acting Secretary-General.