

OPERATIONS COORDINATING BOARD  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



March 14, 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
Mr. Elmer B. Staats

SUBJECT: Briefing Note re Status Report Item 24.b. - UN Scientific  
Committee on the Effects of Radiation

1. Following up our conversation yesterday, I checked with State Department (including USUN) and USIA with respect to any public information problems which might arise during the meeting of the UN Scientific Committee on the Effects of Radiation.

2. The meetings will be closed to the public. However, it is expected that there will be the usual political maneuvering from unfriendly sources with respect to (a) the admission of Communist China to the Committee and the problem of receiving reports on fallout from Communist China; (b) the usual references to the dangers of continued weapons testing will probably be made by the same sources. USIA has prepared a news policy note to cover these points, copy of which is en route. USUN is playing the meeting in low key, without publicity releases or statements.

3. The Committee is expected to meet solely on organizational problems with substantive discussions to be taken up in the fall when the 11th UNGA convenes. According to its terms of reference, the Committee will make yearly progress reports and produce by July 1958 a summary of reports received, together with their evaluations and any indications of research projects requiring further study. The Committee's reports will be disseminated to Member States of the UN or of the specialized agencies by the UN Secretary General. The Secretary General will also act as the organizational link between the Committee and any specialized agencies undertaking work in related fields.

4. Attached for your information is the briefing note previously furnished you with respect to the membership and terms of reference of the UN Scientific Committee on Radiation.

  
Richard Hirsch

ATTACHMENT: (1)

carbon of memo dtd. 1/11/56 to Staats fm Hirsch "Membership and Terms of Ref. of UN Scientific Committee on Radiation"

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