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RECOMMENDATION OF GENERAL COMMITTEE REGARDING CENTRAL  
DRAFTING COMMITTEE

At its fourth meeting held on 15 December, the General Committee agreed to recommend to the Conference the establishment of a Central Drafting Committee. The terms of reference of the Central Drafting Committee would be to study the texts of the Charter produced at the Conference with a view to seeing that they were clear and consistent throughout and that the texts in the authentic languages were identical. The Committee would have no power to change the text but, if it considered changes desirable from a drafting standpoint, it should recommend to the Conference the adoption of such changes.

The General Committee recommend that the Central Drafting Committee should consist of four persons and a chairman, to be appointed by the President from qualified persons nominated by Delegations on the basis of their expert knowledge of the drafting in English and French of international instruments. The General Committee further recommend that there should also be appointed observers familiar with the other official languages of the United Nations.

For the purposes of this recommendation, the General Committee proceeded on the assumption that Article 92, which in its present form provides that the authentic languages of the Charter should be English and French, would be confirmed by the Conference. If, however, modifications are introduced into Article 92 which would have the effect of making the texts in the official languages authentic as well as the texts in the working languages, the composition of the Drafting Committee would be appropriately modified by the President.

The recommendations of the General Committee are now submitted for approval by the Conference.

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