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**Nationality of Married Women – Letter from the Secretary-General to the Chairman of
the International Law Commission.**

Topic:
Nationality including statelessness

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NATIONALITY OF MARRIED WOMEN

DOCUMENT A/CN.4/33

Letter from the Secretary-General to the Chairman of the International Law Commission

[Original text: English]
[18 July 1950]

Sir,

On behalf of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and pursuant to the request of the Economic and Social Council, I have the honour to transmit to the International Law Commission the text of a resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 17 July 1950. This resolution reads as follows:

"The Economic and Social Council,

"Noting the recommendation of the Commission on the Status of Women (fourth session) in regard to the nationality of married women (Document E/1712, paragraph 37),

"Noting further that the International Law Commission, at its first session, included among the topics selected for study and codification "nationality including statelessness",

"Proposes to the International Law Commission that it undertake as soon as possible the drafting of a convention to embody the principles recommended by the Commission on the Status of Women,

"Requests the International Law Commission to determine at its present session whether it deems it appropriate to proceed with this proposal and, if so, to inform the Economic and Social Council as to the appropriate time when the International Law Commission might proceed to initiate action on this problem, and

"Invites the Secretary-General to transmit this resolution to the International Law Commission together with the recommendation of the Commission on the Status of Women."

Further pursuant to the request of the Economic and Social Council I have the honour to transmit the

recommendation of the Commission on the Status of Women, the relevant part of which is as follows:

"The Commission on the Status of Women

"Requests the Economic and Social Council:

"(a) To take appropriate measures, as soon as possible, to ensure the drafting of a convention on nationality of married women, embodying the following principles:

"(i) There shall be no distinction based on sex as regards nationality, in legislation or in practice;

"(ii) Neither marriage nor its dissolution shall affect the nationality of either spouse. Nothing in such a convention shall preclude the parties to it from making provision for the voluntary naturalization of aliens married to their nationals."

May I also call the attention of the International Law Commission to the records of the 388th and 389th meetings of the Economic and Social Council, and to the records of the 133rd and 134th meetings of the Social Committee at which the above resolution of the Economic and Social Council was considered.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Henri LAUGIER

Assistant Secretary-General
Department of Social Affairs

Professor Georges SCELLE,
Chairman,

International Law Commission,
Palais des Nations, Geneva.