ARTICLE 3

TEXT OF ARTICLE 3

The original Members of the United Nations shall be the states which, having participated in the United Nations Conference on International Organizations at San Francisco, or having previously signed the Declaration by United Nations of January 1, 1942, sign the present Charter and ratify it in accordance with Article 110.

NOTE

1. The provisions of Article 3 do not contemplate any action by organs of the United Nations, and no questions concerning the application or interpretation of this Article arose in the practice of United Nations organs during the period under review.

2. The following development may be noted, however, in connexion with the original membership of the United Nations. On 7 March 1958, the Secretary-General communicated to all Member States and all United Nations organs the text of two notes from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Republic. 1/ In the first note, dated 24 February 1958, the Minister for Foreign Affairs notified the Secretary-General that a plebiscite held in Egypt and Syria on 21 February 1958 had resulted in the establishment of the United Arab Republic, with Cairo as its capital, and in the election of President Gamal Abdel Nasser as President of the new Republic. The second note, dated 1 March 1958, requested the Secretary-General to communicate the content of the previous note to the Member States, as well as to the principal organs and appropriate subsidiary organs of the United Nations. In the same note, the Government of the United Arab Republic declared that the Union thenceforth was a single Member of the United Nations, bound by the provisions of the Charter, and that all treaties and agreements concluded by Egypt or Syria with other countries would remain valid within the regional limits prescribed on their conclusion and in accordance with the principles of international law.

1/ The text of these notes may be found in document A/3817 (mimeographed).