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PREPARATORY COMMISSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

CHURCH HOUSE,
DEAN'S YARD,
WESTMINSTER

27 NOV 1945
№ 17745

*8th November*, 1945

Sir,

I have the honour to draw Your Excellency's attention to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations which runs as follows :—

"1. Every treaty and international agreement entered into by any Member of the United Nations after the present Charter comes into force shall as soon as possible be registered with the Secretariat and published by it.

"2. No party to any such treaty or international agreement which has not been registered in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article may invoke that treaty or agreement before any organ of the United Nations."

2. The Executive Committee of the Preparatory Commission of the United Nations studied the best means of giving effect to this Article, and on October 5th adopted a resolution to the effect that detailed regulations for the registration and publication of treaties and international agreements should be worked out by the Secretary-General of the United Nations on appointment.

3. The Executive Committee were, however, also of the opinion that all possible steps should be taken to avoid any gap occurring in the publication of treaties and international agreements between the termination of the League of Nations Treaty Series and the beginning of a similar Treaty Series of the United Nations. To this end, the Committee has directed me to inform all Members of the United Nations that, as from the date of the entry into force of the Charter of the United Nations (October 24th last), treaties and international agreements which Members may send in will be received and filed by the Secretariat of the Preparatory Commission on a provisional basis until the adoption of the detailed regulations referred to in paragraph 2 above.

4. I accordingly have the honour to state for Your Excellency's information the fact that the Secretariat of the Preparatory Commission is now ready to receive and file copies of all treaties and international agreements which you may care to convey to me on behalf of your Government.

5. The duty of Members under Article 102 of the Charter in respect of registration applies only to treaties and international agreements concluded after the entry into force of the Charter ; Members are, however, free to register previous instruments if they so desire, and I have the honour to suggest that all treaties and international agreements concluded before the entry into force of the Charter, but not published in the League of Nations Treaty Series, might suitably be conveyed to the Secretariat for filing along with the other instruments referred to above.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

Executive Secretary

His Excellency
Senor don Pedro Leao Velloso,
Minister for Foreign Affairs,
RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil