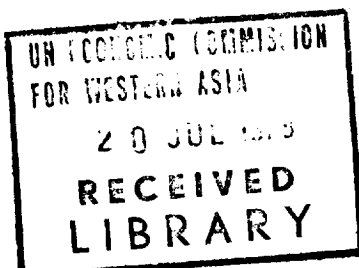




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A STUDY OF PROPOSED TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION FOR THE  
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA IN BAGHDAD

(Note from the Executive Secretary)

The following is a report submitted by  
Mr. Henry S. Jaran, Chief, Building Management Service,  
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Introduction

The Office of General Services of United Nations Headquarters New York in response to a request from the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA) undertook a study of proposed temporary accommodation, suitable for ECWA's interim needs, to be provided in Baghdad by the Government of Iraq. These facilities are to be utilized by ECWA until the permanent headquarters can be constructed in Baghdad. This evaluation does not address the matter of housing, schools or other services related to staff welfare. The study was carried out in Baghdad by the Chief, Buildings Management Service, Office of General Services, the first week of October 1978. The findings of the study are recorded in this report for consideration.

The proposed premises were visited in the company of representatives of the Foreign Ministry of Iraq.

I should like to express my appreciation for the assistance and co-operation extended by the Executive Secretary of ECWA, the Representative of the Government of Iraq and the Resident Representative of UNDP in Baghdad who greatly facilitated this study.

#### Scope of Study

In agreement with senior officials of ECWA, the following criteria were used in the evaluation: (a) requirements are based on an estimated occupancy period of five years running to 10 September 1984; (b) manning table estimates for regular budget and extra budgetary posts finished by the Chief of the Administrative Division, ECWA, indicated a current manning table of approximately 250, consisting of 95 professionals and 150 general service with an estimated 1984 growth to 400 staff consisting of 180 professionals and 220 general services staff.

#### Organization

The existing organizational structure of ECWA is listed below:

Office of the Executive Secretary

Administration Division

#### Substantive Divisions

1. Joint ECWA/UNIDO Industry Division
2. Transport, Communications and Tourism Division
3. Natural Resources, Science and Technology Division
4. Development Planning Division
5. Social Development and Human Settlements Division
6. Population Division
7. Joint ECWA/FAO Agriculture Division
8. Statistical Unit
9. Technical Co-operation Unit
10. Program, Planning and Co-ordination Unit
11. Information Services

Special Use Areas

Executive Secretary Conference Room.

Population Division Library.

ECWA Library.

Documents Reproduction and Distribution.

Two Conference Rooms for 60 participants with simultaneous interpretation and documents services.

PROFFAD, Library, Student Lounge and Conference Room.

Registry.

General Service Storage.

UNIS Library.

REVIEW OF PROPOSED TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION  
FOR ECWA IN BAGHDAD

1. Site: Located in the city center on Sa'adoun Street, the buildings proposed are the two southern most of five buildings now under construction on one site. Immediately across the street two major hotels, one Sheraton and the other Meridien, are under construction and scheduled for completion in mid-1980.
2. Structure: Of reinforced concrete frame construction ten stories in height with masonry curtain partition walls that will facilitate alteration. Completion of the two buildings proposed will be September 1979. An additional one story structure at ground level can be made available if required.
3. Services: Air conditioning, central heating, elevators, electric, telephone and all other services are provided and adequate. Lighting will have to be modified to provide standard office type fluorescent lighting.
4. Alterations: The cursory evaluation that limited time permitted indicated that minimal alterations would be required. This can only be confirmed after final office layout plans are completed. The fact that kitchen and bath fixtures have not been installed will minimize demolition.
5. Parking: A total of two hundred parking spaces will be provided.
6. Traffic: The site is located on a main arterial road.
7. Restaurants: Adequate restaurant facilities are available nearby.
8. Hotels: The site is convenient to major hotels.
9. Conference Facilities: The required two small conference rooms with simultaneous interpretation might be accommodated either on the mezzanine floor or on the one story structure located at ground level. Detailed study would be required to finalize this.

It is not possible to provide on the site a conference room with a capacity of 250 for meetings of the Commission. However, it was learned that adequate space to meet this requirement exists at the country club adjacent to the site or in nearby hotels.

10. Expansion: The site contains a total of five identical buildings. It is proposed to convert two of these to office use. The three remaining will be completed as apartment buildings. These buildings could also be readily utilized as office space to meet growth requirements.

11. Area Evaluation: Analysis of the architectural plans submitted by the engineers and physical examination of the premises, which have all walls in place, determine that the two proposed buildings contain adequate gross square area to provide temporary accommodation for the Economic Commission for Western Asia.

### Conclusion

As stated above the proposed two buildings would provide adequate area to meet ECWA's office space and special use requirements. These buildings to be completed by September 1979 and would require some modification to provide space allocation and environmental working conditions in accordance with United Nations international standards. Examination of the construction indicates, and the Iraqi engineer confirm, that alterations can be executed with a minimum of difficulty.

To meet ECWA's conference space requirements it appears possible to provide on the site two conference rooms seating 50 to 60 with simultaneous interpretation in three languages. These rooms would be located either at the mezzanine level or in the one story structure located at ground level. Commission Plenary meetings, requiring a capacity of 250 with interpretation, would be conducted in off-site club or hotel facilities.

Adequate parking facilities will be provided on site.