

48. SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION

In compliance with an Assembly resolution adopted in 1946, the Secretary-General submitted to the Fifth Committee certain recommendations concerning the extent to which the simultaneous interpretation procedure should be used in the Assembly and its committees. There was general agreement on the advantages of the simultaneous system in saving time and enabling representatives who knew only one of the official languages to follow the debates more closely. It was recognized however that a continuing need exists for consecutive interpretation when a more precise and literal interpretation is required. A resolution approving simultaneous interpretation as a permanent service to be used alternatively, or in conjunction with, consecutive interpretation as the nature of the debates required, was unanimously adopted by the Assembly on November 15, 1947. The Secretary-General was also authorized to provide mobile wireless equipment for use in the Assembly and for servicing conferences which are held away from the headquarters.