

CONSEIL DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD
NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL

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SCIENCE COMMITTEE

DECISIONS REACHED AT THE MINISTERIAL
MEETING IN DECEMBER 1957 AND TERMS OF
REFERENCE FOR THE COMMITTEE APPROVED
BY THE COUNCIL

Note by the Executive
Secretary

Ministerial Communiqué

1. The communiqué issued by the Ministerial Session of the North Atlantic Council in December 1957 referred to scientific and technical co-operation in the following terms:

"Scientific and Technical Co-operation:

- 25.- We recognise that in most of our countries more should be done to increase the supply of trained men in many branches of science and technology. The full development of our science and technology is essential to the culture, to the economy and to the political and military strength of the Atlantic Community.
- 26.- We realise that progress will depend on vigorous action within individual states and in particular on the devoted contribution of teachers and scientists. We must increase the provision for the training of young people in scientific and technical subjects and must also ensure that the free pursuit of fundamental research continues to flourish. Each of our governments will therefore re-appraise the support being given to scientific and technical education and to fundamental research.
- 27.- We seek to increase the effectiveness of national efforts through the pooling of scientific facilities and information and the sharing of tasks. We must build on the established tradition of the universality of true science. Our governments will support the international organizations doing work in this field.

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-28.- We have decided to establish forthwith a Science Committee on which all of the NATO countries will be represented by men highly qualified to speak authoritatively on scientific policy. In addition, a scientist of outstanding qualifications will be appointed as Science Adviser to the Secretary General of NATO.

-29.- The Science Committee will be responsible in particular for making specific recommendations to the Council for action on a proposal by the French Government for a Western Foundation for Scientific Research and on the many other valuable proposals which have been put forward by the NATO Task Force on Scientific and Technical Cooperation and by the NATO Parliamentarians Conference."

Terms of reference:

2. At its meeting of 29th January 1958 (1), the North Atlantic Council:

- "(1) approved provisional terms of reference of the Science Committee," (Annex)
- "(2) agreed that appropriate qualified military representation should be provided as deemed necessary by the Committee, it being understood that military representatives would, as a general rule, attend meetings as observers."
- "(3) invited those delegations who had not already nominated their representatives on the Science Committee to supply names to the Secretary General as soon as possible."

(Signed) COLERIDGE

Palais de Chaillot,
Paris, XVIe.

(1) C-R(58)6

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Bearing in mind that NATO has an important role in the promotion of effective action - wherever possible through existing organizations - to increase the supply and improve the quality of scientific manpower and to ensure the optimum utilisation of this critical resource and of scientific facilities in all fields, including that of defence research, through co-operative measures, where appropriate, as well as to increase the exchange of information on scientific research, we have agreed to establish a Science Committee. We have also agreed to approve provisionally the following terms of reference for the Science Committee, it being recognised that the Committee should be free to suggest to the Council amendments to these terms of reference, should they deem fit.

2. The Committee will:

- (a) advise the Council on problems of science and technology of concern to the NATO Alliance.
- (b) propose to the Council recommendations concerning:
 - (i) steps which member countries might take to strengthen the scientific and technical resources available to NATO;
 - (ii) direct action by NATO itself designed to initiate or improve co-operative activities between member countries;
 - (iii) support which NATO might give to other organizations whose efforts are of particular concern to the members of the Alliance;
- (c) set up such ad hoc working groups or other bodies as may be required to formulate proposals for action in relation to specific scientific and technical problems;
- (d) review periodically the operation of any co-operative scientific and technical institutions set up under NATO auspices;
- (e) review at suitable intervals the scientific and technical progress of member countries insofar as it bears on problems of general concern to NATO, and in particular with respect to:

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- (i) measures agreed to by Council;
 - (ii) action under NATO auspices to improve scientific co-operation and exchange;
 - (iii) action in connection with programmes of other agencies which are of particular concern to NATO;
- (f) maintain liaison with other agencies fostering international scientific and technical co-operation.

3. NATO countries will be represented on the Science Committee by men highly qualified to speak authoritatively on scientific policy. Appropriately qualified NATO military representation will be provided as necessary. The Committee shall meet not less than twice a year and more frequently at the discretion of the Secretary General.

4. The Committee will, as decided at the December Ministerial Meeting, be responsible in particular for making specific recommendations to the Council for action on the proposals referred to in paragraph 29 of the communiqué of the Meeting.

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