

# MEMORY OF THE WORLD REGISTER

## League of Nations Archives 1919-1946

(United Nations Office at Geneva)

Ref N° 2008-26

### PART A – ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

#### 1 SUMMARY

The League of Nations was conceived in 1919 during the aftermath of the tragedies and suffering caused by World War I. The victorious states responded to the catastrophe with the establishment of an organization designed "to promote international cooperation and to achieve peace and security" based on open, just and honorable relations between nations. The Covenant of the League of Nations, which constitutes the first part of the Treaty of Versailles, established the mandates of the world's first intergovernmental organization dedicated to peace, causing a fundamental change towards an "institutionalization" of international relations.

During the 1920s, the League of Nations enjoyed some remarkable successes by resolving disputes between Member States and increasing economic and technical cooperation. In the field of humanitarian assistance, the League had particular success in aiding the return of prisoners of war and providing a legal framework for refugees which allowed them to start rebuilding their lives.

The increasing economic strife and militant nationalism which characterized the 1930s led not only to the breakup of cooperation between States but also to conflicts which could not be resolved. The League of Nations was unable to prevent these conflicts from erupting into the Second World War and thus became obsolete, which finally led to its dissolution in 1946.

The archives of the League of Nations are a testimony to the will of the League's Member States to create the world's first intergovernmental organization for peace and cooperation. These unique archives include documents received or produced by the League Secretariat and organized by a central Registry, Commission files which are records of external League organs concerning for example the Financial Reconstruction of Austria and Hungary, and the Refugees Mixed Archives Group ("Nansen Fonds"). This group contains documents from the Geneva headquarters and external offices concerning humanitarian relief, logistics, employment and financial assistance, petitions and legal protection. The collection of Conventions, Ratifications and Other Diplomatic Instruments includes documents of important legal value with signatures of heads of states and official seals.

In spite of its political failure, the legacy of the League of Nations is clearly evidenced in the structure and functions of the United Nations, whose specialized agencies are largely founded on the work initiated by the League of Nations. As such, the position of the organization as a groundbreaking attempt to create international peace and cooperation cannot be disputed and its contribution continues to be recognized by the many researchers and scholars who consult the archives to this day.

#### 2 DETAILS OF THE NOMINATOR

##### 2.1 Name (person or organisation)

United Nations Office at Geneva Library

##### 2.2 Relationship to the documentary heritage nominated

The United Nations is the owner of the collection, which is managed by the Registry, Records and Archives Unit of the Library of the United Nations Office at Geneva.

### **2.3 Contact person (s)**

Blandine Blukacz-Louisfert

Sigrun Habermann-Box

### **2.4 Contact details (include address, phone, fax, email)**

Blandine Blukacz-Louisfert

Acting Chief, User Services Section  
Library - United Nations Office at Geneva  
Office B.254  
Palais des Nations  
CH - 1211 Geneva 10  
Tel.: +41 22-917-36-15  
Fax: +41 22 917 04 18  
E-mail: [bblukacz-louisfert@unog.ch](mailto:bblukacz-louisfert@unog.ch)

Sigrun Habermann-Box

Acting Chief, Registry, Records and Archives Unit  
Library - United Nations Office at Geneva  
Office B.326  
Palais des Nations  
CH - 1211 Geneva 10  
Tel.: +41 22-917-41-89  
Fax: +41 22-917-07-46  
E-mail: [shabermann-box@unog.ch](mailto:shabermann-box@unog.ch)

## ***3 IDENTITY AND DESCRIPTION OF THE DOCUMENTARY HERITAGE***

### **3.1 Name and identification details of the items being nominated**

#### **League of Nations Archives 1919-1946 2175 linear meters**

- League of Nations Secretariat (1919-1946)
- Refugees Mixed Archives Group ("Nansen Fonds") (1920-1946)
- League of Nations External Fonds (1919-1946)
- Conventions, Ratifications and Other Diplomatic Instruments (1920-1940)

### **3.2. Description**

#### ***3.2.1 Context***

The League of Nations, an organization conceived in the aftermath of World War I, was established in 1919 under the Treaty of Versailles "to promote international cooperation and to achieve peace and security" based on open, just and honorable relations.

The League of Nations' primary objective was to settle disputes by any means other than outright war. By the time it was liquidated, more than 60 international disputes had been brought before the League

of Nations. During the first 10 years of its existence, only eight of the 30 disputants resorted to hostilities or war.

The diplomatic philosophy behind the League of Nations represented a fundamental shift in thought from the preceding hundred years and the creation of the League represents a unique moment when international affairs were "institutionalized". For this reason, the League of Nations has for long time been considered as the laboratory of the United Nations and a necessary stage which gave structure to the concept of an intergovernmental organization and organized twentieth century internationalism.

### ***3.2.2 Description of the documentary heritage***

The archives of the League of Nations are a unique source of information about the League of Nations (1919-1946) and its activities. The collections represent 2199 linear metres of textual records, documents, conventions, ratifications, and other diplomatic instruments.

#### **League of Nations Secretariat Fonds (1919-1946)**

##### **1,440 linear metres**

The Secretariat fonds comprises all the material produced or received at the headquarters of the League of Nations. This fonds consists of the original files of the Secretariat of the League (correspondence and documents received or produced by the various sections or other administrative units of the Secretariat), official publications (printed or mimeographed), minutes, working papers and documents of the various League organs.

The correspondence and files of the various sections of the Secretariat were handled, established and kept by a central Registry, which in fact registered, placed on file, indexed, assigned reference numbers and otherwise processed the greater part of the material. For practical reasons, however, certain sections of the Secretariat established files independently of the Registry system, either because they were authorized to function autonomously, or because they kept parallel files, for their internal use, which were often fairly different from those established in accordance with the official rules.

The Secretariat archive group is, therefore, constituted of two categories of files: the Registry files and the Section files.

The **Registry files** consist of documents received or produced by the various sections or other administrative units of the Secretariat, but dealt with by the Registry in accordance with official rules. They fall within one of the three chronological series: 1919-1927, 1928-1932 and 1933-1946.

The **Section files** form an integral part of the Secretariat archive group. They represent a mass of non-Registry documents of which the substance, the internal classification, etc., are different for each section. As spontaneous creations, they developed freely into parallel archives and contain substantive information complementing the Registry files.

#### **Refugees Mixed Archives Group ("Nansen Fonds") (1920-1946)**

##### **85 linear metres**

In the spring of 1920, Fridtjof Nansen--a Norwegian scientist, Arctic explorer and politician--was appointed as League of Nations High Commissioner for Prisoners of War and appointed by the League of Nations to facilitate the repatriation of many prisoners of war. Within two years, Nansen arranged for approximately 450,000 ex-prisoners of war from twenty-six countries to be returned to their homes.

In 1921, Nansen was appointed High Commissioner for Russian Refugees. Furthermore, he played an instrumental role in organizing emergency relief to famine victims in Russia in 1921-1923 and starting in 1922 he also dealt with the problem of refugees from Asia Minor.

One of his greatest achievements is the introduction of a system of legal protection for refugees, which was realised by the “Nansen passport”. This legal document was eventually recognised by fifty-two governments.

After Mr. Nansen’s death in 1930, the League of Nations created an autonomous Nansen Office for Refugees, which continued the humanitarian relief work until 1938. From 1939 to 1946 the High Commissariat for Refugees under the Protection of the League of Nations took over the work of the Office.

The Refugees Mixed Archives Group (“Nansen Fonds”) contains incoming and outgoing correspondence, drafts and finalized versions of reports, administrative documents from the Geneva headquarters and external offices. The subject matters treated include humanitarian relief, logistics, employment and financial assistance, petitions and legal protection. Some refugee case files can also be found in these archives.

Within the Nansen fonds are the following sub-fonds:

"Registry files" (1920-1947)

"Commission files" (1919-1947)

"Section files" (1924-1941).

### **League of Nations External Fonds (1919-1946)**

#### **650 linear metres**

This archival group includes series of files constituted outside the Secretariat—whether the material consists of archives produced by administrative units directly responsible to the Secretariat or by more or less autonomous bodies (e.g. the administrative commissions) connected with the League, its specialized organizations and their committees, etc.

Specifically this group includes:

- Commission files (records of external League organs) concerning the Financial Reconstruction of Austria and Hungary
- Saar Governing Commission files
- Mixed Commission for the Exchange of Greek and Turkish Populations files
- Upper Silesia Mixed Commission files
- Economic and Financial Section of the League Secretariat files installed in Princeton during the Second World War
- Archives of the League of Nations’ offices in Berlin and London

### **Conventions, Ratifications and Other Diplomatic Instruments (1920-1940)**

#### **24 linear metres**

This collection consists of diplomatic instruments, most of them concluded under the auspices of the League of Nations and some of them also deposited with its Secretary-General. It contains conventions, protocols and other agreements, resolutions, official statements, protocols of amendment to the League of Nations Covenant, etc., as well as documents relating to treaty actions such as ratifications, amendments, additional acts to protocols, denunciations of conventions or other agreements, adhesions to optional or final clauses, instruments of accession to conventions etc., registrations and publications, files of admission to the League of Nations, ratifications of adhesion to the Covenant, etc.

Subjects dealt with are:

- Political matters: agreements settling international disputes pacifically, frontiers problems, agreements about the protection of the Free City of Danzig, the Saar plebiscite, disarmament questions (fight against trade in arms), Convention for the Prevention and Punishment of Terrorism, etc.
- Supervision of the mandates system and slavery conventions,
- Files from the Court of International Justice: codification of international law, etc.
- Conventions on the status of refugees as well as the protection of racial, religious and linguistic minorities,
- Social matters such as traffic in women and children, obscene publications, conventions for the suppression of illicit traffic in opium and other dangerous drugs, etc.
- Transit and communication matters such as unification of road and river traffic laws, agreements for a uniform maritime system, etc.
- Commercial matters: agreements for a concerted economic action, commercial conventions, counterfeiting currency and customs formalities conventions, import and export restrictions, Convention on Financial Assistance to Attacked States, ratifications, protocols, additional acts about economic and financial collaboration with and reconstruction of various States, arbitration clauses in commercial contracts, various documents (conventions, protocols, ratifications, final acts, etc.) about the Conference for unification of laws on bills of exchange, promissory notes and cheques, etc.
- Conventions and agreements about agriculture, veterinary conventions, etc.
- Intellectual cooperation matters.

### 3.2.3 *Finding Aids*

- General Inventory (Répertoire général), 1919-1946, 1978, 3 vol.

The main aid available to the researchers—provides a rapid picture of the archive groups and enables one to adopt an approach proceeding from the general to the particular.

- Guide to the Archives of the League of Nations, 1919-1946. Geneva, 1999;
- Annuaire de la Société des Nations 1920-1938. Geneva, 1927-1938, Vol. 1-8
- Name and subject index cards for Registry files
- Name index of personnel files
- Registry 1919-1946 index: Section 6A, Mandates, and 6B, Slavery (3 vols.)
- Registry 1919-1946 index : Sub-Section 2, Administrative Commission, and Sub-Section 41, Minorities
- 1920-1940, Conventions, Ratifications and Other Diplomatic Instruments
- Online catalogue on the scopeArchiv database - Description based on ISAD (G).

### 3.2.4 *Archival History*

The League of Nations Library began developing archival collections on the history of international relations. In 1931, an essential archival "fonds" on the Peace Movement was acquired: the private papers of Alfred Fried and Bertha von Suttner, Austrian Pacifists from the end of the nineteenth century. These archives, along with the Museum Collections, formed the Historical Collections of the Library.

In 1946, at the demise of the League, the Library, and all other League of Nations assets (i.e. the archives of the Secretariat and the building) were turned over to the newly created United Nations. While some of the League's files were transferred to the Departments and Sections of the United Nations Secretariat to serve as the foundations of their administrative or political activities, the bulk of the League's archives were kept in the vaults of the Palais des Nations.

In the late 1950s, at a time when historians started focusing their attention on the League of Nations archives, the files that had been transferred to New York gradually found their way back to Geneva, and were placed under the custody of the Library. Thanks to funds offered by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, the League of Nations archives were classified, lists were established, and the archives were finally opened to the general public in 1969. The League of Nations Archives and Historical Collections became a Library Unit, and a special Reading Room was established within the Library's premises.

Approximately 90 per cent of the League of Nations Archives have remained in their original state. The only relatively serious losses are those of some later Section files, the archives of some external offices and the papers of the first two Secretary-Generals. Sir Eric Drummond's papers were destroyed during the Second World War and Joseph Avenol's papers were given to the Quai d'Orsay by the executors of his will.

The different moves due to office relocations are well documented and care was taken by registry personnel at the time and archivists under the United Nations, to maintain the original order of the files.

### ***3.2.5 Analysis of physical condition***

Please refer to Annex 1, League of Nations Archives Management Plan, 5. Preservation Facilities and Material.

### ***3.2.6 Visual documentation***

Please refer to Annex 2, Visual Documentation, for photographs of the documentary heritage and its storage conditions.

### ***3.2.7 Bibliography***

*Guide to the Archives of the League of Nations*, United Nations: Geneva, 1999. ISBN 92-1-101006-3

UNESCO Archives. *Guide to the Archives of International Organizations Part I: The United Nations Systems*. Unesco Series, Documentation, Libraries and Archives: Bibliographies and Reference Works, Unesco, Paris, 1984.

United Nations Organization. *The League of Nations 1920-1946: Organisation and Accomplishments. A Retrospective of the First International Organization for the Establishment of the World Peace*. New York, Geneva: United Nations, 1996.

### ***3.2.8 Referees***

**Jean-François PITTELOUD**, Deputy Archivist of the International Committee of the Red Cross

Address:

International Committee of the Red Cross - Comité International de la Croix Rouge  
Archives  
19 avenue de la Paix  
Suisse -1202 Genève

Tel. +41 22-730-28-32  
E-mail: [jpitteloud.gva@icrc.org](mailto:jpitteloud.gva@icrc.org)

**Professeur Antoine FLEURY**, Institut européen de l'Université de Genève

Main area of research: history of international relations in the 20th century with focus on economic relations; international relations of Switzerland

Address:

Université de Genève  
Département d'histoire générale  
5, rue Saint-Ours  
Suisse -1211 Genève 4  
Tel.: + 41 22-379-70-82  
E-mail: [Antoine.Fleury@lettres.unige.ch](mailto:Antoine.Fleury@lettres.unige.ch)

**Martyn HOUSDEN**, Reader in Modern History, Department of Social Sciences and Humanities, University of Bradford

Main areas of research: history of Germany (1918-1945); refugees in the Baltic and Black Sea Region of the 1920s.

Address:

University of Bradford  
Department of Social Sciences and Humanities  
United Kingdom - Bradford BD7, 1DP  
Tel.: +44 01-226-37-00-61  
E-mail: [v.m.housden@bradford.ac.uk](mailto:v.m.housden@bradford.ac.uk) ; [m.housden@btopenworld.com](mailto:m.housden@btopenworld.com)

#### ***4 JUSTIFICATION FOR INCLUSION/ASSESSMENT AGAINST CRITERIA***

##### **4.1 Is authenticity established?**

The League of Nations Archives were produced by the organization as part of its activities. It was the function of the Registry to register, classify and file each document. The index of names and subjects which was established as a finding aid by the Registry, remains one of the most useful tools for access to the documents and attests to the authenticity and integrity of the fonds.

Additionally, although some archive groups, such as the Secretariat fonds, were moved many times owing to changes of office premises, the archives remained in the ownership and therefore under the control of the League of Nations or with its successor, the United Nations System.

##### **4.2 Are world significance, uniqueness and irreplaceability established?**

Born with the will of the victors of the First World War to avoid a repeat of a devastating war, the League of Nations' objective was to maintain universal peace within the framework of the fundamental principles of the Pact accepted by its Members : « to develop cooperation among nations and to guarantee them peace and security ».

The first years of existence of the League of Nations were marked by great successes. In accordance with the provisions of the Pact, several international disputes—between Sweden and Finland, and between Greece and Bulgaria—were resolved peacefully. The Locarno Agreements signed in October 1925, which marked the beginnings of a Franco-German reconciliation, were entrusted to the League. As a direct consequence, Germany--beaten and excluded from the League by the Treaty of Versailles

in 1919--became a Member in 1926. In 1929, the delegate from France, Aristide Briand, put forward to the Assembly the very first political project of a European Federal Union.

In spite of these early successes, the League of Nations did not manage to prevent neither the invasion of Manchuria by Japan, nor the annexation of Ethiopia by Italy in 1936, nor that of Austria by Hitler in 1938. The powerlessness of the League of Nations to prevent further world conflict, the alienation of part of its Member States and the generation of the war itself, added to its demise from 1940

Although the League of Nation's failed in its primary mission of collective security, important successes were achieved in international technical cooperation, an activity which was considered secondary. Under the organization's auspices a considerable number of conferences, intergovernmental committees and meetings of experts were held in Geneva, in areas as diverse as health and social affairs, transport and communications, economic and financial affairs and intellectual cooperation. This fruitful work was validated by the ratification of more than one hundred conventions by the Member States. The unprecedented work on behalf of refugees carried out by the Norwegian Fridtjof Nansen from 1920 should also be stressed.

Finally, the processes and structures enshrined in the League's Covenant and subsequently developed during its years of work, provided invaluable experience from which its successor organization, the United Nations, was to benefit. In fact, the roots of the United Nations system and many of its agencies can be found within the structure of the League of Nations.

League of Nations diplomats, officials and staff laboured energetically and with dedication to achieve the objectives of the organization. The 2175 linear metres of archives attest to their efforts and provide researchers with important historical lessons for today's international relations.

### ***Uniqueness and irreplaceability***

The nominated archives are unique and irreplaceable, because they are the original archives produced by the League of Nations, the first international organization for world peace. They attest to the efforts of interwar diplomats, officials and the first international civil servants on promoting cooperation between nations to guarantee peace and security. The archives also document the importance of the League organization and its history from its hopeful beginnings in 1919 to its demise and final dissolution in 1946.

### **4.3 Is one or more of the criteria of (a) time (b) place (c) people (d) subject and theme (e) form and style satisfied?**

The criteria satisfied by the League of Nations Archives are (a) time, (b) place (c) people (d) subject and theme.

#### **(a) Time**

The archives reflect the hopes and struggles of the period between the two world wars in the 20th century, as the organization dealt with all major international issues of the time, such as collective security, economic and financial turmoil and humanitarian crises.

#### **(b) Place**

In 1946, at the time of the dissolution of the League of Nations, Mr. G. de Blanck, delegate of Cuba stated: "What has been called « the spirit of Geneva » was something more powerful than the Covenant [of the League of Nations] ... When the Charter [of the United Nations was drawn up], we know that it was done under the impulsion of this spirit of Geneva."

This spirit is one of open-mindedness and independence of the population of Geneva. It first demonstrated itself during the renaissance, when Geneva was a safe haven from persecution for the followers of the Reformed religion. These refugees, who arrived by thousands, brought with them a diverse culture and an interest in world affairs. During the last 200 years, Geneva saw the signing of the first international arbitration treaty in the world in 1872, as well as many personal and collective actions for peace and humanitarian relief. In this spirit, Geneva

became the place of choice for the establishment of the first international organization for peace, the League of Nations.

This also represented an essential step in Geneva's development towards becoming a truly international city. Today the city is home to many international organizations, among them many of the UN System.

### **(c) People**

The League of Nations Archives reflect the work of many eminent and illustrious personalities. To name a few:

The Secretary-Generals of the League: Sir Eric Drummond (United Kingdom), Joseph Avenol (France), Sean Lester (Ireland).

Delegates to the League, such as the foreign ministers of the member states, such as Aristide Briand (France), Gustav Stresemann (Germany) and Austen Chamberlain (United Kingdom), the lead negotiators of the Locarno Treaty and recipients of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1925 and 1926 respectively, Nicolae Titulescu (Romania), Ignacy Paderewski (Czechoslovakia), Edvard Benes (Czechoslovakia), Inazo Nitobe (Japan), Carlos Saavedra Lamas (Argentina; Nobel Peace Prize 1936), Wellington Koo (China), Aga Sultan Mohamed Shah (Aga Khan) (India)

Scientists and artists who were members of the International Committee for Intellectual Cooperation, such as Béla Bartók, Thomas Mann, Marie Curie, Albert Einstein and Henri Bergson.

Fridtjof Nansen, Arctic explorer and politician, started his humanitarian work at the end of World War I and was appointed by the League as High Commissioner for Prisoners of War and later High Commissioner for Refugees. As a result of his work, 450.000 prisoners of war were repatriated. His personality and dedication were instrumental in setting up an international refugee assistance system which exists to this day, as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

### **(d) Subject and Theme**

The subjects and themes portrayed in the archives stem from the political mandates and activities of the League of Nations, which include the following:

- collective security
- pacific settlement of disputes through conciliation, arbitration, and adjudication
- disarmament
- minorities in Europe and the Near East
- supervising mandates over colonies and other territories
- project of European Union, etc.

In addition, the League dealt with these functional issues based on articles 23 to 25 of the Covenant:

- refugees
- health
- social issues, such as slavery, drug control and traffic in women and children
- intellectual cooperation
- world economy and trade, including financial assistance to member states
- communications and transit, etc.

#### **4.4. Are there issues of rarity, integrity, threat and management that relate to this nomination?**

##### **4.4.1 *Rarity***

The League of Nations Archives nominated here are rare in the sense that they contain the documents of the first political international organization for peace, which revolutionized international relations. They give us an insight into the first experiment of collective security and have already provided its successor organization, the United Nations, with lessons learned. Additionally, the sub-fonds of Conventions, Ratifications and Other Diplomatic Instruments contains a collection of official documents, with remaining legal value and original signatures of heads of state, including official seals.

##### **4.4.2 *Integrity***

Approximately 90 per cent of the League of Nations Archives have remained in their original state. The only relatively serious losses are those of some later Section files, the archives of some external offices and the papers of the first two Secretary-Generals. Sir Eric Drummond's papers were destroyed during the Second World War and Joseph Avenol's papers were given to the Quai d'Orsay by the executors of his will.

The different moves due to office relocations are well documented and care was taken by registry personnel at the time and archivists under the United Nations, to maintain the original order of the files.

##### **4.4.3 *Threat***

The state of the documents is satisfactory. However, as explained in more detail in Annex 1, League of Nations Archives Management Plan, the storage facilities in the Palais des Nations do not conform to preservation standards due to the state of the Building, which was constructed in the 1930s without a plan for archives space. The UNOG Library is therefore actively raising awareness about the necessity of providing adequate storage conditions for its archives and is working on solutions for the provision of archives facilities.

##### **4.4.4 *Management Plan***

Please refer to Annex 1, League of Nations Archives Management Plan.

## **5 *LEGAL INFORMATION***

### **5.1. Owner of the documentary heritage (name and contact details)**

United Nations Office at Geneva

Library

Palais des Nations

CH - 1211 Geneva 10

### **5.2 Custodian of the documentary heritage (name and contact details, if different to owner)**

See 5.1.

### **5.3 Legal status**

#### **(a) Category of ownership**

Property of the United Nations

#### **(b) Accessibility**

League of Nations archives, subject to an accessibility rule of 40 years after the file was closed, are in general now accessible to the public. Very few files remain closed as they are classified confidential and only accessible after 60 years after the closure of the file. This pertains to personnel files of former League staff members, which were maintained even after the transfer of the League's assets to the UN.

#### **(c) Copyright status**

The United Nations owns the copyright for the archives proper of the League of Nations.

#### **(d) Responsible administration**

The Records, Registry and Archives Unit of the Library of the United Nations Office at Geneva is responsible for the administration of the archives.

## **6 MANAGEMENT PLAN**

YES, a management plan exists.

## **7 CONSULTATION**

### **7.1 Provide details of consultation about this nomination with (a) the owner of the heritage (b) the custodian (c) your national or regional *Memory of the World* committee**

**(a) Owner: United Nations**

**(b) Custodian: United Nations Office at Geneva Library**

## **PART B – SUBSIDIARY INFORMATION**

## **8 ASSESSMENT OF RISK**

The documents are currently in satisfactory condition, but due to the acidity of the paper, natural deterioration is to be expected. Measures are taken on a continual basis to reduce this effect.

More important risks, however, are incurred through the general conditions in the building, which do not adhere to preservation standards. A "Survey of storage conditions at the UNOG Archives and Library services" was done in 2004 by Ms. Helen Forde, a preservation expert, following a flooding which affected UNOG archives. The short-term measures, which were recommended in order to protect documents and which could be executed by the Library, were taken. Concerning recommendations for the long-term, which consist of providing new or dramatically improved storage facilities, the UNOG Library is actively looking for solutions through a working group with UNOG officials.

## **9 ASSESSMENT OF PRESERVATION**

As stated under point 8, *Assessment of Risk*, the documents are currently in satisfactory condition. To improve the conditions for their long-term preservation, the following projects are in place:

- Treating the Refugees Mixed Archival Group for preservation through conditioning of the documents, microfilming and digitization
- Systematic preventive preservation of documents of the Secretariat fonds.

The Conventions, Ratifications and Other Diplomatic Instruments were treated according to preservation standards and are stored in a new mobile shelving unit which is adaptable to their specific format.

For more and specific information on preservation policies and practices, as well as on facilities and material, please refer to the League of Nations Archives Management Plan in Annex 1.

**PART C - LODGEMENT**

This nomination is lodged by:

(Please print name) Pierre Le Loarer, Chief Librarian, United Nations Office at Geneva

(Signature)..... (Date).....