Foreword

The development of the role of the United Nations in international affairs is a question under continuous and intense discussion. To measure the impact of its activities in the political, economic or social fields, to evaluate the part it has played in the progress of dependent peoples to statehood or in the development of international law, there is need for an authoritative record of its work, year by year, as the basis for correct perspective and sound appraisal.

The United Nations Yearbooks are designed to meet that need. This new edition, the thirteenth of an annual series, presents in a single volume the work of the United Nations and its related agencies during the year 1959. Documentary notes and official texts of resolutions supplement its account of United Nations debates and decisions of that year.

It is hoped that this Yearbook, like its predecessors, besides proving a valuable reference source, will also serve to promote informed understanding of the role which the United Nations has played, and can play, as an instrument for organized international co-operation.

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