# UNITED NATIONS ARCHIVES AND RECORDS MANAGEMENT SECTION

RETENTION COMPENDIUM PROJECT

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## Introduction

The following document is the final report of the "Retention Compendium Project" for the United Nations Archives and Records Management Section. The project work commenced on May 1, 1995 and ended June 30, 1995 with this final report.

The goal of the project was to develop a Retention Compendium. The Compendium reflects the range of retention periods that have been assigned to records and/or record series with similar functions, such as "case files", "official status files", etc. Since the Compendium would provide a history on past retention decisions, it was thought that it could be used as a tool for developing future records retention schedules for the Secretariat departments of the United Nations.

This report describes the current records retention environment, provides a project description, discusses the project findings, and offers recommendations.

"Records", for the purpose of this discussion, are all documentary materials made or received regardless of physical type (books, paper, photographs, maps, electronic data, audiovisual, microforms, etc.) documenting decisions and transactions made in connection with official United Nations business. Library and museum materials made or acquired and preserved solely for reference or exhibition purposes, extra copies of documents, such as printed "official records", preserved only for convenience of reference, and stocks of publications are not included within the definition of "records".

In the definition of records cited above, the phrase "regardless of physical type" means that records are not comprised only of paper materials. Attention must be given to electronic records including magnetic tapes and disks, etc.

#### Current Records Retention Environment

The United Nations Archives and Records Management Section (ARMS) has the prime responsibility for providing efficient and cost effective records management services to the United Nations Secretariat departments, and to collect, preserve and make available for research historical records generated by the United Nations.

United Nations ARMS supports departments by developing uniform standards, procedures and techniques for handling information.

Records retention and disposition schedules are developed under ARMS supervision, and serve as the basis for retaining, disposing, and transferring records to storage; they also act as a mechanism for identifying and transferring to Archives records with permanent historical value.

Presently, there are several records retention schedules in existence for United Nations records including the <u>Finance Manual</u> and older schedules that were developed for various departments throughout the United Nations in the 1970's and 80's. Other sources of retention period information include file classification plans, records appraisals documented in the Records Retention Table and Accessions-Disposal Table of the United Nations Archives Data Base System, records accessions files, archives finding aids, and from interviews with ARMS staff.

# Project Description

The first step in the project was to become familiar with the organizational structure and basic operational procedures of the United Nations and ARMS. Information was gathered on the organizational structure from organization charts, descriptions of departments, annual reports, and through interviews with ARMS staff.

Next, an overall review took place of records retention schedules in existence, directives, official or informal retention decisions, studies and reports, file plans, archives finding aids, and retention decisions reflected in the Archives Data Base System.

During the review, a list of records titles and/or descriptions with similar type functions were compiled including the following:

- 1. Official Status Files
- 2. Intern Files
- 3. Applications
- Correspondence Chronological, Reading, and Letter Files
- 5. Cases Project, Country, and Study Files
- 6. Petitions
- 7. Reports
- 8. Survey Records
- Meeting Files Committees, Boards, Panels, Agendas, and Minutes
- 10. Audiovisual Records

- 11. Ledgers, Registers, and Logs
- 12. Rules, Regulations, Policy and Procedures Files
- 13. Communication Files Cables
- 14. Attendance, Leave, and Time Records
- 15. Maps, Plans and Architectural Drawings
- 16. Contract and Agreement Files
- 17. Budget Records
- 18. Purchasing and Accounting Records

Each record title was researched for their retention period assignments using the older retention schedules, <u>Finance Manual</u>, file plans, finding aids, and the "records description" fields of the Archives Data Bases previously mentioned above. Archives staff were also a good source of information.

Occasionally, it was difficult to determine retention periods assigned to records accessions documented in the Accession-Disposal Table of the Archives Data Base System because different methods of recording retention period information are used. In some cases the retention periods for records series is the difference between the latest date in the "inclusive date" field and the "review for disposition" date field.

In other cases, the records are scheduled from the date of accession regardless of inclusive dates of the record. Sometimes inclusive date information is missing. Also, there are multi-year record accessions for a given record series that are sometimes recommended for immediate disposal, and accessions sometimes consist of several different record series.

All series used in the project from the Accession-Disposal Table were cross checked against the hard copy Accession File. Sometimes additional information on record retention could be found from the Accession Control Sheet and the Request for Transfer of Inactive Records that are some of the document components of the Accession File.

#### Project Findings

The records series generated as a result of the research conducted on the list of Compendium records are a mixture of records that would be found on general records schedules and retention schedules created for a department's unique program records. As a result there are many different retention periods listed in the Compendium for a given records title.

Some searches generated vast amounts of information, such as "case files". Others, such as "studies", and "maps, plans, and architectural drawings" did not. There are also many variations for a given record series title.

The Compendium does reflect past retention decisions. However, these retentions have not been assigned consistently. Many of the record series listed in the Compendium do not have the benefit of a records retention schedule. Others can be found on older retention schedules but they were not implemented. Some retention periods assigned are based on users needs and recommendations made at the time the records were accessioned to Archives' storage or on their limited value or use at the time of accession.

The retention periods assigned to records series listed in the Compendium, excluding financial records, are too varied to serve as a useful tool for creating future retention schedules.

However, the "Finance Manual", a general schedule for financial records, is being implemented both by ARMS and United Nations Secretariat departments in a consistent fashion. This is a positive signal. It could mean that users are recognizing the Manual as an authority on the retention of financial records, or, users find it easy to use and a fast way to get rid of unwanted records cluttering the office. Whatever the reason, it indicates that users are aware of a records management program and know how to use it.

#### Recommendation

The recommendation resulting from this project is to develop a General Records Retention Schedule for the administrative records of the Secretariat departments of the United Nations. The Schedule would include an updated and enhanced version of the records listed in the Financial Manual.

The General Records Retention Schedule (General Schedule) would cover administrative records common to most or all departments. They provide departments with readymade schedules for the disposition of their records. These records are created mainly in administrative functions, and they usually constitute about one-third of all department records.

The General Schedule indicates the minimum length of time that records must be retained before they may be legally disposed of. The schedule will not include all records of a department;

it can be supplemented at a later time by schedules for unique programme records. The General Schedule operates independently of the organizational structure and does not have to be revised when the organization is restructured.

The purposes of the Schedules are:

- \* To ensure that records are retained as long as needed for their administrative, legal, and fiscal uses.
- \* To provide that records of enduring value are retained permanently for historical and research purposes.
- \* To encourage and facilitate the systematic disposal of those records no longer needed for the conduct of UN business.

Once the schedule has been adopted, records with minimal value may be disposed of continually as they meet their stated minimal retention periods. The advantages of a program for systematic disposal are:

- \* To destroy records that are no longer useful for the conduct of UN business.
- \* To guide in the management and disposition of electronic records.
- \* To minimize requirements for filing equipment and space and free storage space for new records as they are created. By storing semi-active and inactive files in the UN's low cost off-site records storage facility, as well as destroying obsolete records in a timely manner, departments avoid labor costs as well as costs incurred by the inefficient storage of office records.
- To facilitate the identification and preservation of archival records.

#### Retention Compendium

The following is the project output resulting from the research conducted on the Compendium records titles. In some cases each title is discussed individually while others are discussed as a group.

Within these records titles, there are listings of records series generated as a result of research and subsequent analysis. Each listing or records series title is assigned to a subject area. The subject areas were determined by record function, office of origin, and records format. Some of the subject areas are subjective and others are an educated guess.

The listings within each subject area include a record series title, name of the office of origin or the records retention schedule, and a records retention period. Some series are prefaced by an accession number or series code for source identification.

Please see the Records Compendium listed below:

#### 1. OFFICIAL STATUS FILES

Official Status Files or Personnel Files are kept for each United Nations employee either as regular staff or under some contractual agreement, for example, interns, Special Service Agreements, etc. According to the <u>Personnel Records Procedures Manual</u> (1991) this file constitutes the official record of an employee's career in the United Nations. Official Status Files are retained in the Personnel Records Unit for one year after the employee's separation from service. Files are periodically reviewed for transfer to Archives. The Manual does not specify how long the files should be retained in storage before final disposition.

Through discussion with staff two retention periods are attached to these files: 30 years from the employee's separation from service and a permanent retention.

If the personnel system is truly centralized, then copies of Official Status Files maintained by offices other than the Personnel Records Unit should be disposed of after a short period of time after termination of employment; copies of these files included, for example, in a supervisor's administrative file should only be kept for the retention period assigned to that file. Official documents should be transferred to the official status file maintained in the Personnel Records Unit upon the employee's separation from service.

If the system is decentralized, then the Official Status File maintained in each department for its employees must be retained for the full retention period.

The following list shows the varying retention periods associated with Official Status Files:

| E.J                       | act | ron   | 10  | Data: |  |
|---------------------------|-----|-------|-----|-------|--|
| $\mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{L}}$ | ಆಆಒ | I. OH | LC. | Data: |  |

ED18 Personnel and Post Data (COM Tape) 20 yrs. IMIS/OGS

# Executive Office:

A036 Personnel Files (UNIC) Executive Office/DPI 3 yrs.

### Field Operations:

A017 Personnel (Staff) Files 5 yrs. Field Operational External Support Activities/FOD

A140 Personnel Files-International Staff 8 yrs.
Peace Forces Adm Sect/OFOESA

A046 Personnel Files- Civilians, Military 25 yrs. UNTSO Headquarters/Jerusalem

A042 Personnel Files-MILOB 28 yrs. UNTSO Headquarters/Jerusalem

#### Finance:

A044 Official Status Files of Separated Staff 7,12 yrs. Accounts Div/OFS

#### Human Resources:

#### Personnel:

A035 Personnel Files 20 yrs.
Personnel Records Unit/OPS

1991/0046 Personnel Files of Separated Staff 30 yrs.
Personnel Records Unit/PAIS/OHRM

A033 Personnel Files 40 yrs.
Personnel Records Unit/OPS

#### Public Affairs:

Information Centers:

A162 Personnel Files 7 yrs. UN Information Centre, Washington DC/DPI

## 2. INTERN FILES

The Intern Files listed originated from the Personnel Records Unit and

the Office of Public Information. The files listed seem to pertain to the intern's record of employment or Official Status File. 'According to the <u>Personnel Records Procedure Manual</u> (1991), an Official Status File is also kept for individuals employed by the United Nations as interns. The official record is maintained by the Personnel Records Unit. If this information is centrally maintained, then other copies should be retained for a shorter period of time after termination of employment with the United Nations. As mentioned in the section on "Official Status Files," Archives' staff have two different opinions on the retention period for this record series. Most of the records listed below are scheduled for either 30 years or permanently.

Please see the listing below:

#### Human Resources:

Personnel:

A036 Intern Case Files 20 yrs.
Personnel Records Unit/OPS

A032 Intern Case Files 30 yrs.
Personnel Records Unit/OPS

1986/0239 Selected Intern Case Files 30 yrs.
Personnel Records Unit/DPA/OPS

#### Recruitment:

1982/0078 Chronological Files of Internship Program PER & General Intern Files
Recruitment Programs Sect/DR/OPS

#### Public Affairs:

Education:

1970/0155 Selected Intern Case Files
Educational Liaison Sect/OPI
NOTE: Microfilming requested.

1965/0259 Selected Intern Case Files 30 yrs. Liaison & Special Projects/ERD/OPI NOTE: Proposed for microfilming when 6 years old.

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# 3. APPLICATIONS

A search for "applications" generated many series that fall in the category of human resources, while others were found in the legal, security, and travel related subject areas. The search produced record series consisting of application forms or series that contain an application in addition to other documents.

Not all records titles reflect the subject or function of the record series. Series that seem to be used for the same function, such as those in the travel section have varying retentions.

There are also discrepancies pertaining to the retention period for applications relating to employment. According to the <u>Personnel Records Procedures Manual</u> (1991) applications, opened for persons who apply to the United Nations for employment or internship, are reviewed once or twice a year for disposal.

The Personnel Records Unit only retains rostered application files. Those files removed from the roster are maintained by the Recruitment and Placement Division, and are disposed of during these periodic reviews. Rostered applications are sent to Archives. There is no mention of a retention period for rostered applications in the manual.

Applications pertaining to training are scheduled according to retentions prescribed in the <u>Finance Manual</u>.

Additional information is required for recommending retention periods for the other series listed in the other subject areas. Depending on the function of the series, and whether the application is accepted or rejected could determine the retention period.

Please see the following list of "applications":

Executive Office:

Applications for Specified Vacancies
Executive Office/OGS RRS

6 yrs.

Human Resources:

Consultants:

1983/0138 AFD B Former UNFPA Consultants

2 yrs.

Applications

Personnel Branch/AFD/UNFPA

Examinations:

A012 Arabic Translators Exam Ap

plication

1 yr.
Examinations & Tests Section/RPD/OHRM

P019 HQ Language Proficiency Exam Application

Training

P011 Language Instructor Exam Application Training & Examination Services/OHRM IND

2 yrs.

Fellowships: 3 yrs. 1975/0043 Applications for the Triangular Fellowship Programme-Non Awarded Special Projects Unit/ERD/OP Personnel: A034 Application 1 yr. Personnel Records Unit/OHRM 30 yrs. A037 Application Personnel Records Unit/OHRM Recruitment: 3 yrs. TP03 Mission General Recruitment/OHRM 1 yr. 1962/0804 Applications for Employment Secretariat Recruitment/OPS Scholarships: 1966/0253 Applications for Scholarships 3 yrs. after Communications, Archives & Records SVC/OGS microfilmed Legal: PER A015 Committee on Applications for Review Secretariat of Administrative Tribunal Public Affairs: 1985/0215 Accreditation Applications & Requests 13 yrs. Photo Accreditation & Liaison/RVSD/DPI Security: 1973/0208 Applications for Ground Passes 3 yrs. Security & Safety Sect/BMS/OGS Travel: 15 yrs. All8 UN Laissez-Passer Pt. 65 Travel Unit/Transportation Sect./CPTS/BCSD/OGS 1962/0083 Applications for Laissez-Passer-T+6 yrs. Separated Staff Travel Unit/Transportation Sect/PTS/OGS NOTE: Applications are filed in Travel File 1 year after date of separation. Series is scheduled Termination of Travel File plus 6 years. 5 yrs. Laissez-Passer Applications (Pt.65 & Pt.16) Travel Unit/Transportation Sect/P&T/OGS RRS

UN Certificate & Family Certificate Application 5 yrs.

(Pt.39 & Pt.64)

Travel Unit/Transportation Sect/P&T/OGS RRS

## 4. CORRESPONDENCE - CHRONOLOGICAL, READING, AND LETTER FILES

The lists generated by the Retention Table and the Accession-Disposal Table of the Archive Data Base is voluminous with many different retention period assignments, as well as records series titles. Correspondence was also mixed as a series with case, subject, administrative and working files.

It is suggested that correspondence et al continue to be described as subject files, reading or chronological files, with additional title descriptions reflecting its subject, function or importance. Routine office correspondence pertaining to administrative matters should be scheduled for about two to three years unless a longer period is justified. For example, factors such office of origin and value may influence the determination of the retention period. Significant correspondence maintained by the chief administrative officer, documenting significant policy or decision making may be scheduled with a permanent retention.

The letter files seem to contain correspondence written to United Nations officials from the public or employees filing complaints, petitions, etc.

The following list are examples of the types and the varying retention periods found for correspondence, chronological, reading and letter files:

| Administration and Management: A009 Correspondence Files Mgmt. Improvement/DAM            | PER    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Building Management: A050 Correspondence Files Maintenance & Operations Sect/BMS/BCSD/OGS | 6 yrs. |
| Executive: 1994/0126 Correspondence Office of USG/DAM                                     | 2 yrs. |
| A015 Correspondence Files<br>Office of USG/DAM                                            | 4 yrs. |

| A022 Correspondence Files<br>Office of USG/DIESA                                             | 8 yrs.  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| A003 Correspondence, reports, etc<br>Secretariat/ACABQ/OFS                                   | 14 yrs. |
| TC03 Correspondence Publications Board/OASG/OCS                                              | IND     |
| A075 Correspondence Files<br>Office of USG & ASG/DTCD                                        | IND     |
| 1983/0059 Correspondence<br>OSG/Office for Special Political Affairs                         | PER     |
| Human Resources: Career Development: A003 Correspondence Career Dev & Placement Unit/DPA/OPA | 3 yrs.  |
| Counselling: A068 Correspondence Files Staff Counsellor/OPS                                  | 13 yrs. |
| Job Description:<br>TCD2 Job Descriptions                                                    | 4 yrs.  |
| Recruitment: TP02 Correspondence General Recruitment Sect/OPS                                | 3 yrs.  |
| A053 Correspondence Files<br>Recruitment & Placement Div/OHRM                                | 7 yrs.  |
| A051 Correspondence Files Recruitment Program Sect/DR/OPS                                    | 11 yrs. |
| Public Affairs:                                                                              |         |
| Information Centres:<br>A164 Correspondence<br>UN Information Centre/DPI                     | 13 yrs. |
| Program Development: A019 Correspondence Development Forum/DESI/DPI                          | 7 yrs.  |
| Public Services:<br>T107 Correspondence Files<br>Public Inquiries Unit/DPI                   | 3 yrs.  |
| <u>12</u>                                                                                    |         |
|                                                                                              |         |

| <b>A</b> 064  | Correspondence<br>NGO Sect/External Relations/DPI                 | 4 yrs.  |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| A137          | Correspondence<br>Public Services Sect/DPI                        | 5 yrs.  |
| A025          | Correspondence Files<br>Educ Info Programme/DPI                   | 8 yrs.  |
| A041          | Correspondence Files<br>External Relations Div/DPI                | 10 yrs. |
| Technical Ass | istance:                                                          |         |
| A079          | Correspondence Population Branch/DAD/DTCD                         | 5 yrs.  |
| Transportatio |                                                                   |         |
| G066          | Household Goods & Personal Effects Case<br>Traffic Unit/P & T/OGS | 3 yrs.  |

# Chronological Files

Chronological files contain copies of incoming and outgoing correspondence arranged in chronological order, usually by month and can be found in most offices.

The following is a sampling of the different categories and retentions of Chronological Files found in the areas of Executive Offices, Human Resources, Public Affairs, Records, and Technical Assistance:

| •            |                                                                 |       |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
|              | fice:<br>/0020 Chron Files<br>Executive Office/DESA             | 3 yrs |
| A006         | Chronological Files Dep to SG/ World Pop Conference/DIESA       | PER   |
| <b>A</b> 007 | Director's Chronological Files<br>Administrative Office/OLC/LEG | PER   |
| A017         | Chronological Files<br>Office of USG/DAM                        | IND   |
| <b>A</b> O26 | Chronological Files<br>Office of USG/DPA                        | PER   |

|                                          | nological Files<br>etariat of the APP/OHRM                                      | 11 yrs. |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
|                                          | nological Files<br>ce of ASG/OGS                                                | IND     |
| Finance:<br>Claims:<br>1988/0117<br>Secr | Chron Files<br>etary of ABCC/OPPBF                                              | 5 yrs.  |
|                                          | Chronological Educational Grant Files<br>wances & Benefits/SATD/OHRM            | 5 yrs.  |
|                                          | onological Files<br>ff Counsellor/OHRM                                          | 5 yrs.  |
|                                          | :<br>onological Files<br>minations and Tests Sect/OHRM                          | 5 yrs.  |
|                                          | fidential Chronological Reading Files<br>ical Services/OHRM                     | 2 yrs.  |
|                                          | onological Files<br>ruitment & Program Sect/DR/OPS                              | 8 yrs.  |
| Salary & All<br>A002 Chr<br>Sal          | owances:<br>onological Files, DSA Exceptions<br>aries & Allowances Sect/DPC/OFS | 6 yrs.  |
|                                          | onological Files<br>off Admin & Training Div/OHRM                               | 5 yrs.  |
|                                          | conological Files<br>sual Materials Library/RVSD/DPI                            | 7 yrs.  |
|                                          | ess:<br>conological Files<br>ess & Publications Div/DPI                         | 7 yrs.  |

|                             | Chronological Files<br>News & Central Programs Sect/RVSD/DPI          | 10 yrs.   |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Programs:<br>A097           | Chronological Files<br>Policy & Program Sect/ERD/DPI                  | 5 yrs.    |
| A130                        | Chronological Files<br>Program Eval & Comm Research Unit/DPI          | 6 yrs.    |
| Public Se<br>A025           | ervices:<br>Chronological Files<br>Educ Info Program/ERD/DPI          | 6 yrs.    |
| Legal: 1986/                | 0212 Chronological Files<br>General Legal Div/OLA                     | PER       |
| Records: G002               | Chronological Reading Files<br>Records Control Unit/Registry Sect/OGS | 5 yrs.    |
| A006                        | Chronological Files<br>Documents Control Sect/EORD/DCS                | 10 yrs.   |
| Technical Assi<br>A066      | istance:<br>Chronological Files<br>Infrastructure Branch/NRED/DTCD    | 5 yrs.    |
| <b>A</b> 014                | Chronological Files Cartography Sect/CISB/NRED/DTCD                   | 9 yrs.    |
| Reading Files               |                                                                       |           |
| The following periods found | is a sampling of the different categories and for Reading Files:      | retention |
| Commissions:<br>1967,       | /0036<br>Reading Files<br>Regional Commissions Sect/ECOSOC/DESA       | 5 yrs.    |
| Executive: A018             | Case Files (Compensation Claims, Chron)<br>Secretariat of ABCC/OPPBF  | 7,8 yrs.  |
|                             |                                                                       |           |

Field Operations:

A027 Reading Files (ONUC) FOD/OFOESA  $\mathbf{PER}$ 

Finance:

Payroll:

F052 Monthly Reading Files (Pay Period Files) 4 yrs.
Payroll Unit/Disbursement Sect/OPPBF

Treasury:

A001 Finance Files, reading files Cashier's Sect/Treasury Div/OFS 6 yrs.

Human Resources:

Medical:

P029 Confidential Chronological Reading Files 2 yrs.
 Medical Services/OHRM

Recruitment:

1963/0409 Reading Files of TARS 5 yrs.
Technical Assistance Recruitment/OPS
NOTE: Accessions File for this record state
that a 5 year retention has been established
in the Secretariat for Chronological Reading Files.

Staff Services:

1983/0203 Reading Files Staff Services/Personnel Adm/OPS PER

Public Affairs:

Public Services:

T106 Reading Files (Copy of Letters)
Public Inquiries Unit/DPI

3 yrs.

Records:

Registry:

G002 Chronological Reading Files 5 yrs.
Records Control Unit/Registry Sect/OGS

# <u>Letters</u>

As mentioned above Letters are correspondence coming from the public or UN employees. Here are a few examples found:

Civil Service:

SI23 Letters of Grievance or Discrimination 3 yrs.
(ICSC 14)
ICSC

Executive Office:

A009 Letters Office of the USG/DDA 6 yrs.

A056 Letter Files

13 yrs.

Secretariat of APB & C/OHRM

Public Affairs:

1992/0057 Letters
Public Inquiries Unit/PSS/DD/DPI

2 yrs.

# 5. CASES -PROJECT, COUNTRY, AND STUDY FILES

A case file is a folder or other file unit containing material relating to a specific action, transaction, event, person, place, project, etc., such as official status files, contract files, or medical files. A project is a type of case file that contains records relating to an assigned task or problem. Because a tremendous amount of material, labelled "case file" was uncovered mixed with country, working, administrative, project, and study files, country and study files are also included in this category for their similarities and for discussion purposes.

As a rule these files should be scheduled with a fixed period after a predictable event, such as "after completion" for a study, project or audit; "after expiration" for a program; "after termination" for contracts; "after termination of employment or separation of employee" for Official Status Folders; "after acceptance or rejection" for applications, etc.

Additional research is needed to determine retention periods.

Please see the following records samples for case, project, country, and study files:

Audiovisual:

A014 Tapes of Oral Proceedings Administrative Tribunal (see "Legal"this section) PER

Commissions:

1993/0179 Cases Under Investigation Commission on the Truth El Salvador Executive Office/DPA

5 yrs.

|                                                                                               | •       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| Compensation Claims:  A001 Compensation Case Files  Advisory Board on Compensation Claims/OFS | 12 yrs. |
| 1988/0262 Compensation Claims Case Files<br>Peace Keeping & Special Assignments/FMCD/OPPBF    | 5 yrs.  |
| Disciplinary: S003 Disciplinary Case Files OSG/DAM                                            | IND     |
| Equipment and Supplies: A018 Case Files Equipment & Supplies Services/OGS                     | 4 yrs.  |
| Executive Office: A019 Case Files Secretariat of JAB & JDC/OPS                                | 10 yrs. |
| Finance:<br>1973/0148 Project Case Files<br>Dep Adm & Finance/DESA                            | 4 yrs.  |
| Human Resources:                                                                              |         |
| Contracts: A047 Special Service Agreements Professional Staffing Services/OHRM                | 5 yrs.  |
| Fellowship:                                                                                   |         |
| TCD3 Fellowship Cases-Not Awarded Administration and Finance/DTCD                             | 3 yrs.  |
| A046 Fellowship Cases-Non Awarded<br>Fellowship Sect:SSB/PSD/DTCD                             | 6 yrs.  |
| A045 Fellowship Cases-Awarded<br>Fellowship Sect/SSB/PSD/DTCD                                 | 6 yrs.  |
| Intern: A036 Intern Case Files Personnel Records Unit/OPS                                     | 20 yrs. |
| 1978/0021 Selected Intern Case Files<br>Personnel Records Unit/Registry Sect/OGS              | 30 yrs. |
| Recruitment:<br>TP04 Case Files on Posts for Recruitment<br>Professional Recruitment Sect/OPS | 3 yrs.  |

1979/0093 TARS Recruitment Project Case Files 3 yrs. TARS/DR/OPS A118 Interregional Project Case Files 8 vrs. Technical Assistant Recruitment & Administrative Services/PSD/DTCD Staffing: A042 Case Files 6 yrs. Professional Staffing Services/OHRM 7 yrs. A043 Case Files Professional Staffing Services/OHRM Legal: A010 to A013 Administrative Tribunal Case Files in various stages-pending, original judgement, oral proceedings, withdrawn, completed, never considered, never put on list. Administrative Tribunal/Office of Legal Affairs 1986/0049 Administrative Tribunal Cases Section of Administrative Tribunal/Office of Legal Affairs Program Development: 1983/0111 Associate Case Files & Project Files 2 yrs. Program Support Div/DTCD Purchasing: G041 HQ Purchase Order Case File 6 yrs. Processing Unit/P&T/OGS 1992/0073 HQ Purchase Order Case File 6 yrs. Processing Unit/CPTS/BCSD/OGS Records: G014 Accession and Disposal Files PER Archives Sect/OGS Technical Assistance: 1985/0116 Project & Case Files 5 yrs. Technical Assistance Recruitment & Adm Svc/

The following "Case Files" are listed on the United Nations
Departmental Retention Schedule for the USG Office of DAM. They are
scheduled for 2 years in office with one exception; Disciplinary Case
Files have an "indefinite" in office retention period. All cases have

PSD/DTCD

a total retention period of "indefinite". The subject classifications may be significant later when creating a General Records Schedule. Please see the following:

> Administrative Decision Appeals Files Administrative Tribunal Case Files Disciplinary Case Files Joint Disciplinary Committee Case Files Panel on Discrimination & Grievances Files Joint Appeals Board Case Files Administrative Committee on Coordination Case Files Organizational Committee Case Files Consultative Committee on Administrative Ouestions Case Files Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions Case Files International Civil Servants Protection Case Files Liaison Case Files (with Member, Non-member and Permanent Observer) Submissions to Program Planning Budgetary Board Case Files UN Systems Case Files (Specialized Agencies & Autonomous Organizations within the system.) Staff Management Relation Working Groups Case Files

Staff Association & Union Case Files Staff Management Coordination Committee Case Files

#### Project Files

| Construction<br>A010 | :<br>Project Files<br>Coord for Overseas Construction/OGS           | PER     |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| Electronic Da        | ata:                                                                |         |
|                      | Project Standard Cost (COM Tape) IMIS/OGS                           | 7 yrs.  |
| ED41                 | Project Budget Stages (COM Tape) IMIS/OGS                           | 7 yrs.  |
| ED44                 | Final Approved Project Budget (COM Tape) IMIS/OGS                   | 17 yrs. |
|                      | Management: IMIS Project Files Integrated Mgmt Info Sys Project/DAM | 10 yrs. |

| Human Resourc<br>Recruit<br>A125 |                                                                        | 7 yrs.   |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Finance:<br>Budget:              |                                                                        |          |
|                                  | Project Files<br>Fin Mgmt & Budgetary Control/PSD/DTCD                 | 7 yrs.   |
| <b>A00</b> 5                     | Project Files<br>Treasury Div/OPPBF                                    | 11 yrs.  |
| Public Affai                     |                                                                        | E TIMO   |
| A067                             | Africa Focus Project<br>Non Governmental Liaison Serv/DPI              | 5 yrs.   |
| Technical As                     |                                                                        |          |
| TCD5                             | Project Limestone Exploration Study<br>Natural Resources & Energy/DTCD | 3 yrs.   |
| A113                             | South America Project Work Files<br>SA Sect/AMB/PID/DTCD               | 4 yrs.   |
| 800A                             | Asia & Pacific Country Project Files A & P Sect/CPEB/PPDPD/DTCD        | 5 yrs.   |
| A145                             | India Project Files<br>Water Resources Branch/NRED/DTCD                | 8,9 yrs. |
| A086                             | Project Files Population Branch/DAD/DTCD                               | 8 yrs.   |
| A094                             | Yemen Project Files<br>Population Branch/DAD/DTCD                      | 11 yrs.  |
| A090                             | Jordan Project Files<br>Population Branch/DAD/DTCD                     | 12 yrs.  |
| Country File                     | s                                                                      |          |
|                                  | <del></del>                                                            |          |
| Executive:<br>A02                | 7 Country Files<br>SG's Special Rep to Law of the Sea                  | PER      |

# Field Operations:

1986/0158 ONUC/UNEF Country and Administrative Files

Peace Forces Administration Sect/OFOESA

# Finance:

A076 Country Files Central Accts Sect/OPPBF 1 yr.

PER

A061 Africa Country Files 3 yrs. Financial Mgmt & Budgetary Control Svcs/PSD/DTCD

O062 Latin America Country Files 4 yrs.
Financial Mgmt & Budgetary Control Svcs/PSD/DTCD

A003 Africa Section Country Files
CPEB/PPDPD/DTCD

5 yrs.

A008 Asia & Pacific Section Country Files CPEB/PPDPD/DTCD

6 yrs.

A006 America, ME & Interreg Section Country Files 7 yrs. CPEB/PPDPD/DTCD

A012 Caribbean Section Country Files Americas Br/PSD/DTCD

8 yrs.

#### Study Files

# Construction:

A009 Feasibility Study Coord for Overseas Construction/OGS 12 yrs.

# Technical Assistance:

TCD5 Project Limestone Exploration Study Natural Resources & Energy/DTCD

3 yrs.

A038 Study Files
Energy Resources Branch/NRED/DTCD

13 yrs.

#### 6. PETITIONS

The Petitions found are retained by various executive offices. It is assumed that those petitions pertaining to a significant subject or major policy-making or program development process or issue are potentially permanent; reference copies may be scheduled for a shorter

time period. However, records should be appraised on a case by case basis. Additional research needs to be conducted on this series to determine retention.

Please see the following list of petitions and retention periods:

Executive Office/Political Affairs:

A033 Petitions USG/PSCA

1 yr.

A004 Petitions 3 yrs. Coord, World Disarmament Campaign Sect/DDA

A008 Petitions Office of USG/DDA 4 yrs.

1980/0131 Petitions
Centre for Disarmament/SCPCD/DPSCA

6 yrs.

1982/0146 Petitions (sampled) OASG/DPI

PER

A006 Petitions

PER

DDA

# 7. REPORTS

Many different types of reports were found that seem to be used for reference and administrative purposes. These reports are scheduled from one to six years. These are not inappropriate retention periods.

"Administrative Reports" are scheduled with six, eight and ten year retentions; and, reports created in executive offices documenting significant matters are scheduled with permanent retention periods.

According to the <u>Financial Manual</u>, Monthly Allotment Reports (January to November) should be retained for one year; current and prior year reports for four years; and cumulative to December for seven years. The Manual does not list a retention for a microform format.

Whenever possible, reports should be identified by their statistical or narrative nature and by their frequency.

Please see the following list of different reports:

| Building Management: Garage Administration: 1992/0132 Garage Report Garage Administration/BMS/BCSD/OGS | 2 yrs.         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1987/0039 Delegation Night Parking Aging Repo<br>Garage Administration/CMS/OGS                         | ort 2 yrs.     |
| A038 Parking Aging Reports<br>Garage Administration/CMS/OGS                                            | 5 yrs.         |
| Executive Office:<br>1972/0008 Ballots and Tellers Reports<br>General Assembly Affairs/OSG             | 2 yrs.         |
| 1987/0175 Attendance Record Cards and Leave R<br>Executive Office of SG/OGS                            | eports 5 yrs.  |
| Administrative Management Service Reports<br>Executive Office/OGS RRS                                  | 10 yrs.        |
| 1962/1119 Reports of UN Commissioners<br>Executive Office of SG/OSG                                    | PER            |
| 1985/0074 UNMOGIP-Service Reports<br>Office for Spec Political Office/OSG                              | PER            |
| Field Operations: 1964/0342 UNIC Subject & Administrative Report Centres Administration Unit/FOS/OGS   | rt Files5 yrs. |
| 1962/0010 Administrative Reports UN Information Centre/FOS/OGS                                         | 6 yrs.         |
| A096 Administrative Reports<br>Off of Director/FOD/OGS                                                 | 8 yrs.         |
| 1988/0129 UNMOGIP Administrative Reports<br>Field Personnel Sect/FOD/OGS                               | PER            |
| Finance:                                                                                               |                |
| Accounts: 1984/0223 Monthly Allotment Reports Central Accts Sect/Accounts Div/OFS                      | 4 yrs.         |
| 1993/0088 Monthly Allotment Report<br>Accts Control Unit/CAS/AD/OPPBF                                  | 5 yrs.         |
|                                                                                                        |                |

|         | 1967/Financial Reports (UN Gift Center) UN Gift Center/CMS/OGS                          | 4 yrs. |
|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
|         | 1993/0125 Monthly Allotment (Microfilm Copy) Accts Control Unit/CAS/AD/OPPBF            | PER    |
|         | 1965/0019 Audit Report<br>UN Board of Audits                                            | PER    |
| Meeting | ys:<br>Al45 Reports<br>Radio & Visual Service Div/DPI                                   | 1 yr.  |
| Payroll | F046 Payroll Reports & Coding Records Payroll Unit/OPPBF                                | 4 yrs. |
| Securit | ry and Safety:<br>1966/0079 Security Reports (Parking Fees)<br>Op Sect/CMS/OGS          | 2 yrs. |
|         | Daily Kitchen Inspection Reports Fire Unit Operations/SSS/OGS RRS                       | 3 yrs. |
|         | Security Incident Reports Fire Unit Operations/SSS/OGS RRS                              | 3 yrs. |
|         | Tour & Conference Security Daily Reports<br>Fire Unit Operations/SSS/OGS RRS            | 3 yrs. |
|         | Incident Reports Physical Security Unit/SSS/OGS RRS                                     | IND    |
|         | Incident Reports Special Service Unit/SSS/OGS RRS                                       | 3 yrs. |
| Technic | cal:<br>1971/0081 Draft Reports of OTC Experts<br>Reports & Documentation Sect/OTC/DESA | 1 yr.  |
|         | A081 Mission Reports Population Branch/DAD/DTCD                                         | 4 yrs. |
|         | 1982/0138 Technical Reports<br>NRED/DTCD                                                | 5 yrs. |
|         | 1988/0029 Project Reports<br>Water Resources Branch/NRED/DTCD                           | IND    |

#### 8. SURVEY RECORDS

Records documenting surveys may consist of the survey results, including an official copy of the survey form used and should be retained permanently. The forms completed by the survey participants would only have to be retained for a short period of time after the survey results have been prepared. As you can see, the following list of record series titles do not indicate the series content, whether they contain the final results or report, or if they are working files.

Please see the following series pertaining to surveys:

Executive Office:

1963/0137 SG Group Survey Reports
Executive Office of SG/OSG

IND

Human Resources:

Housing:

TPO7 Survey of UN Housing Needs
Staff Activities & Housing Sect/OPS

PER

1973/0096 Housing Survey Cost of Living Sect/SO/DESA

3 yrs.

Civil Service:

1994/0051 Cost of living Survey Cost of Living Div/ICSC 5 yrs.

Salaries:

A003 General Service Salary Survey Records Salaries & Allowances Sect/DPC/OFS 6 yrs.

Missions:

A033 Survey Records
HQ Registry/ONUCA

6 yrs.

Security:

Physical Security Surveys
Physical Security Unit/SSS/OGS RRS

IND

#### 9. MEETINGS FILES - COMMITTEES, BOARDS, PANELS, AGENDAS AND MINUTES

The retention periods found for records pertaining to meetings, committees, boards and panels, and records created by these bodies including agendas and minutes, are varied. In most cases, it is difficult to determine the function of the file from the records

series title. Whether the series is the official copy or a reference copy should be considered when scheduling the record.

It is suggested that copies of records relating to the establishment, organization, membership, and policy of internal committees, boards and panels be retained for a short retention period after the termination of the committee. Copies of records created by committees, such as agendas, minutes, and final reports documenting the accomplishments of committees, etc. only need to be retained for a short period of time, such as two or three years or when no longer needed for reference. Official copies are potentially permanent.

Tapes, stenotype, and audio and video taped minutes used for transcription purposes should only be kept for a short period of time after transcription or approval of the minutes or proceedings. Please see the following sample of series relating to meetings, committees, boards and panels and records produced by these entities including agendas and minutes:

#### Executive Office:

S007 to S015 Organizational Committee Case Files IND (by type, by name, by year, by session)
Office of USG/DAM

A006 Committee Files
Administrative Office

PER

#### Finance:

1965/0155 External Board of Auditors Files 1 yr.
(Duplicates)
External Board of Auditors

1979/0190 HQ Claims Board Files Accounts Div/OFS

6 yrs.

1967/0153 Reports to the Board of Auditors
External Board of Auditors

PER

IND

1965/0121 Reports to the Board of Auditors (Working Papers) External Board of Auditors 15 yrs.

Committee on Contracts and Property Survey Board 3 yrs.
Office of Coord for Overseas Construction/OGS RRS

Committee on Contributions (Sessions and Cases)
Contributions Sect/Treasury Div/OFS RRS

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#### Human Resources:

Pension:

PF06 Meetings

UN Joint Staff Pension Fund

5 yrs.

#### <u> Agenda</u>

Please see the following sample retention periods for agendas:

Civil Service:

SI02 Agenda ICSC 3 yrs.

Executive Office:

1988/0254 Committee of Contract: Annotated

5 yrs.

Agendas

Secretary, Property Survey Board/OASG/

OGS

A092 Annotated Agendas

5 yrs.

Secretary, Property Board/OGS

1989/0131 ABCC Minutes, Agendas & Case

5 yrs.

Presentations

Secretariat of ABCC/OPPBF

10 yrs.

1986/0242 Staff Committee Records including Agendas

Secretariat of UN Staff Committee

Statistics:

1962/1229 Draft Agenda

IND

Economic Statistic Office/DESA

NOTE: This series contains working papers and final report.

#### <u>Minutes</u>

Please see the following sample retention periods for minutes:

Executive Office:

1989/0131 ABCC Minutes

5 yrs.

Secretariat of ABCC/OPPBF

1987/0045 APB&C Minutes

12 yrs.

Secretariat of APB&C/OHRM

1988/0226 HPSB Minutes
Secretary, Property Survey Board/OASG/OGS

A001 Draft Minutes of ACABQ Meetings Secretariat of ACABQ/OFS PER

15 yrs.

Finance:

1969/0151 Original Minutes on Committee 2 yrs.
on Contracts after
Committee on Contracts/OGS microfilming

NOTE:Office is holding original paper copy indefinitely.

1968/0039 Draft Minutes on Committee 1 yr.
on Contracts
Committee on Contracts/OGS

A016 Mission Reports containing minutes 19,22 yrs. Peacekeeping Unit/FMCD/OPPBF

Human Resources:

Personnel:

1988/0003 APC Minutes
Division of Personnel/UNICEF

PER

Property Management:

A093 HPSB Minutes
Secretary, Property Survey Board/OGS

10 yrs.

#### 10. AUDIOVISUAL RECORDS

Many of the retention periods listed below, such as those scheduled permanently are justified record retentions and coincide with established standards. Audio recordings made exclusively for note taking or transcription, excluding those of significant matters should be retained for only a short period of time after approval or transcription. Those of significant importance are potentially permanent. Recordings used for personnel training need only be kept for one year as illustrated below. Other series scheduled with indefinite retentions and with ten and thirty year retention periods need additional research to determine whether the stated retention is valid.

Generally, video recordings acquired from outside sources for

training, used for recording routine meetings and award presentations may be destroyed after completion of the program or when no longer needed.

Please see the following sample of audiovisual records:

# Sound Recordings:

| <u></u>                                                                                                                     |         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| Human Resources: Inquiry Board: 1986/0107 Audio Tape and files of Board of Inquiry Case Staff Service/DPA/OPS               | 10 yrs. |
| Retirement:<br>1982/0170 Recording Tapes for Pension Fund<br>Records Mgmt & Corres Unit/UNJSPB                              | 30 yrs. |
| Training: A073 Language Training Audio Tapes Training and Examination Service/DPA/OPS                                       | 1 yr.   |
| Legal Proceedings:<br>1995/0063 Cassette Tapes of Readings of Order of<br>Court International Court of Justice              | PER     |
| 1991/0084 Tapes of Oral Proceedings<br>Secretariat of Administrative Tribunal/OLA                                           | PER     |
| Media Production: 1992/0151 Regular Tapes, T-Tapes, Journals, Recording Log Cards Broadcast & Conf Eng Unit/BMS/BCSD/OGS    | IND     |
| Meetings and Conferences: 1985/0031 Sound Recording Tapes of Conferences HQ and outside Geneva Archives Sect/CARS/CRBSD/OGS | PER     |
| 1982/0181 Tape Recordings of Official Meetings<br>Held in NY Headquarters<br>Archives Sect/CRBSD/OGS                        | PER     |
| 1981/0059 Tape Recordings of Human Rights Committee<br>International Instruments Unit/HRD/DIESA                             | IND     |

Video Tape:

1993/0173 Commission on the Truth of El Salvador--Video Cassettes and Tapes Executive Office/DPA 5 yrs. after review

#### 11. LEDGERS, REGISTERS, AND LOGS

The record series listed below pertaining to ledgers and registers a have a financial function. Other ledgers and register found but not listed also have a financial function. These series are scheduled appropriately as prescribed by the <u>Financial Manual</u>.

A search for logs generated a list of records used as tracking and control records to document the status of other records or series, such as circuit, driver's and fax logs. These series should be scheduled from the discontinuance or date of last entry in log with a short retention period. Other records found functioned as finding aids to provide access to related records. These records should be disposed of according to the retention period covering the related record.

Samples of these records are provided below:

| Audiovis |      | /0151 Regular Tapes, T-Tapes, Journals,<br>Recording Logs & Log Cards<br>Broadcast & Conference Eng/BMS/BCSD/OGS | PE | R    |
|----------|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|------|
| Finance: |      | Check Register                                                                                                   | 4  | yrs. |
|          |      | Central Accts/OPPBF                                                                                              |    |      |
|          | A130 | Daily Register<br>Central Accts/OPPBF                                                                            | 4  | yrs. |
|          | A096 | Register<br>Assets Control Sect/OFS                                                                              | 7  | yrs. |
|          | F025 | Monthly Check Register Revenue Accts/OPPBF                                                                       | 8  | yrs. |
|          | A102 | Check Register Pay & Allowance Unit/OFS                                                                          | 9  | yrs. |
|          | PF18 | Payroll Register Accts Sect/UNJSPF                                                                               | 33 | yrs. |

|    |    | -  |  |
|----|----|----|--|
| MΑ | п. | -1 |  |

A053 Outbound Pouch Logs
Messenger Unit/MARS/BCSD/OGS

2 yrs.

Photography:

A088 Photographic Caption Log

8,10 yrs.

Photographs & Exhibits Sect/RVSD/DPI

A081 Black & White Log Cards Photo Unit/DPI IND

Telecommunications:

1976/0045 UN Commercial Cable Logs, Telex Logs and 2 yrs. GVA Network Circuit Logs

Communications Serv/CARS/OGS

1963/0055 Circuit Logs for Outgoing & Incoming

Cables

Cable & Telephone Section/CARS/OGS

1990/0153 FAX Log 5 yrs.

Field Missions Procurement Sect/CPTS/OGS

Transportation:

G062 Driver's Daily Log Traffic Unit/P&T/OGS 1 yr.

3 yrs.

G064 Import Log
Traffic Unit/P&T/OGS

3 yrs.

## 12. RULES, REGULATIONS, POLICY AND PROCEDURES FILES

Searches were conducted for records relating to rules, regulations, policy and procedures. Some series found are representative of the subject matter. Most of the material found in the Archives Data Base System are series, such as, subject files, project files, reading files, working files, case files and administrative files, in which this subject matter is but one component of the series. These files, used for administrative purposes, exist in every level of the organization.

Official copies of formal rules, regulations, policies and procedures, and including directives and standards should be retained permanently. Many times this information is maintained in the organization's library. Other copies used for reference and informational purposes should be destroyed when superseded or obsolete.

The following is a list of the selected series:

| Electronic Data Processing: F073 Computer Program and Procedures Library EDP Support Services Sect/OPPBF                         | 2 yrs. |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Executive Office: 1962/1124 Guide to Notes on the Application of the Rules & Procedures of General Assembly General Assembly/OSG | IND    |
| Human Resources:                                                                                                                 |        |
| Civil Service:<br>SI31 Staff Rules and Regulations (ICSC 27)<br>ICSC                                                             | 3 yrs. |
| SI34 Promotion Policy (ICSC 30) ICSC                                                                                             | 3 yrs. |
| Compensation:                                                                                                                    |        |
| A013 Individual Compensation Policy Files<br>Peacekeeping & Special Assignment/FMCD/OPPBF                                        | 14 yrs |
| Entitlement:                                                                                                                     |        |
| ED15 Entitlement Rules (COM Tape)<br>IMIS/OGS                                                                                    | 20 yrs |
| Pension:                                                                                                                         |        |
| PF04 Regulations<br>UN Joint Staff Pension Fund                                                                                  | 5 yrs. |
| Recruitment:                                                                                                                     |        |
| 1968/0097 Recruitment Project Case Files &<br>General Policy Files<br>Technical Assistance Recruitment Svc/OPS                   | 3 yrs. |
| Field Operations:                                                                                                                |        |
| 1984/0044 UNEF II Standing Operating Instructions<br>& Procedures<br>Missions Administrative Section/OFOESA                      | IND    |
| NOTE: Duplicates are disposed.                                                                                                   |        |
| 1986/0152 Administrative Files: UN Service Medals<br>Correspondence, Regulations<br>Field Operations Div/OFOESA                  | PÉR    |

Finance:

Budget:

1994/0109 Budget Policy

Econ, Soc & Human Rights Svc/PPBD/OPPBF

5 yrs.

Controller:

Policy And Administrative Files of Former

PER

Bureau of the Controller Office of the Controller

Mail Services:

G022 Operations of UNPA Offices-PP UNPA/CMS/OGS

PER

3 yrs.

Transportation:

1992/0081 Travel & Traffic Policy & Procedure,

Administrative Files of Transportation Section

Transportation Sect/CPTS/BCSD/OGS

# 13. COMMUNICATION FILES - CABLES

Varying retention periods were found for cables. The record retention period should be based on the value of the information, office of origin, and if it is an official or duplicate copy. It is assumed that many communications record maintained in the Secretary-General's office are scheduled permanently. Other cables used for administrative purposes should be retained for a shorter retention period. A search for other communications records, such as "FAX", produced no results. However, other types of communications may be similarly scheduled.

Executive Office:

A035 Cables

5 yrs.

Office of SG in Iran

A002 Cables

6 yrs.

Office of Commission for Namibia

A016 Cables

IND

Office of USG/DAM

1980/0103 Secretary-General's Coded Cables

1987/0010 Master Cable Files

PER

Executive Office of SG/OSG

PER

Office for Special Political Affairs/OSG

| Field Operations: A048 Cables Field Pers Section/FOD/OGS                                  | 8 yrs. |  |  |  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--|--|--|
| A013 Code Cables<br>Field Op External Support/FOD/OGS                                     | PER    |  |  |  |
| Finance:                                                                                  |        |  |  |  |
| Pay: A022 Cables (Payroll Unit) Accts Div/OFS                                             | 4 yrs. |  |  |  |
| Mail:<br>1964/0408 Cables-Incoming and Outgoing<br>Mail Operations Unit/Registry/CARS/OGS | 2 yrs. |  |  |  |
| Public Affairs:                                                                           |        |  |  |  |
| Information Centers: A154 UN Information Center- Belgrade DPI                             | 2 yrs. |  |  |  |
| Transportation:<br>1982/0004 Copies of Cables<br>Travel Unit/PTCSD/OGS                    | 5 yrs. |  |  |  |

## 14. ATTENDANCE, LEAVE AND TIME RECORDS

Attendance, time and leave records were found as distinct records series and as components of other records series, such as Working Files and Administrative Files. Retention periods varied between two, seven and twenty years.

Information is needed on how the timekeeping system operates to schedule the record appropriately. For example, daily, weekly, biweekly, etc. timesheets should have a short retention if the information contained in them is posted to an annual record which would be maintained for a longer period of time.

Please see the following list:

#### Electronic Data:

ED17 Leave and Attendance IMIS/OGS

20 yrs.

Executive Office:

1994/0025 Attendance and Leave Records
Executive Office/OCS

3 yrs.

T108 Leave Cards of UNIC Staff Executive Office/DPI 5 yrs.

A009 Leave Cards and Reports Executive Office/DIESA

6,7 yrs.

Field Operations:

A014 Leave Records

7 yrs.

Field Operations External Support Activities/FOD

Program Planning:

A020 Leave Cards and Reports

1 yr.

Office for Programme Planning & Coord/DIESA

Transportation:

1993/0116 Administrative Files including Attendance 2 yrs.

Records

Transportation Sect/CPTS/BCSD/OGS

# 15. MAPS, PLANS, AND ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS

All but one record series found in this category relate to building structures. Records containing valuable information on individual structures, used especially for regulation and inspection, may have continuing value for historical or other research value and may be retained permanently.

Maps, plans and drawings of temporary structures and buildings, of electrical, plumbing, or air conditioning systems, contract negotiation drawings, and space assignment plans should be disposed of when no longer needed for administrative purposes. Architectural models should also be kept for administrative purposes or when no longer needed. Plans and drawings included as part of a project should be scheduled after the project ends, as in the case of the Chinese Special Fund Project listed below.

Please see the following samples:

Building Management:

A043 HQ Building Construction Drawing (Microfiche)
HO Construction Unit/BMS/OGS

IND

1992/0145 Microfiche of Secretariat and General Assembly Building (Probably same as above) Buildings Management Service/BCSD/OGS

PER

Cartographic:

A041 Maps

IND

UNTSO Headquarters/Jerusalem

Special Projects:

1971/0179 Plans and Drawings for the Vessels developed for the Chinese Special Fund Project/National Maritime Institute Section for Asia & the Far East/OTC/DESA 7 yrs.

# 16. CONTRACT AND AGREEMENT FILES

According to the <u>Finance Manual</u>, official copies of contracts should be scheduled for seven years after termination of the contract. Additional information is needed on the series listed below with retentions of more than seven years. For example, knowledge of centralization versus decentralization of contracts, legal factors and whether the files contain official or duplicate copies of contracts will influence the determination of the retention periods.

Please see the following list of contracts:

Field Operations:

A141 Contracts 30 yrs.

Peace Forces Administrative Sect/OFOESA/UNDOF

Financial:

Loans:

1974/0109 Loan and Title Transfer, Agreements 7 yrs.

Comptroller's Div/UNICEF

Human Resources:

Housing:

1982/0015 Copies of Lease Agreements 5 yrs.
Staff Activities & Housing/DPA/OPS

Insurance:

A012 Subject Files including Contracts 13 yrs.
Insurance Sect/FMCD/OPPBF

| P€              | ersonn<br>A047 | el:<br>Special Service Agreements<br>Professional Staffing Serv/OHRM    | 5 yrs.  |  |
|-----------------|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|--|
|                 | <b>A</b> 054   | Special Service Agreements<br>Field Personnel/FOD/OGS                   | 8 yrs.  |  |
| Tr              | rainin<br>P012 | g:<br>Teacher's History File<br>Training & Examinations Serv/OHRM       | 10 yrs. |  |
|                 | 1978           | /0028 Special Service Agreements UN Institute for Training and Research | PER     |  |
| Mail:           | A044           | Postal Contracts and Permits Mail Operations Sect/MARS/BCSD/OGS         | IND     |  |
| Printir         |                | Registry Files External Publications/DD/DPI                             | 10 yrs. |  |
| Transportation: |                |                                                                         |         |  |
| . •             |                | Contract Files Processing Unit/PTS/OGS                                  | 6 yrs.  |  |
|                 | G042           | Contract Files Processing Unit/PTS/OGS                                  | 7 yrs.  |  |

# 17. BUDGET RECORDS

All Budget documents including biennium are consistently scheduled for 7 years.

# 18. PURCHASING AND ACCOUNTING RECORDS

This category of records including purchase orders vouchers, invoices, requisitions, and vendor files are assigned retention periods as prescribed by the <u>Financial Manual</u> in a consistent manner.