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ASSEMBLY



GENERAL

A/1723  
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Fifth session  
Agenda item 21 (f)

FORMER ITALIAN COLONIES

REPORT OF THE INTERIM COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE  
PROCEDURE TO BE ADOPTED TO DELIMIT THE BOUNDARIES OF THE  
FORMER ITALIAN COLONIES IN SO FAR AS THEY ARE NOT  
ALREADY FIXED BY INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT

Report of the Ad Hoc Political Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. S. P. LOPEZ (Philippines)

1. In accordance with resolution 289 C (IV) adopted by the General Assembly on 21 November 1949, the Interim Committee reported to the fifth session of the Assembly (A/1388)\* on the procedure to be adopted to delimit the boundaries of the former Italian colonies in so far as they are not already fixed by international agreement.
2. The General Assembly, at its 285th meeting held on 26 September 1950, decided to include the item on its agenda and referred it to the Ad Hoc Political Committee for consideration and report.
3. The Ad Hoc Political Committee considered the question at its 81st meeting on 13 December 1950. At the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America introduced a draft resolution (A/AC.38/L.78) proposing (a) with respect to Libya, that the portion of its boundary with French territory not yet delimited by international agreement be delimited, upon Libya's achievement of independence, by negotiation between the Libyan and French Governments, assisted, upon the request of either party, by a third person to be selected by them or, failing their agreement, to be appointed by the Secretary-General; (b) with respect to the Trust Territory of Somaliland,

\* R See Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifth Session, Supplement No. 14.

/that the portion  
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that the portion of its boundaries with British Somaliland and Ethiopia not yet delimited by international agreement be delimited by bilateral negotiations. If either party to a bilateral negotiation were so to request, a United Nations Mediator would be appointed by the Secretary-General and, if his recommendations were not accepted, the parties should agree to a procedure of arbitration; and (c) with respect to any other boundaries not delimited by international agreement, that the parties concerned seek to reach agreement by negotiation or by arbitration.

4. The United States draft resolution was adopted by 35 votes to 5, with one abstention.

5. The Ad Hoc Political Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

PROCEDURE TO BE ADOPTED TO DELIMIT THE BOUNDARIES OF THE  
FORMER ITALIAN COLONIES IN SO FAR AS THEY ARE NOT  
ALREADY FIXED BY INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT

The General Assembly.

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 289 C (IV) adopted on 21 November 1949, in which the General Assembly called upon the Interim Committee "to study the procedure to be adopted to delimit the boundaries of the former Italian colonies in so far as they are not already fixed by international agreement, and report with conclusions to the fifth regular session of the General Assembly";

Having taken note of the memorandum, prepared at the Interim Committee's request by the Secretariat (A/AC.18/103), giving information relating to the boundaries of the former Italian colonies not already fixed by international agreement, and having taken into consideration the views of the interested Governments,

1. Recommends:

(a) With respect to Libya,

That the portion of its boundary with French territory not already delimited by international agreement be delimited, upon Libya's achievement of independence, by negotiation between the Libyan and French Governments, assisted upon the request of either party by a third person to be selected by them or, failing their agreement, to be appointed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations;

(b) With respect to the Trust Territory of Somaliland,

That the portion of its boundaries with British Somaliland, as well as with Ethiopia, not already delimited by international agreement be delimited by bilateral negotiations between the United Kingdom Government and the Administering Power, in respect

/of the boundaries

of the boundaries with British Somaliland, and between the Ethiopian Government and the Administering Power in respect of the boundaries with Ethiopia;

In order to resolve any and all differences arising in the course of such negotiations, the respective parties to each bilateral negotiation agree, upon the request of either party, to a procedure of mediation by a United Nations Mediator to be appointed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, further, in the event of the inability of the parties to accept the recommendations of the Mediator, to a procedure of arbitration;

2. Recommends, further, that, with respect to any other boundaries not delimited by international agreement, the parties concerned seek to reach agreement by negotiation or by arbitration.

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